

Woolston CV improves efficiency on target

In the last issue of *Company Connector*, we profiled an improvement initiative being piloted by Skellerup's Continuous Vulcanisation department in Woolston. Aimed at boosting efficiency across the Dairy Group, the Continuous Improvement initiative is now in its fourth month and Skellerup Business Analyst Gary Gillians says progress has been excellent in all target areas.

"THREE OUT OF THE FOUR TARGETS HAVE BEEN MET AND WORK will continue on the goal of 66% reduction in changeover times," says Gary.

"With the general slowdown in the economy, and customer orders down, the challenge will be manufacturing small, varied lots as opposed to the long runs previously enjoyed before the holiday break."

During the Christmas break the machines and factory floor were given a make-over with a striking new paint job. All non-essential machinery was also removed making the department look almost new.

The second Rapid Improvement Event targeting yields takes place in March.



The CV line before its makeover (above) and after (right) with its new coat of paint and minimalist look.

