



EARLY INTRODUCTION OF FEED

Upon analysis, it was found that at one of our client's processing facilities, the overland conveyor was taking 8 minutes from starting up to reach the speed set point of 90% which would then trigger the feeders to start releasing ore onto the belt. It was also found that the conveyor was restarted approximately 1000 times over a span of 12 months which resulted in an approximate total of 133 hours being lost to downtime per year as well as the loss of a substantial amount of potential ore being moved across the plant.

OUR GOAL

Our goal for this project was to increase feeding time onto the overland conveyor and in turn increase the output of the conveyor system.

UNLOCKED POTENTIAL

Annual production capacity increased.



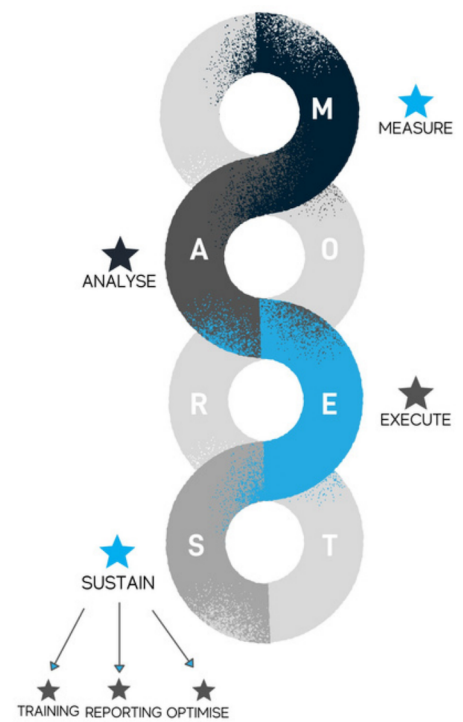
200K Tonnes

Successful results led to client considering additional improvement works to increase production capacity further.



OUR METHODOLOGY

- Measure and Analyse: Understand how a few minutes of downtime can contribute over time to a large production loss.
- Propose solution: Reduce conveyor system speed limits and operate feeder earlier.
- Implement solution - included modifications to the PLC logic.
- Sustain - test and measure to ensure our solution delivers on all requirements.
- Communicate - present implemented solution to stakeholders, highlight benefits. Provide coaching and mentoring.



KEY INSIGHTS

A complex problem can be solved with a simple solution. The solution implemented in this project could easily be used at other sites owing to its simplicity.

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS



Senior Control Systems Engineer



18 Months