

Manufacturing Engineering

Manufacturing Engineers play an essential role for IPT's (Integrated Project Teams) within Platform Solutions. The role is creative allowing engineers to design, implement, monitor and maintain manufacturing processes. We work closely alongside design engineers in order to achieve the most efficient and cost effective way of producing the highest quality product possible.

At the beginning of the life cycle of a product, Manufacturing Engineers play a vital role in the design for manufacture. Tasks include reviewing the design, materials and build processes with the goal of ensuring the leanest and most cost effective manufacturing process is implemented. Manufacturing Engineers engage closely with the supply chain to ensure outsourced components and assemblies meet our stringent specifications and requirements. Manufacturing engineers have even been known to visit supplier sites to better understand and improve their manufacturing processes.

During the production phase of a products life cycle, manufacturing engineers work in conjunction with the shop floor to resolve issues during manufacture, for example designing a new tool or refining a build process. Manufacture Engineers also monitor any non conformances using the FRACAS process (Fault Reporting, Analysis and Corrective Action) to improve manufacturing processes.

One of the main tools being used in the Manufacturing environment is Lean. Manufacturing Engineers are tasked with championing kaizen initiatives to continuously improve the way production operates. These activities can range from eliminating waste by providing production with the appropriate tooling through to changing the entire layout of the site to maximise team communication.

Some of the activities that you may be involved with include:

- Supporting and solving problems raised by teams using Kaizen newspapers. Kaizen in essence relates to improvement activities.
- Designing shadow boards so that technicians can see straight away if tools are missing;
- Changing cell layouts to improve process flows and reduce process lead times;
- Moving IMT's onto the shop floors so that they are closer to the technicians to improve communication;
- Investigating new material properties and challenging existing build processes,
- Workplace organisation and safety improvements through 6S training and implementation.
- Designing new work benches to improve operator efficiency by optimising their working environment.
- Writing Manufacturing Instruction Sheets to improve shop floor processes, for example the Handling of CRT's
- Working on the new Manufacturing Execution System to improve efficiency on the shop floor and eventually lead to a paperless shop floor.