

Leaner Cut & Bent production planning with dashboards

Midland Steel is a market-leading reinforcing steel supplier in Ireland and the UK. Nightingale HQ completed comprehensive company-wide digital review of existing processes and technologies, and the focus shifted to identifying and implementing “low hanging fruit” opportunities for automation and digitalisation. One key inefficiency identified was the significant amount of time spent manually collecting production data for managerial decision-making.

To address this, we collaborated closely with the Production team to design and implement a Cut & Bent (C&B) Production Throughput Dashboard. The dashboard was developed to measure and monitor production throughput, providing real-time insights that support management decision-making and operational efficiency. It displays key production data across all machines offering full visibility of production performance over a rolling four-week period.

APPROACH

Work with senior management and Production team to create data-driven KPI dashboards to improve data visibility and decision making. Extract and consume data from key productions systems and excel extracts. Identify areas of automation of data workflows.

OBJECTIVES

- ❑ Improve day-to-day visibility of Production KPIs through enhanced and timely reporting.
- ❑ Develop dashboards focuses on core Production KPIs including production volumes and throughput.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- ✓ Formalised KPIs and data architecture with production and senior management teams.
- ✓ Documented tacit knowledge on calculations and internal processes.
- ✓ Developed macro-enabled Excel workbooks to automate data formatting.
- ✓ Created interactive dashboards based on core KPIs
- ✓ Focused on delivering business value through actionable insights.
- ✓ Provided onboarding and training on data concepts, Power BI best practices, and dashboard upkeep.
- ✓ Upskilled internal teams to maintain and enhance the solution long-term.

KEY RESULTS

- ✓ Hours saved by administrative and Production teams
- ✓ Reduce the number of hours working on manual processes
- ✓ Production KPI dashboards with instant intelligence available for management team
- ✓ Produce robust dashboards that support better decision making
- ✓ Insight given towards best practices for data storage
- ✓ Reduced tacit knowledge within the company
- ✓ Set foundations for data readiness for future AI/ML-focussed data projects.
- ✓ Onboarded internal team to maintain and develop into the future.



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