

Algorithmic Wins

Efficiency is important at Honda. An efficient method improves processes, saves time and money, allows things to run according to schedule, and maybe most importantly, it frees up time for creativity and innovation.

As a systems engineer at Anna Engine Plant (AEP), Andrew Greenfield spends much of his time looking for efficiencies in the hundreds of manufacturing processes that take place at Honda's largest engine plant in the world. The plant's Valve Line 4 is one such area, and when Greenfield was asked to look at it with his watchful eye, the line had not reached its target run rate for nearly three years.



Getting started

After poring over reams of data and trying a myriad of methods to solve the run-rate issue, Greenfield developed an algorithm for the Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) that allowed the team to quickly identify issues that would provide the greatest benefit in improving the process.

One of those items was run rate, which is calculated based on the overall time used to create each day's products.