



— RAMONA HÖNL

6 steps to get closer to your Smart Factory

People thinking about concepts such as Smart Factory and Industry 4.0 often think big. This is because they encompass networked machines, radio-controlled material flow, fully automated order and material management, and more. It does not always have to be the complete package though – a contract manufacturer can also work smarter. The path towards a Smart Factory is just like every learning process – you take small and continuous steps. These steps do not always have to be complex or associated with significant costs. Find out more about the initial steps to increase your efficiency, your productivity, and thus, ultimately, also your success [here](#).

An efficient hall layout ensures an optimum process flow. Lean management means designing processes in such a way that they can be as low waste as possible. This required shortening paths and eliminating search times. This is best achieved if the machines in your production are arranged to suit the process, as an optimum process flow saves time and makes your production more efficient immediately.

Learn from the greats and implement lean management methods like 5S in your production. 5S means, for example, designing workstations so that work can be carried out without any interference. Unnecessary searching is also to be avoided here and work is to be carried out in a low-waste manner, as far as possible. The basis for this is a clean and orderly work environment in which employees feel more comfortable. This increases the productivity of your employees and has a positive effect in terms of quality and quantity on the result of your processes, which makes your customers even more satisfied.

If you no longer have to use the time-consuming method of making a calculation in Excel, that saves a huge amount of time.



