

Inoforges

# Combining efficiency and methodology

The TPM (Total Productive Maintenance) approach implemented by Inoforges with Cetim's support has been fruitful: it has resulted in a continuous improvement of the overall equipment effectiveness. Read on to find out how!

**T**he executives of Inoforges have asked Cetim to help them establish a production progress approach in order to remain competitive and to conquer new markets. This approach is based on the implementation of the eight pillars of Total Productive Maintenance (TPM). However, Cetim had to adapt to the company's specific needs. The Vertiflex production unit was a pilot case in this respect. Winning the production unit's personnel over to the method and objectives, measuring the previous day's performance on a daily basis and implementing ways of improvement are the key factors for success. *"Every morning, we assess the losses made in the previous day in order to implement ways for improvement as quickly as possible"*, explains Alexandre Cardoso, an engineer under a work-study programme at Inoforges, supervisor of the TPM group.

## A united team

The second pillar of the TPM approach, "Autonomous equipment management and maintenance" was implemented at the same

time as the OEE calculation. This pillar firstly consisted in restoring all the equipment to a standard level of operation. *"The 'spring cleaning' of the Vertiflex production unit took one and a half days"*, explains Jean-Luc Iserby, production manager. *"Upon completion of this operation, the machinery and the environment were 'clean' indeed, with a list of the anomalies found. Beyond that, a united group immediately got involved in this somewhat exceptional task."* The next action (pillar 3) consisted in defining maintenance plans. Maintenance orders and operation schedules were established for this purpose. The Vertiflex production unit TPM workgroup is currently continuing its efforts and striving to improve the



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technical expertise of the personnel: this is pillar 4.

## This success has become an example

The OEE of the Vertiflex production unit, which was assessed at 60% in late 2006, increased to 67% in late 2007 and is predicted to reach 75% by the end of 2008. This success immediately gave rise to the extension of the approach to a new production unit: the 530 metric ton press. *"We have already identified an OEE of 68% on this press in 2006. Our objective for late 2008 is 75%"*, concludes Jean-Luc Iserby.

## OUR CLIENT

**Corporate name**  
Inoforges

**Turnover**  
31.5 million euros

**Workforce**  
200 persons

**Activity**  
Inoforges, located in Breteuil sur Noye (Oise – France) has specialised in brass, copper, die-forging and machining for 40 years. The company recently opened two production units abroad to meet its customers' requirements (Inoforges Poland created in 2003 and Inoforges China created in 2005)

## Cetim's asset



Cetim assists mechanical engineering companies in their industrial performance organisation and optimisation initiatives and procedures. Their business knowledge and holistic view of the industry allows Cetim experts to elaborate and propose solutions adapted to the specific context of SMEs/SMIs.