

## Lean Thinking Results at a Salt Lake City Pool Cover Manufacturing Company

This Salt Lake manufacturer of automatic pool covers ran a “Lean Thinking” project in their “Cover Shop” with Manufacturing Consulting Services from December 2002 to September 2003. This shop is the facility that fabric-seam-welds together and finishes multiple panels of 6 foot wide rubberized fabric into custom covers for pools all the way from hot tubs to 32' x 60' pools. The following chart shows the reduction in resources required to maintain the same output for the 2003 season as the 2002 season.

By the end of the 2004 season, due to implementing single-piece flow and quick setup methods, average product throughput time had dropped from 1 1/2 days to 45 minutes. Indeed, if a customer called up with a rush custom order and then called back in 15 minutes to “tweak”, say, the color or a major dimension, the sales department had to learn to call the production floor to see if that rush order had already been started!

Cover Shop Lean Thinking Results: Dec 02 - Sep 03

