

Minimizing the 2.74% Loss in Production for
Ralph Lauren Pants of SNK Garment Corporation

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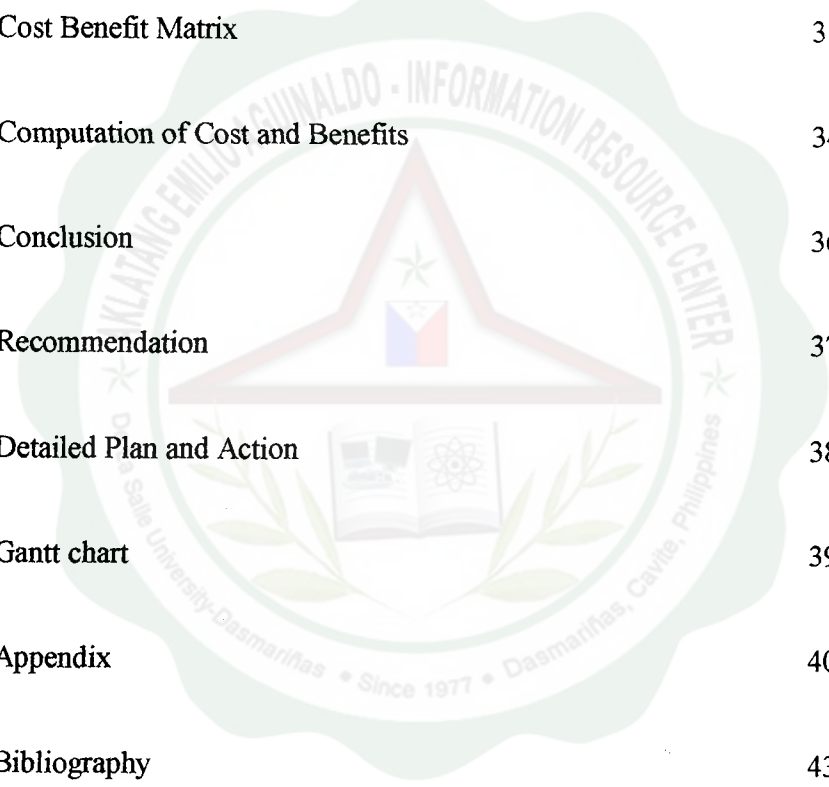
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

The SNK Garment Corporation is one of the leading manufacturers of garments like pants and skirts in the Philippines. The company's primary goal is sustainable growth, existence of the company and recognizes the vital importance of profit as the only justification for the continued existence of the company.

The production process of Ralph Lauren starts with the arrival of fabrics. The fabrics are inspected first before the making of the pattern. If the fabric does not conform to the quality requirement it will be sent back to the supplier. Fabric and apparel patternmakers create the blueprint or pattern pieces for a particular apparel design. After the pattern is made, the fabric is then marked according to the pattern. Markers determine the best arrangement of pattern pieces to minimize wasted fabric. Sizes vary from size 2 to 18. There is another quality inspector who inspects the markings. After inspecting the marks on the fabric, it is then cut according to the markings. After the cutting process, it is still inspected by another Q.C. before going to the sewing process. Sewing machine operators assemble the clothes. Again, after the sewing, the Q.C. inspects the sewed fabric then they wash the sewed fabric before the product brings in the pressing section. Pressing the sewed fabric is the second to the last step before shipping it to the customer or buyer. Pressers eliminate wrinkles and give shape to finished products. The pressing process is still inspected by an end line Q.C. then it is ready for packing. Pants are packed in a poly bag before putting it in a box. After packing the product, the final Q.C. in the

production process inspects it again. The garments undergo eight rigid inspection checks prior to shipment. This will assure measures of implementing its goal of zero defects.

SNK Garments Corporation is experiencing problems in the production due to the old machine and untrained sewers, which constitutes to the production loss of the Ralph Lauren pants.

1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The SNK Garments Corporation is experiencing 2.74% rejects in the production of Ralph Lauren Pants amounting to PHP 762,750 in six months.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study is to propose a solution/remedial measure to the problem encountered by the company with regard to the rejects involved during the production of Ralph Lauren Pants

General:

- To reduce the 2.74% reject in the production of Ralph Lauren Pants.

Specific:

- To identify if less processing time can be achieved, where the bottleneck arises on the cause of the delay.
- To improve the present system utilized by the company in the packing section.
- To increase output through improve system involve in the transfer.

1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATION

In the conduct of the study, and during the early practicum days, there were other issues that were identified but due to company policies and the time constraints the authors decided to limit the research on one specific problem.

The study focuses on the problems on the production of SNK Garments Corporation. Further analyzing the problem will lead to the use of information regarding the rejects occurred in the production area. The data gathered is limited only on the machines which are used to manufacture Ralph Lauren pants from January to June 2006.

1.6 METHODOLOGY

The information and data in this study were gathered through the following tools in order to provide the right conclusion and recommendations that may arise from the study:

Observation

The production line was observed and was studied to serve as principal study. The observations made were to gather sufficient data and information that will support the reliability of the study. Actual set-up, the processes, machines and the operations being used by the company was thoroughly observed to further understand the nature of the business.

Interview

Informal interviews were conducted with the workers, supervisor and company's staff whom the proponents considered important personalities that could shed valuable information and insights regarding the impact of the problem.

Data Gathering

In conducting this study the author gathered data from the production worksheet that was given by the Production Supervisor for immediate purpose of this study. Analysis of the data gathered by the researcher is within his task.

1.7 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The outcome of this study may benefit the following sectors:

To the Author

The observation made and the result of the interviews with the different units specifically the production and packing units provided an insight into the operation of the company. Through this study, the authors experienced how to deal, analyze and find possible solution on manufacturing industry's problems in a real world set up. This study served as a good learning experience to the author.

To Readers

This study may serve as a springboard for readers who will conduct other similar future studies. The students will likewise be exposed to the actual operation of a manufacturing/production company and to utilize their technical knowledge relative to the study.

To the Company

The company may be able to lessen the time it takes from packing the products by identifying the area and the cause of delay. This study may serve as company's basis in future decision making in improving operations used in production area at the least possible cost. This may help management to analyze the existing problems of the company and may help to improve their decision-making.

1.8 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Apparel - clothes, dress fabric, jeans

Fabric - is a flexible artificial material made up of a network of natural or artificial fibers (thread or yarn) formed by weaving or knitting (textiles), or pressed into felt.

Garments - any article on clothing

Poly bag - is a plastic bag sealed around

Sewing - is an ancient craft involving the stitching of cloth, leather, animal skins, furs, or other materials, using needle and thread

Upholstery - is the work of providing furniture, especially seats, with padding, springs, webbing, and fabric or leather covers.