

Company Contact: Chris Wickline

Low-Volume Production Cell Design

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Company Background

InMotion, Blacksburg

- specializes in motor and electronic controller assemblies for hybrid vehicles
- has 100 employees
- operates 6 product lines



Problem

No dedicated production cell or line layout currently exists, and InMotion will be unable to meet customer demand.

Goal

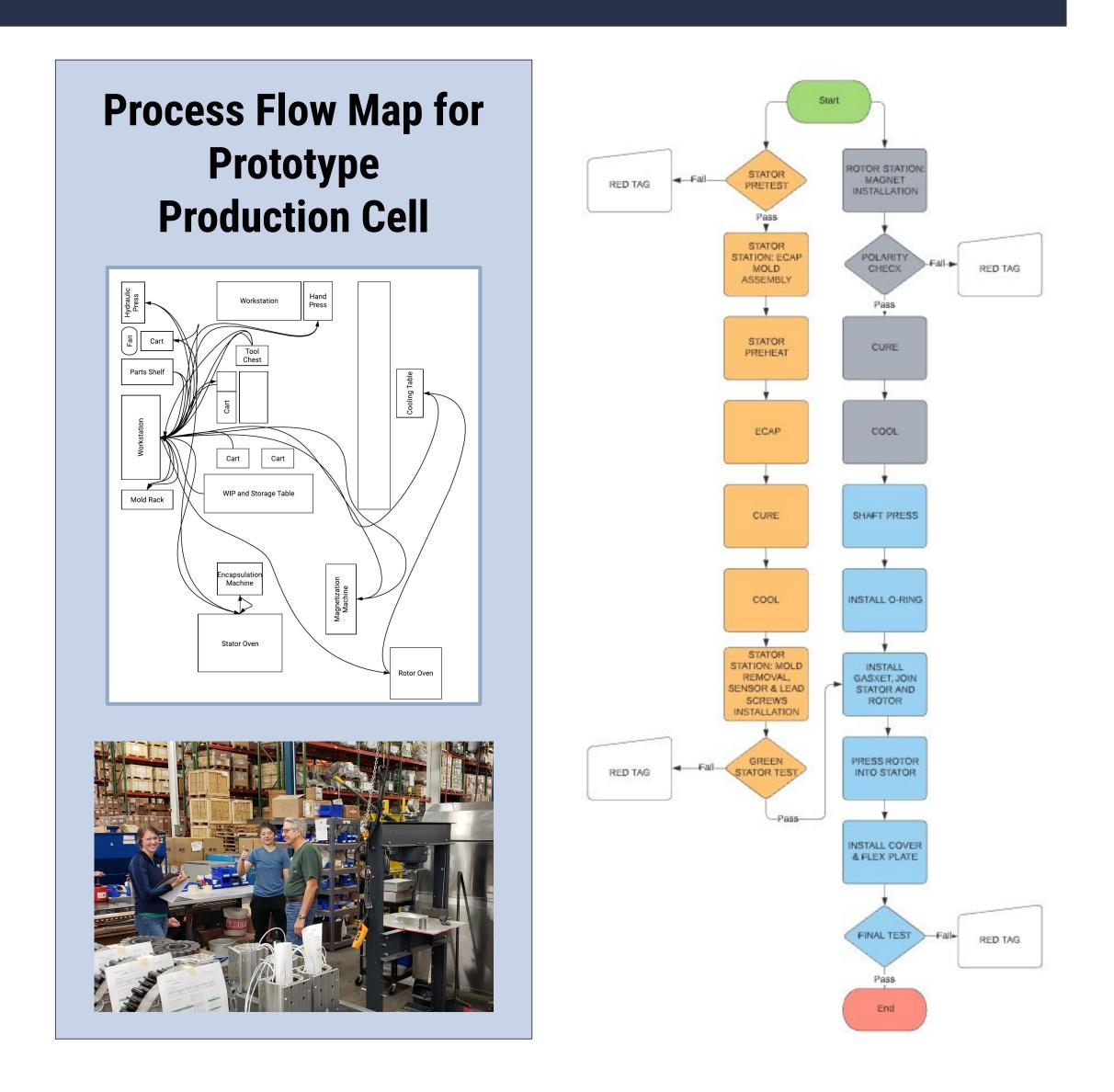
Design a scalable lean manufacturing cell capable of producing 1,000 - 10,000 units per year

