Helping Manufacturers Reach Industry 4.0

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How ThingTrax is giving RGE Group the data they need to improve efficiency, reduce downtime and become more competitive...

In 2017, RGE Group - one of the leading and largest injection moulders in the UK - came to ThingTrax with the challenge of making the 45 injection moulding machines in one of their UK sites 'smart'. They were looking for an end-to-end solution that would give them the ability to monitor, capture and analyse data from their machinery, allowing them to predict and reduce production downtime.

Like many manufacturers in the world, RGE Group found solutions that could either provide them with the hardware to connect their machines (but not the software they needed to analyse the data garnered), or with the software (but not the hardware).

Instead, ThingTrax provided RGE Group with both the hardware and software they needed in one simple and easy-to-use system, removing any additional need for expensive consultants.

How it Worked.

Our Smart Gateway devices were created from the bottom up as a plug and play system that's wireless, doesn't require a local server, and can be installed in less than an hour. These devices - which easily connect to machine PLCs - were able to collect RGE Group's machine data 24/7, sending it to the cloud to alert managers to any performance anomalies in real-time.

The ease of installing ThingTrax's solution was a huge benefit. Their cloud-based servers enabled us to integrate with existing systems without having to worry about maintenance, uptime and scalability.

Ellis Lambert, IT Manager at RGE Group

The Benefits for RGE Group.

In order to track job performance, our devices began monitoring production, injections, and unplanned downtime across two RGE Group factories in the UK and USA.

Were jobs on track? Were they running behind schedule? What proactive actions could RGE Group take to better serve their customers?

ThingTrax was able to give RGE Group answers to all these questions in order to help them increase efficiency through effective job planning and scheduling.

"ThingTrax has made us more competitive in the marketplace. We need to be the best and we need to constantly improve, but in order to do this we need data and recommendations. ThingTrax gives us both in spades."

Dan Leach, Commercial Director at RGE Group

Looking to the Future...

ThingTrax devices have now been installed across RGE Group's European sites, with their team also set to benefit from our new predictive maintenance and tool analytics system. It's a system that can be scaled from 1 machine to hundreds, making it ideal for any manufacturer - regardless of size or age of machinery - looking to adopt smart technology.

info@thingtrax.com