

Case Study.

Iron Ore Producer.

Australia.

Mining, Rail.

Iron Ore Producer Cuts Rail Cycle Time and Ups Shipping Volume

Challenge

One of the world's largest iron ore producers faced supply chain constraints because of sub-optimal rail yard cycle times. While the company knew there was significant potential for improvement, they were unable to quantify and achieve it themselves due to poor operational discipline, a risk averse culture, lack of performance transparency and a reliance on manual processes.

Solution

A diagnostic assessment by dss+ identified the potential to reduce yard cycle time by 40%. To achieve this, dss+ pursued two approaches. The first focused on people and processes and involved:

- Re-designing planning & task allocation processes to eliminate non-value-add tasks
- Developing & deploying a playbook (operating strategy & tactics), TARP (Trigger, Action, Response Plan) & SIC (Short Interval Control)
- Re-designing a 100-year-old process to set up & test trains prior to departure
- Coaching of frontline leaders and operators
- Updating & embedding scheduling assumptions and KPIs

The second phase targeted technology and automation to sustain changes and included:

- Automating granular timestamps for key activities & developing self-serve KPI dashboards
- Automating & standardizing delay accounting system
- Designing & introducing digital mobility solutions (tablets & custom-built app) for task allocation & completion



Assignment

Cut rail yard cycle time



Offering

Operational Excellence.

Diagnostic, Planning, Rail Cycle Time, Management Operating System.



Impact

40% reduction in rail yard cycle time.

4 Mtpa increase in product shipped.

dss+

Protect. Transform. Sustain.

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