Objectives

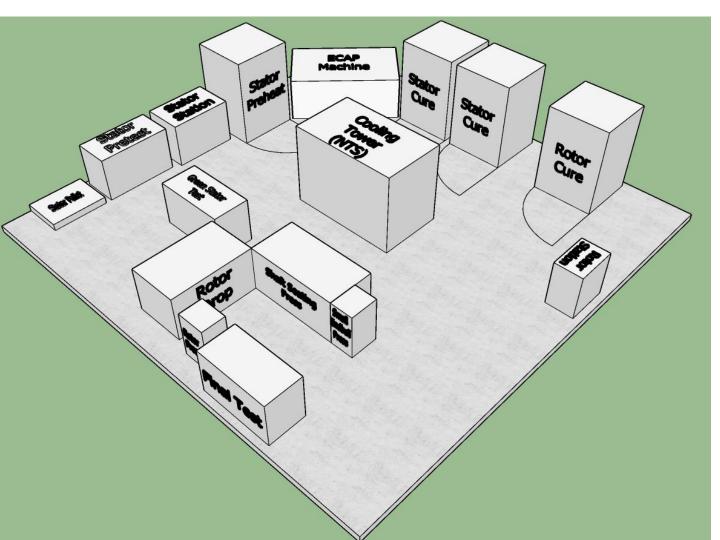
- 1 Create process map
- 2 Design lean production cell
- Provide modifications for 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, and 10,000 units/year

Process Mapping

Process Name	Prototype Times - Minutes	Production Times - Minutes
Stator Green Test		10.0
Stator Mold Install	19.56	6.0
Stator Preheat	60.0	30.0
Stator Encapsulation	11.76	6.0
Stator Cure	120.0	120.0
Stator Cool	45.0	30.0
Stator Mold Removal	10.48	6.0
Rotor Assembly	36.0	8.0
Rotor Cool	45.0	30.0
Final Assembly	28.83	19.0
Final Test		10.0

