

Industrial Engineering Services

Short of space?

Let us review your workflow, space utilization and layout before you rent or build.

Introducing a new product?

We can help you plan, install and start up the new operations.

Costs too high?

Use our expertise to review your operations and establish a cost reduction program.

Operations Review: Take advantage of our experience in many industries. Let us review your operations to identify:

- how well your operation meets its goals
- how effectively your resources are being used
- where your costs may be out of line
- where improvements can be made

The result will be a report that identifies areas needing improvement and offers ideas for making those improvements.

Project Management: We have a successful track record of managing projects, including:

- product development
- plant design and start up
- cost reduction

Plant Layout: Our years of experience in many industries combined with our emphasis on innovation has brought our clients:

- space savings
- improved work flow
- cost improvements
- expanded capacity

Material Handling: A successful material handling plan requires a thorough understanding of the system and products to be handled:

- How delicate is the product?
- How flexible should the system be?
- What about future expansion?

We have planned and installed systems using complex conveyors, automatic guided vehicles, and fork/clamp trucks.

Les Wood Associates
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North Andover, MA 01845

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Industrial Engineering Services

90% of

operations review

complex

plant layout

methods improvement

problems

project management

require

warehouse design

simple

materials handling

solutions

site selection

resource planning

Les Wood Associates
Management Consultants

www.lwasoc.com

The following case histories demonstrate the range of our activities:

Les Wood Associates
Management Consultants

PLANT DESIGN

Problem

A Fortune 500 company wished to institute a new management style based upon high performance work groups. They wanted a new manufacturing plant, away from their existing culture, and were looking for innovative ideas for the design of the operation.

Solution

Working closely with the management team, we studied the operation, identified the client's needs, and created new designs for the workplace, plant, warehouse and material handling systems.

Result

An innovative layout, significantly different from the client's established operations and designed for high performance work groups. The new workplace design permitted shorter runs with lower costs than in the client's existing plants.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Problem

A manufacturer of disposable paper and plastic containers was using expensive public warehousing to store finished goods. Furthermore, the warehouse was located 15 miles from their manufacturing plant, making trucking back and forth very costly.

Solution

We located a site less than one mile from the plant. We planned, designed, built and managed the startup of a 400,000 square foot distribution center.

Result

A completed project that came in on time, below budget and a distribution center with the highest productivity in that corporation.

SHIPPING

Problem

A paper company was planning to increase the diameter of the roll-stock that they shipped to their converting operation, 800 miles away. The expected benefits included: less waste at the start and end of each roll, fewer rolls to handle, less frequent roll changes, less floor space taken up with rolls. They were about to start modifying their machinery to handle these larger rolls.

Result

The company stayed with its current roll diameter, saving the expenditure to modify all of the machinery to handle the larger rolls.

Solution

The project was underway when we became involved. We questioned how the larger diameter rolls would fit into the rail cars for shipping. We found that, because of the poor fit, there would be much less paper in each car. The added cost of shipping the rolls would far outweigh the projected savings.

MANUFACTURING

Problem

A plastics company had taken on a new, multi-colored product line, which was generating excessive scrap and regrind in many colors. We were asked to advise on the type of equipment they should purchase to rework these materials.

Result

A saving of \$75,000 for the cost of the recycling equipment, less scrap and lower operating costs.

Solution

Before advising on the equipment, we reviewed their operation. By changing their production scheduling, we developed a strategy which reduced the amount of scrap and at the same time allowed them to recycle the regrind directly back into their product, reducing costs and eliminating the need for any special equipment.

The Firm

Founded in 1989, Les Wood Associates consists of professional consultants, each with a record of success in their field. Our expertise includes: Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, Warehousing and Distribution, Cost Accounting, Product Design, Business Development.

Management Profile

Leslie Wood - President

Les Wood has spent 30 years in a wide variety of manufacturing operations. Prior to founding Les Wood Associates, he was the Corporate Manager of Industrial Engineering for Sweetheart Cup Corp., a billion dollar manufacturer of disposable plastic and paper products. He has held similar positions in other industries including semiconductors, electronics, plastics processing and bicycle manufacturing. His expertise is planning and managing manufacturing operations. Both as a consultant and in his previous positions, he has held direct responsibility for developing, planning and starting up new manufacturing facilities and distribution centers.