

Increasing the Thickness of the Nylon Bags Used in Handling

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 replace the original nylon bags (2 mm thickness) by new thicker nylon bags (10 – 12 mm). This measure decreased the wasted nylon bags from 75% to 48% (percent of the monthly purchased bags).

THE PROBLEM AND ITS CAUSES

Nylon bags are used extensively in the company to transport raw materials, semi-finished and finished products between the departments. The bags are either carried by a worker or put on a stell car for transportation. If the bags are cut or if they become dirty, they are disposed and replaced by new bags. Originally the monthly consumption was about 650 kg bags. There are two main reasons for disposing the nylon bags: the bags are easily cut due to their weakness and due to bad handling of the workers.

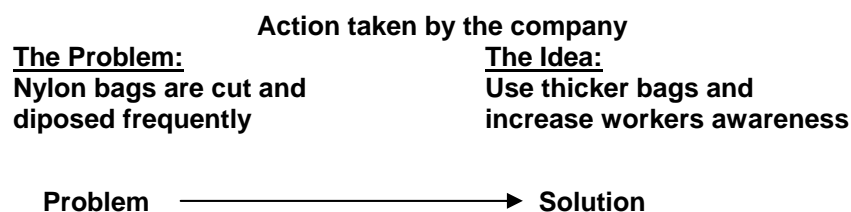
APPLICATION OF PREMA® (GHK + EoCM)

This measure was discovered during the 1st WS. The material flow chart helped a lot in discovering this measure. PREMA team started monitoring the nylon bags consumption and disposal of the wastes, immediate after the WS. They started implementing the measure after the 2nd WS.

*Logo of the
respective
PREMA module*

ACTIONS TAKEN IN THE ENTERPRISE

The measure was to use thicker nylon bags, and to increase the awareness of the workers to handle the nylon bags more gently. The measure was applied by the PREMA team (financial manager) after taking the green light from the GM.



ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Additional operational costs per year	–	
Annual net savings	EGP 14,483.-	Savings by reduction of nylon bags consumption
Investment costs	–	
Payback period in months	immediate	

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Reduction of non degradable nylon bags wastes.

ORGANISATIONAL BENEFITS

Cooperation between the PREMA team and the management was required to implement this measure. Reduction of nylon bags consumption decreased the organizational problems related to purchasing of new bags, and the problems of disposal.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH AND WORKPLACE SAFETY

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.

PREMAnet e.V. Address of the local partner

Tulpenfeld 2

D- 53113 Bonn - Germany

Tel. +49 - (0) 228- 60 47 -**124**

Fax. + 49 - (0) 228 - 98 57 018

mobile: +49 (0) 171- 404 95 18

email: PREMAnetoffice@aol.com !

www.PREMAnet.net or www.PRUMA.de