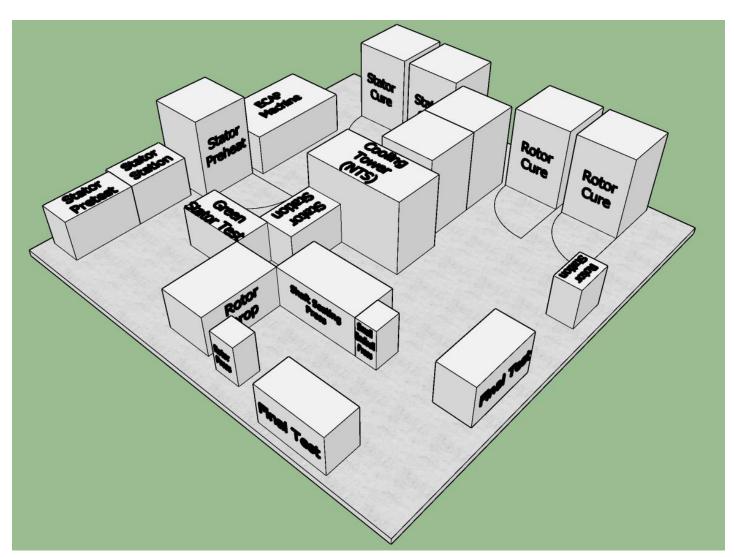


Recommendations

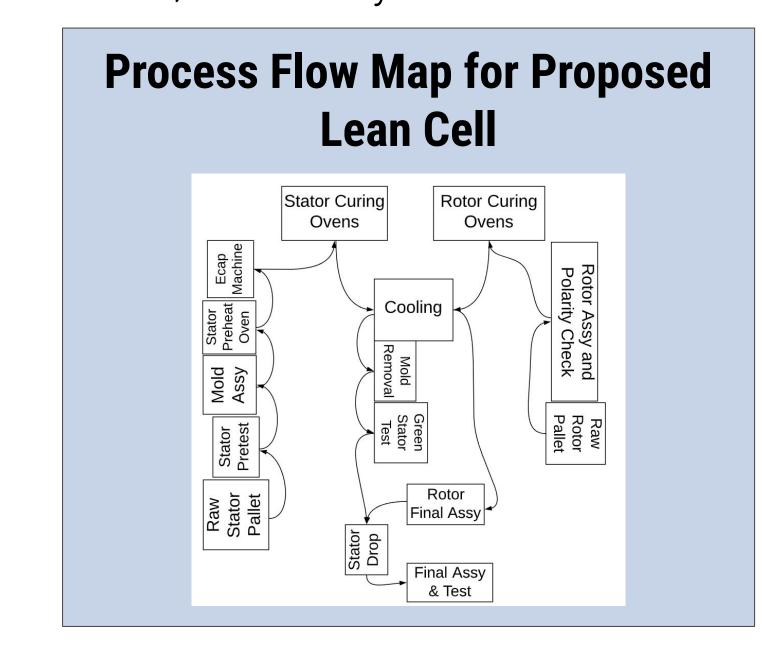


5,000 units/year

Yearly Demand	Final Assembly Workers	Full Work %	Batch Process Workers
1,000	1	21.6%	N/A
2,000	1	43.3%	N/A
3,000	1	65.0%	1
4,000	1	86.7%	1
5,000	2	54.2%	1
10,000	4	77.1%	2

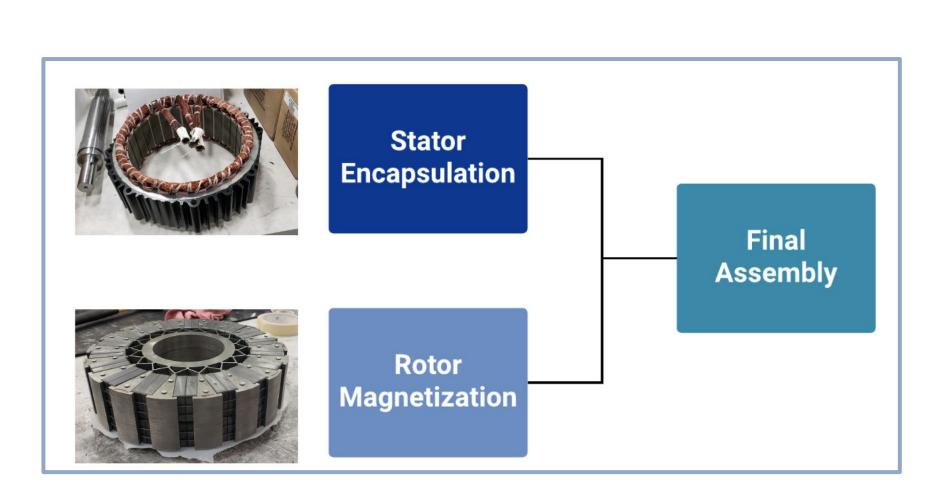


10,000 units/year



Design Constraints

- Stator Encapsulation and Rotor Magnetization currently have 60-120 minute curing processes
- Final Assembly process times range from 3-10 minutes
- Products require crane, cart, or roller conveyance
- Lean Cell must fit within existing 10 x 10 meter space



Takt Times

Year	Yearly Demand	Daily Demand	Takt Time - Minutes
Year 1	1,000	4	89.25
Year 2	2,000	8	44.62
Year 3	3,000	12	29.75
Year 4	4,000	16	22.31
Year 5	5,000	20	17.85
Year 6+	10,000	40	8.92

Assume 7 hour day, single full time shift, 85% efficiency

Projected Impact

This project will allow InMotion to capture \$7,200,000

in additional revenue over the next 3 years