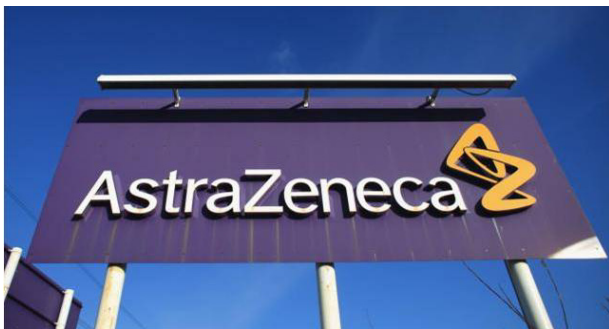


## ***AstraZeneca making a move on Improvement!***

After months of discussing and planning, AstraZeneca Australia has embraced the new financial year by embarking on their Total Production Management (TPM) improvement journey. With the assistance of CTPM Australasia, AstraZeneca aim to improve equipment and people performance so as to increase productivity and reduce costs.



AstraZeneca is a British-Swedish multinational pharmaceutical and biologics company headquartered in London. The Australian manufacturing plant, based in North Ryde, Sydney, is a world-class facility dedicated to the production of high-quality medicines that make a difference to the lives of people all over the world.

In addition to Australia and New Zealand, AstraZeneca also supply to 36 other international markets. They are also Australia's largest national manufacturer of pharmaceuticals, providing \$1.2 billion of medicines to the local market in 2012 and \$200 million in exports. In Australia, over 2 million people consume and benefit from their products daily.

AstraZeneca primarily manufacture local anaesthetics and respiratory products and have established themselves as the global sole supplier of some of their respiratory products to China and Japan. Despite these

achievements, AstraZeneca know they can improve their results even further through TPM methodologies.

Last month, AstraZeneca took the first step of their TPM improvement journey. Hosted by CTPM President Ross Kennedy, AstraZeneca's management team attended an in-house Getting TPM & Lean to Work in an Australasian Workplace workshop. By involving the decision makers, the AstraZeneca team aimed to train a group of managers that would have the ability to successfully implement their learnings on site.

Over the two days, Ross introduced the evolution and foundations of TPM & Lean, removed the mystery surrounding all the principles, tools and concepts of TPM<sup>3</sup> whilst explaining how they can engage their people to achieve and sustain the best possible results. The in-house workshop was a great success, inspiring the AstraZeneca managers to take the next step and engage the workforce in the process.

**Figure 1 – Getting involved at AstraZeneca**



As an outcome of the workshop, the AstraZeneca team are now preparing for their initial cycle of improvement activity. A cycle being of 12 – 14 week duration where teams come together for 1½ hour meetings each

week to help improve the current state of their workplace, equipment and processes.

In order to clearly define their goals and the time frame in which they hope to achieve them, the site has developed a list of aims they would like to accomplish with the help of CTPM. Some of AstraZeneca's Cycle 1 objectives include building relationships between departments to improve communication and enhancing OEE to free up time for Area Based Team Improvement activities of Work Area Management. Weekly Site Leadership Team meetings will also take place to ensure that any potential issues are addressed as soon as possible.

Here at CTPM, we have high hopes for the AstraZeneca team and predict that they will only continue to succeed through other improvement cycles in the future. CTPM would like to welcome AstraZeneca and wish them the best of luck in their improvement endeavours.

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