

PGM pulaski

Enjoy the ride and let data be your guide through continuous improvement and remember never be insane.

The PGM Pulaski Team has made great strides in quality and performance since 2019. At that time, the T1XX, a GMC Serra tail lamp assembly, was our most important program and we were under 3rd party containment due to poor quality. The cost of poor quality to the Pulaski plant significantly affected our profitability.

The Pulaski Team came together and addressed the quality issues and applied continuous improvement (CI) techniques. We methodically went through and corrected the variance issues in our inspection procedures, sorting, and criteria for rejects. Then reevaluated the packaging of the part to address scuff marks resulting in our changing the process to incorporate a weave method. These actions resulted in the number of rejects dropping to zero in just two months and our being taken off third party sorting.

Since then, the Pulaski Team has been successful in applying the same CI methodology to other areas of the plant:

- In August 2019, we improved our process on the central feed system eliminating material feed issues that caused the material to break apart and create a black spot on a clear part.
- Improved the auto-degating process and equipment to eliminate scratching and inconsistent gate cuts, updated equipment that adjusted the part orientation to perform a more consistent cut, and changed the materials used to grip the part that reduced scratches.
- Moved heating/cooling vents from above the crane to below it, resulting in less dust and debris on the rails or in the press, and reducing black spots
- Sealed holes in the walls around thermostats to maintain a more constant temperature
- Installed automated lift tables and improved cover design to prevent material feed system from starving the press.

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