

Denso

Working in partnership to reduce costs, improve efficiency, uptime and product quality

Overview of challenges

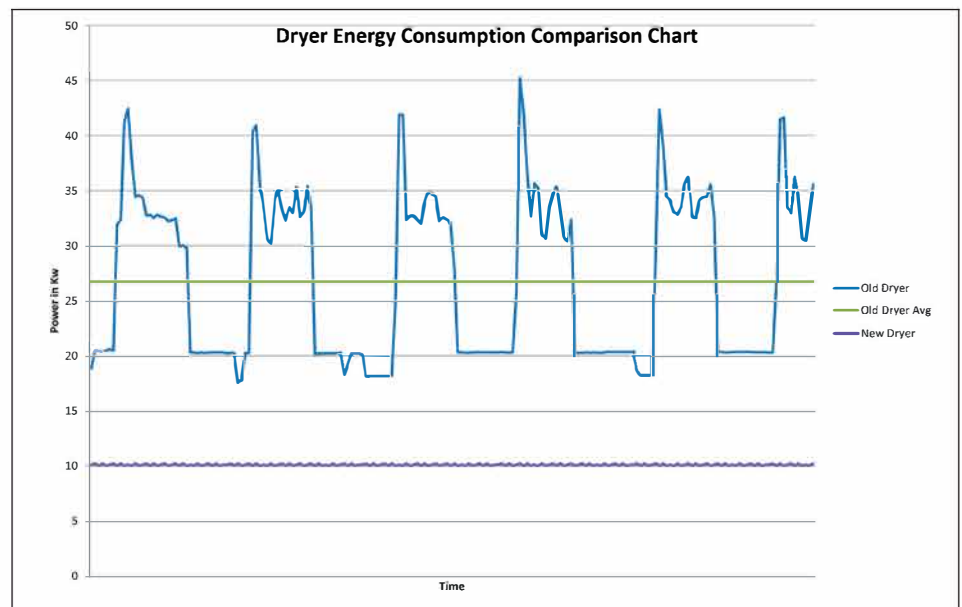
TH Plastics has worked with Denso for just over three years. Denso is a leading supplier of advanced automotive technology, system and components for the world's major auto manufacturers, across 35 countries.

TH Plastics has developed a very good working relationship with Denso, having installed and supported a number of projects for them and has become their preferred supplier. Denso had no hesitation in approaching TH Plastics when they needed to develop a new material handling and recycling system.

Steve Crowther, Senior Production Engineer at Denso said, "We had very specific requirements for our new system and as far as we were aware, there was no off the shelf solution available to us. We were looking to introduce different polymers to the site for some new tooling projects and needed the material selection system to be completely automated. It also had to have the ability to handle a number of different materials without the risk of contamination or downtime during changeover."

The Solution

TH Plastics provided a complete turnkey solution, from the initial design concepts, equipment supply and



prototype testing before undertaking the complete installation, including all ground works, power and air supplies, training, documentation and ongoing maintenance. Steve Crowther said, "TH Plastics has supported us through the whole process, developing a unique solution that didn't exist off the shelf to respond to our needs. They have displayed the highest levels of commitment and have taken the project seamlessly from beginning to end with no downtime, working out of hours when necessary to lessen impact to our production schedules. We could not have asked for greater support or quality of service from their entire team."



The Benefits

The immediate benefits for Denso has been the introduction of a new material handling and recycling system that provided the functionality they specifically required. The new system can now handle a number of different materials without issue or risk of contamination. Steve Crowther from Denso commented, "We've been able to remove the cost of one person per shift plus a member of staff to clean the filters after each shift. That equates to £47-48K savings each year by automating the process. At the same time because the system is completely automated there is no opportunity for human error or contamination during the process so our quality of product has improved dramatically."

Denso has benefited from many unexpected benefits, in particular from energy savings. The whole system implemented by TH Plastics has been integrated and optimised to be self regulating, saving on energy costs and improving efficiency. Steve Crowther confirms, "The new drying system is saving us 60% on energy costs compared to our old dryers. And the new granulating equipment running 20 hours a day is saving us approximately £7,000 per year on energy costs compared to the previous system. This will have considerable impact on the bottom line. We are also recycling a lot more with the integrated recycling system. About 25% of the product is put back so we are producing a lot less wastage."

"TH Plastics has designed and developed a unique solution for our specific needs that has reduced labour costs, reduced energy costs, increased efficiency and uptime, and at the same time improved product quality. They have a unique way of working in the industry, providing a unique facility for prototyping and developing new concepts and solutions that no one else offers. Their team is the only company that I know that offers such a uniformed process from beginning to end. All the team are technical engineers with a commitment to solving customer issues and getting the best results."

Senior Production Engineer

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"TH Plastics really have thought of everything to help the efficient running of the system, including all the staff training and standard operating procedures which have all been uniquely produced for our plant. Diagnostics and future staff training will be so easy now because of what they have implemented. They've even developed an automatic back up system to ensure there is no downtime in production."