

## Practice: Evaluating whether Improvements Have Been Sustained

For this practice, use the file **MetalPartsAll.jmp**. Recall that the target is 40 +/- 5 hundredths of an inch.

This file includes data for three time periods:

- before improvements were made
- after improvements have been made
- after the project has closed, to ensure that the improvements are being sustained

1. Construct an X-bar and R chart for **Thickness**, with **Hour** as the subgroup variable.
2. Drag **Before/After Change** to the Phase zone.

From the control chart, does it appear that the improvements have been sustained?

Yes, there was an improvement in the average thickness in the After phase: the average is very close to the target. The average for the sustain phase is also very close to the target.

Note that formal statistical tools can be used to test for significant differences. You learn about these tools in the next module.

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