

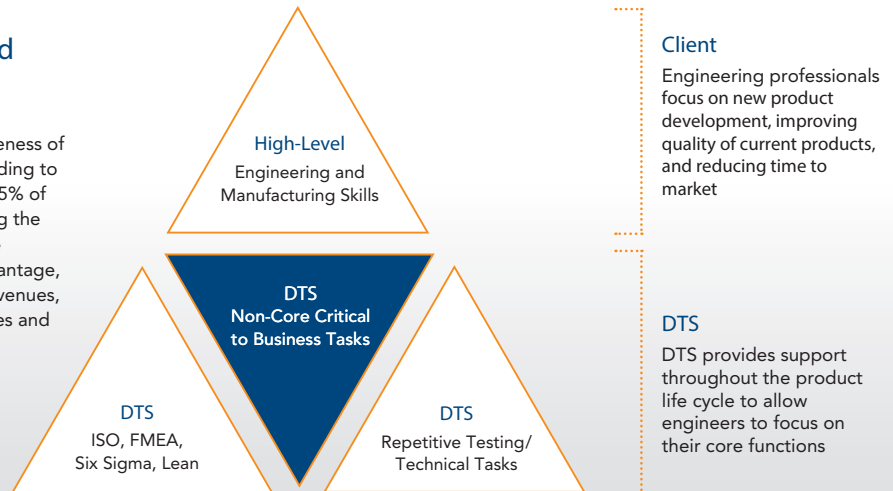
CASE STUDY

DTS Solves an Engineering Dilution Challenge to Accelerate Product Launch

Balancing the Engineering Workload

What is Engineering Dilution?

Non-core and support activities “dilute” the effectiveness of engineering and manufacturing professionals. According to Colin Mynott’s “Lean Product Development,” only 25% of time is actually spent engineering, severely impacting the productivity and output of a department or an entire company. The fallout can mean lost competitive advantage, missed windows of opportunity, reduced product revenues, higher cost of poor quality (COPQ) via warranty issues and numerous other consequences.



The Challenge

Our client, a global heavy construction equipment manufacturer was experiencing an expanding backlog of critical projects, due to challenges in sourcing hydraulic engineers and a high demand and lack of local talent for this crucial skill set. Faced with delays that could significantly impact their new product launch, they contacted Design & Technical Services (DTS) to help design a solution.

The Solution

Our DTS team proposed conducting a Value Stream Analysis to better understand the existing engineering functions and processes. Our analysis revealed that the client’s engineers were tasked with a wide variety of non-core, yet critical-to-business functions that diluted their ability to focus on core engineering functions. Specifically, we determined that 30% to 40% of the daily tasks performed by the client’s engineering team could be assigned to lower level mechanical technicians. The client immediately re-aligned functions, allowing their top talent to refocus their core engineering teams on their engineering backlog. The client then turned to DTS for completing the lower level technical tasks.

The Results

DTS’s solution reduced the workload of the client’s engineering team, freeing the client’s engineers to work on new product schedules and higher level challenges. We provided the mechanical technicians to take over the non-core, yet critical-to-business tasks identified during the analysis. The client was extremely pleased that DTS offered a solution that enabled their engineering team to meet their aggressive product launch schedules.

About DTS

Design & Technical Services (DTS) provides consulting, outsourced and insourced services supporting the engineering and manufacturing industries. From design, analysis, build-test, production, and support, our engineering and manufacturing support services improve the ROI of your product lifecycle.

For more information contact us at [877.489.1572](tel:877.489.1572)
or visit designtechnical.com.