

APPLIED FOOD SOLUTIONS

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A RECENT SUCCESS

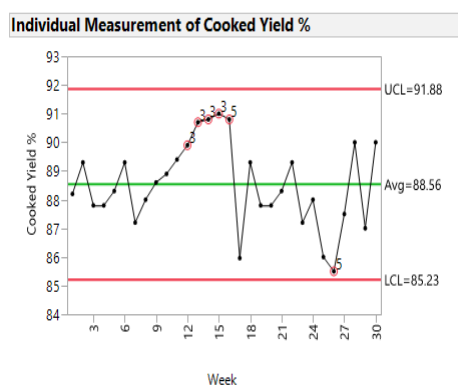
AFS delivered four lectures and two breakout sessions during two short courses at The Ohio State University. Thermal Processing of RTE Meats Short Course April 24 - 26, 2018. Process Change and Control Short Course on May 15, 2018. These two courses were attended by 36 industry professionals from industry managers to business ownership.

WHAT IS PROCESS CONTROL?

Generally speaking process control is part of an ongoing Continuous Improvement (CI) effort within an organization. In the past you may have heard CI referred to as Total Quality Management (TQM), Quality Management (QM), etc. The Process Control (PC) part of CI utilizes process behavior/control charts (PBC) as primary tools to bring processes in statistical control. PBCs are most likely utilized in conjunction with other CI tools. The final aim is to design a process to make the least amount of defective output possible, rather than inspect process output to sort defects out.

The idea of controlling the process rather than inspecting finished product was championed by Edwards Deming after he worked with Robert Shewhart at Western Electric during World War II. Deming eventually joined the US effort to rebuild post war Japan. Japanese automakers fervently adopted Deming's methodologies and Shewhart's charts, who then improved their businesses enough to become dominant in the world auto market.

The quotes below are from Process Control on May 15, 2018 in response to the question would you recommend this course to others?



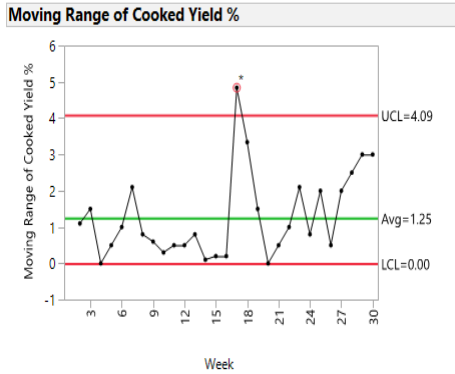
“Yes. Beneficial. Especially helpful to get more peers thinking along the same lines.”

Yes, good knowledge everyone should learn.”

WHAT CAN CI DO FOR A BUSINESS?

There is a common misconception that PC tools and methods apply only to manufacturing lines and/or processes. In fact, some of the most powerful improvements may be made in regular business processes. Standard business processes are also referred to a transactional process.

A Process Behavior Chart for Process Improvement



The variation portion of the chart.

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The most common reason businesses adopt CI methodologies is to improve bottom line profitability. There are other tangible CI benefits that should not be overlooked. Such as improved business decision making, improved employee engagement, improved customer satisfaction, and sustainable competitive advantage.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN IMPROVING YOUR BUSINESS?

Sometimes the answer to this may be of course we wish to improve, but how involved will this be and/or how much will it cost? The answer varies widely depending upon the business size and how much you wish to achieve. It could be as formal as establishing a Six Sigma culture and training, or as informal as applying some new tools. A potential starting point is an Introduction to Continuous Improvement session through Applied Food Solutions. Please contact me directly if you would like to learn more.

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