



Success Story

Océ installs AndonSPEED by WERMA – a wireless call-for-action system

In the production plant at Océ – a Canon company - there was, up to now, no system to monitor stoppages or report problems encountered by an operator on the assembly line. It sometimes took hours, or even days, to get the right people to the right place to rectify a malfunction of a tool, or resolve the delivery of wrong parts or faults in parts. This caused major delays during the production process. Océ found the ideal solution with AndonSPEED from WERMA.

OCÉ – A COMPANY PROACTIVELY PURSUING AMBITIONS

Océ is one of the most important innovation centres for Canon. Canon is the global leader in consumer and professional image processing. And one of its ambitions is to be the number 1 in printing. This gives Océ the strategic necessity and incentive to continually search for opportunities to improve their organisation, corporate culture and brand, and thereby achieve Canon's ambitions. More than 2,300 people work at Océ in Venlo. The main activities are R&D, the production and logistics of large format, sheet and cut-sheet printing systems and the supporting consumables and spare parts.

LINE STOPPAGES A FREQUENT PROBLEM

Océ had problems with regular stoppages on their assembly line because there was no monitoring system or process to capture and regulate line stoppages. There was, until now, little interface between inventory management and the production lines, and no automated processes in place. As a result, the operator at the workstation had no clear overview of what parts he needed or had to wait too long for these before he could continue working.



A CANON COMPANY

COMPANY PROFILE: OCÉ – A CANON COMPANY

Since its foundation in 1877, Océ has been a global leader in the field of digital imaging, industrial printing and business services. The mission of Océ is to accelerate new developments in digital print technologies and to apply them to products and services, from local creative studios up to global multinationals. As a part of the Canon Group, Océ has an extensive network of R&D centres for the development of emerging digital print technologies in the markets of the future. Océ's head office in the Netherlands lies in the high-tech heart of Europe.

CALL-FOR-ACTION SYSTEM

"We first set up a signalling system ourselves with beacons. By pushing a button, the operator could draw the attention of staff who would address the problem. This worked up to a certain point. The functionality of the system was ok, but was technically full of faults," explains Jos Honig, project leader at Océ. "The company then asked me to develop something to eliminate the failures. I could do that of course, but it would cost a lot of money I believed. I then started searching the Internet to see what systems existed. I found two. The first system seemed very complex, and that's why I quickly decided against it. This left the system offered by WERMA and I subsequently went to the SPS IPC Drives Fair in Nürnberg where I met WERMA who told me about AndonSPEED and showed me exactly what I was looking for and needed.



Kurt De Pauw, Technical Sales representative at WERMA Benelux; Jos Honig, project leader at Océ.

A BOX FULL OF TRICKS

A stoppage at the work stations on the large printer assembly line is a very large cost factor. Process optimisation is a topic Océ are working on daily.

The AndonSPEED system from WERMA ensures that stoppages and faults are made transparent and resolved. AndonSPEED can also help Océ clarify the reason for the stoppage.

"One of our IT employees is familiar with the SQL database, so I gave him both the software and hardware to start working with the system. He finished the test setup in 3 days and had installed the software within 2 weeks," explains Jos enthusiastically. When Kurt de Pauw, the Technical Sales representative at WERMA, came along to carry out the installation, the IT manager said: "Just give that man a cup of coffee, because we've been ready for a while. It all went so quickly and was so simple that we installed everything on our own, without having to ask for additional help from WERMA."

The andon light system ensures that the right people are notified of issues on the workstation. The system has now been in use at Océ for more than a year. "We have now gone so far that we think we can tell WERMA what the system can really do for us; for example we can send messages to a service engineer via an external app. The system does so much more for us than we ever dared to dream." says Jos.

REDUCE STOPPAGES TO ZERO

Océ is so full of praise about the AndonSPEED system that they now also want to install it in the toner factory. "If the trial with the andon system is successful in the toner plant, the system will also be used in all our other plants. I will then have achieved what I said from day 1: the system is able to bundle low-and high-level calls-for-action in such a way that the right people can solve the problem on time and quickly, reducing stoppages to virtually nil. That is the goal of AndonSPEED, and WERMA has succeeded in this together with us!" concludes Jos Honig.