

WINNER: Canadian Innovation Award for Productivity Improvement (LEAN)

Supporting Partner: Business Development Bank of Canada



(Photo left to right: David Simpson, Vice President, Technology Industry Support, NRC, Perrin Beatty, President & CEO, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, Jacques Lemoine, Senior Vice President, Operations for Ontario, Business Development Bank Canada, Cindy Grolleman, Cross Divisional SPS Leader & Training, Stackpole Limited accepting award on behalf of Stackpole Team seen to the right).

Stackpole Limited

Stackpole Limited's mission statement is, "To be recognized as the world's premier manufacturer of highly engineered, technologically differentiated power train components, systems and assemblies." To help its employees fulfill their mission, the company developed the Stackpole Production System (SPS).

There are three parts to the system: Inspired People, Robust Processes and Lean Operations. This tripod of principles is the base for an operating system that seeks continuous improvement. Stackpole believes that, "There is always a simpler, better way."

It all starts with people. Cindy Grolleman and Angelo Esposito, the Production System Leader and Manager respectively, worked with Human Resources Manager, Dennis Concordia, to implement the system. With the help of Brian Morris, the President of the Powder Metal Group, Ian McLeod, VP of Manufacturing and Ryan Tierney, VP of Operations, they established the GEAR program. "Group Effort Achieving Results" aimed to promote teamwork and reward results. Next Stackpole looked at its physical production processes. They focused on maintenance and defect prevention. Finally, they considered Lean Procedural Operations.

They used the 5S+1 methodology of sifting out the non-essential, sweeping it away, sorting essential items, sanitizing, and sustaining. All of which makes for greater employee safety.

Since implementing the Stackpole Production System the company has seen a reduction in product defects and an increase in material yield.

For their outstanding efforts in streamlining operations and empowering employees, Stackpole Limited received the **Productivity Improvement** award at the Canadian Innovation Awards.

