



PREACTOR PRESS RELEASE PPG INDUSTRIES

in touch with factory
floor innovation

PPG Scheduling Pilot Proves Effective and Profitable

Preactor scheduling software provides timely solution on factory floor

Atlanta, GA. When Amy Lee, Senior Systems Analyst at PPG Aerospace / PRC-DeSoto Int. was assigned a finite scheduling project for the Aerospace's US ASC's in Atlanta, her goal was to solve the problem on time and on budget. The Atlanta division of PPG which specializes in packaging adhesive, sealants and coatings primarily for the aerospace industry was entering 60-100 orders per day manually on an Excel spreadsheet. There was no way to manipulate the schedule and it was costing the company overtime. The factory was in need of a finite scheduling application to give them visibility of the facility planning decisions. Ms Lee comments, "For ASC Atlanta, improving the scheduling process of the facility needed to decrease repackaging labor costs (in overtime and temporary expenses) and increase on-time delivery." It also needed to enable the factory to provide accurate delivery information to customers and perform "what-if" scenarios for rush orders and capacity planning.

With fast installation as another prime objective, Janet Castens, Operations Manager on the project, wanted a straightforward application with simple architecture. The solution they decided on was the Preactor product installed and supported by MDSS, a leader in the development of factory floor technology with over 20 years in the factory software market. Castens comments, "We did not have visibility on the floor and we wanted a solution that was both flexible and easy to understand."

"Since it has gone so well and the site appears to have met their savings goals the current plan is to target the next several ASC locations for installation of Preactor with MDSS' installation assistance."

--Amy Lee, Sr. Systems Analyst

Both Castens and Lee agree that utilizing the PPG Project Methodology was also a component of the successful Preactor installation and deployment. States Lee, "It assured business and IT commitments upfront, it supplied a detailed agenda and task list for the project to follow and it guaranteed the entire process and data flow was mapped out before the project began. This allowed us to be up and running in approximately two (2) weeks."

In addition, Ms. Castens commented that MDSS personnel were both prompt and professional. "We threw a customization at them and MDSS technical staff was able to turn it around in a week."



Today, with Preactor, the order information is automatically pulled in from QAD's MFGPRO ERP system directly via the MDSS interface saving the facility planner approximately 2 hours a day at current 2006 business levels. The scheduling overtime has been reduced from four hours to one hour per day. The Preactor product has an easy to use drag and drop scheduling board which produces a realistic schedule with What-If capability.

This was a first installation site so it was basically a pilot install for all of the other Aerospace factories. States Ms. Lee, "Since it has gone so well and the site appears to have met their savings goals the current plan is to target the next several ASC locations for installation of Preactor with MDSS' installation assistance."

About MDSS, Inc.

MDSS, Inc is a leading supplier of software systems for manufacturing companies. Since 1984, MDSS has developed and supported hundreds of customers and clients through the implementation of package software systems focused on improving productivity and factory performance.

Preactor is the finite scheduling and APS systems installed and supported by MDSS, Inc.