How Brampton Brick Increased Production By...Slowing Down Machines?

Discover how a counterintuitive approach with Shoplogix's Loss Analytics led Brampton Brick to greater production efficiency by resolving hidden losses and micro-stoppages.

Brampton Brick has been a leader in brick manufacturing since 1871. Today, Brampton Brick is one of the most advanced brick-making facilities globally, producing over 300 million bricks each year and offering high-quality masonry products across North America.

The Challenge: Hidden Losses and Micro-Stoppages

Brampton Brick encountered a significant challenge with one of their automated lines, where the chains used to move the conveyor as bricks were stacked would resonate, causing the bricks to shift out of place. This issue necessitated frequent manual realignment by operators, triggering the safety curtain and halting the machine every 15-20 minutes. These micro-stoppages accumulated to nearly two hours of downtime per shift, severely impacting production efficiency.



Although the machine was technically functioning as intended, the frequent micro-stoppages reduced its overall availability—the percentage of time the machine was operational during planned production. Attempts to increase machine speed worsened the issue, particularly on a newly modernized line, failing to meet production targets.

The existing basic downtime tracking system further complicated matters, highlighting the need for real-time insights to resolve hidden losses and improve efficiency.



The Solution: Shoplogix's Innovative Approach

Shoplogix provided Brampton Brick with a transformative solution through its advanced Loss Analytics capabilities. By leveraging Shoplogix's specialized Micro-stop logic, Brampton Brick was able to pinpoint the root cause of their frequent micro-stoppages. The analysis revealed a surprising yet effective solution: reducing the machine speed. This adjustment eliminated the chain resonance that caused bricks to misalign, allowing the production line to operate more smoothly. The production process became significantly more efficient, leading to a substantial improvement in Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE).



Through the power of Shoplogix, Brampton Brick was able to **harness these key value drivers:**



Uncover Hidden Losses

Identified the underlying issues that were causing frequent micro-stoppages.



Manufacturing Expertise

Applied industry knowledge to implement the counterintuitive solution effectively.



Scalable Smart Platform

Enabled Brampton Brick to easily scale the solution across their operations.



Integrated Analytics

Provided deep insights through data-driven analysis, enabling precise adjustments.



Simplifying Smart Connectivity

Ensured seamless integration with existing systems, allowing for quick adaptation.



Outcome

The integration of Shoplogix's platform was seamless, with rapid and cost-effective machine connectivity facilitated through Shoplogix's Rapid Deployment Services. This enabled Brampton Brick's team to quickly adopt the new system, ensuring minimal disruption to ongoing operations. This counterintuitive approach not only resolved the immediate issue but also laid the groundwork for sustained operational improvements.

By implementing Shoplogix's advanced Loss Analytics tools, Brampton Brick achieved a significant increase in overall production efficiency. The analytics revealed that slowing down the machine speed was the key to eliminating chain resonance, which had caused frequent micro-stoppages. As a result, these stoppages were virtually eliminated, leading to a remarkable improvement in OEE. This counterintuitive approach not only resolved ongoing production challenges but also set a new standard for operational efficiency, allowing Brampton Brick to produce 770,000 more bricks.

Key Highlights



Achieved a 7% increase in availability and significantly improved overall plant efficiency, resulting in 106 more uptime hours



Reached a 92% plant-wide adoption average, optimizing resource allocation and maximizing output through Shoplogix's advanced Loss Analytics to identify and resolve production losses.



Produced 770,000 more bricks by virtually eliminating frequent micro-stoppages, an increase in Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE).



Realized faster and more consistent production by reducing machine speed and setting new benchmarks for operational excellence and long-term performance gains.

Contact a member of the Shoplogix team to learn more about our solutions and align them with your manufacturing data and technology needs. If you are an existing customer who requires technical support, then please log in to our Help Center.

