

Reduction of Chemicals and Colours Wastes in Dying

Nountex Co., Egypt

IN BRIEF

It is a family company established at 1938 with a single company. By year 1959 the company's activity has turned to be a big industrial company managed by Hajj Mohamed Nounou, and the company's activity become in the industry of the textile, and clothes made of cotton, wool, and tricko. Nountex company with its 3 factories resident in "Abbaseyah, Sahel Road El Farag, and the 10th of Ramadan" has become one of the biggest companies specialized in the (Tricko) industry with its three kinds "circular, flat, and wrap knitting" in addition to producing all kinds of needle looms. The company started exporting in April 1994, now the exporting rate achieved a ratio of 15 % of the products.

PREMA programme: PREMA Egypt Programme for textile sector, January-June 2007. It was a complete PREMA programme of 4 modules: GHK, EoCM1, EoCM2 and Integration, in addition to three network meetings. The enterprise implemented 5 measures, and has some other measures to implement. The measure in concern was to decrease the chemicals and colours lost during handling them in the dye house. After implementing the measure, the chemical losses decreased from 2.5 to 1.5% of the total consumption.

THE PROBLEM AND ITS CAUSES

Chemicals and colours are used in the dye house, and they present a high percent of the production cost. Due to bad handling and dosing of the chemicals during the dying process, the losses were between 2 – 3%. These spilled chemicals caused irritations to the workers and they did also pits in the dye house floors.

This NPO was known to the dying engineer, and he started to think in measures for this problem during the second WS.

APPLICATION OF PREMA® (GHK + EoCM)

This NPO was identified first by the flow chart, and it was visible during the GHK company visit. Mind maps and discussions were useful to identify the causes of this NPO and to find some easy measures to reduce it and to eliminate it in the future.

*Logo of the
respective
PREMA module*

ACTIONS TAKEN IN THE ENTERPRISE

Following measures were implemented to reduce this NPO:

1. Talking with the workers about the danger of these materials on their health.
2. Buy new graduated measuring cylinders for dosing of the chemicals and colours.
3. Renewing the recipes for dying and recalculating the amounts that should be used.
4. Buy new tanks to store the rest of the chemicals delivered by the storage to the dye house but not used in the dying for any reason (happens frequently).

The dying engineer together with the financial manager (both PREMA team) implemented the measures after having the ok from the GM.

Action taken by the company	
<u>The Problem:</u> Losses of chemicals and colours in the dye house	<u>The Idea:</u> Increase awareness, monitor dosing, new recipes

Problem → Solution

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Additional operational costs –
per year

Annual net savings	EGP 5,431.-	Savings in chemicals and colours
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Investment costs	EGP 1,000.-	3 tanks and measuring equipment
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Payback period in months	2.5 months
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ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Reduction of the chemicals pollution in the dye house

ORGANISATIONAL BENEFITS

Cooperation between dying engineer, the storage man was required to implement this measure. The concept of rechecking the production recipes every time is now in the PREMA team mind.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH AND WORKPLACE SAFETY

Health problems due to chemicals handling are reduced.

INFORMATION ON THE ENTERPRISE

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Number of employees in the three factories is 260. The capital of the company is EGP 13 millions. Total sales in 2006 were EGP 22 millions.

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