



Keeping Production Lines Humming

Jabil and Skylight help a electronics maker improve its production line operations – with a solution that paid for itself in two months.

Jabil helps people innovate. For 50 years the company has offered expert guidance on engineering, manufacturing and supply chains to help innovators speed ahead in fields from automotive to packaging to aerospace.

Keeping an eye on promising new tech is a must for Jabil's Productions Systems group, which asked employees to suggest industrial operations where wearables could help workers with daily tasks. That's how production line monitoring became the first hands-on application Jabil explored.

“ Our pilot using Skylight has helped Jabil see how wearables can be incorporated across all our production sites around the world. We think the benefits can be transformational.

– Tom Pettit, IT project manager

Situation

The test partner: a lean-focused electronics factory for high tech components. On the shop floor, line managers and technicians are critical to success: they move among production lines to make sure component quality stays high and that the valuable surface mount placement machines are used most efficiently.

In this high-volume environment, a single technician could be responsible for only a limited number of lines. Even so, it was hard for those technicians to handle all the many processes and issues that could happen with each production machine. Any breakdown cascaded down the line, leading to shutdowns and costly delays.

JABIL

Company

Jabil (NYSE: JBL)
www.Jabil.com

Industry

Electronic manufacturing

AR Solution

- Skylight
- Smart glasses

Skylight Application

- Production line management

Benefits

- Pilot ROI in 2 months
- Increase in line availability
- Shorter production cycles
- Faster delivery of customer orders
- Increased hands-on worker productivity

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Situation

Jabil recommended a pilot program with wearable tech and the Skylight software program from Upskill. Working closely with Jabil's Production Systems group, Upskill developed a customized Skylight workflow that worked smoothly with the company's existing in-house Asset Performance Management System. The goal: allow line managers and machine technicians to track key performance indicators for Overall Equipment Efficiency (OEE) on multiple production lines at once.

Thanks to smart glasses running Skylight, technicians now get real-time data and charts covering machine state, state of shift, yield for each line and other mission-critical information. When errors or outages happen, Skylight notifies the technician automatically with details about the error and the machines affected.

If the issues are complex, the technicians use Skylight to call for help and stream their view of the situation to experts across the plant or hundreds of miles away. That leads to repairs with higher quality and less downtime.



End-user point of view using Skylight on smart glasses.

“ We chose Skylight because it offers a scalable platform that can be customized to a wide range of different applications, and is also device agnostic. We won't be limited by the technology or the hardware—and that's incredibly important to Jabil.

– Tom Pettit, IT project manager

Results

Technicians outfitted with smart glasses and Skylight are making production more efficient. Jabil reports that that the electronics manufacturer is seeing:

- More machine uptime and availability
- A shorter overall production cycle
- Reduced production costs

In fact, the manufacturer expects the savings will pay for its investment in Skylight in just two months. Which is why today Jabil is looking at other manufacturing and supply chain management systems where Skylight and smart glasses can help them help the innovators.