

'GOOD HOUSEKEEPING' GUIDE APPLICATIONS IN COMPANIES

SBA

Sustainable Business Associates

DELTA PROGRAMME

DELTA Lebanon

RECYCLING PAPER BOARD WASTE UNIPAK, A CARTON MANUFACTURER IN BEIRUT

WHAT IS THE 'GOOD HOUSEKEEPING' GUIDE?

This Guide is a simple management tool developed by GTZ/P3U and SBA. It contains Checklists and describes common sense measures that companies can take related to 'good housekeeping'.

These measures can help companies to reduce their production costs, enhance product quality, and minimise the impact of industrial operations on the environment.

IN BRIEF

This factory had a huge quantity of production waste that required significant work to manage. Rather than continuing to send such waste to landfill, the manager

installed a mechanical system to collect and pack the waste for recycling. The work environment improved from having more space available in the factory and production costs were decreased.

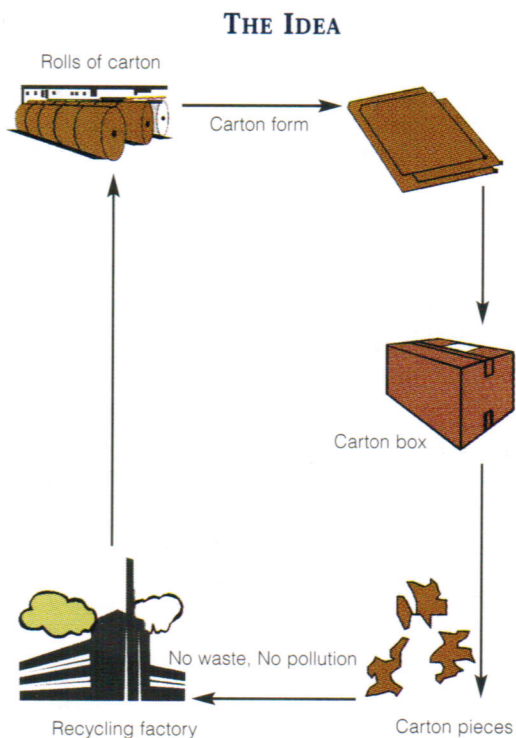
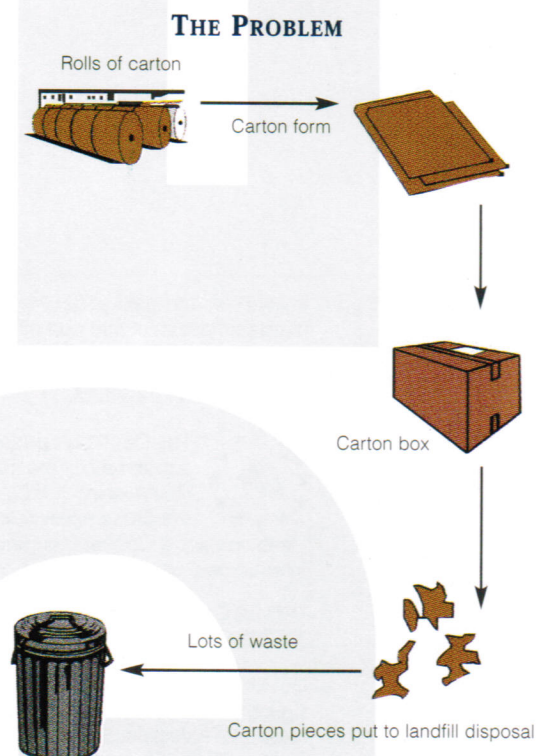
THE CHALLENGE

During the production of cartons, large paper board sheets had to be cut, which created a large quantity of waste that could not be used for another purpose inside the factory. By the end of each day, the quantity of waste was quite difficult to manage in terms of space, having workers on-hand to move it, and having the means to dispose of this waste (transport, landfill, and their related costs).

APPLICATION OF THE 'GOOD HOUSEKEEPING' GUIDE

The Guide's Checklist for managing waste suggests to identify the major sources of waste that occur throughout the production process. Using the Guide's Flow Chart of the production process, UNIPAK managers pinpointed the cutting of boxes as a major source of waste. The possibilities for selling the resulting paper board waste to other enterprises for reuse were analysed. The company discovered that a nearby paper manufacturer would be able to use this waste as second-life raw material.

ACTION TAKEN WITHIN THE COMPANY



ECONOMIC RESULTS

Investment cost	205'000 US\$, for a vacuum and press
Annual running costs	18'000 US\$
Annual savings	192'000 US\$
Payback	18 months

ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

Environmental impact is reduced in two ways.

- 1) Directly: a large quantity of paper waste is no longer going to landfill. This amount represents 40m³ cubic meters per day.
- 2) Indirectly: the global impact on the environment is reduced because waste paper is now being recycled (and water, raw material, and energy are being saved in a proportion amounting to one third).

LESSONS LEARNED

Analysing the flow of inputs & outputs is an important method for having an eco-efficient approach. In this progressive company, conscientious investments are important, but the rapid payback also confirmed the validity of the investment to facilitate recycling. A systematic management approach can make such solutions appear costly, but an analysis using accounting sheets and flow charts can justify actions that reduce environmental impact, which may at the same time also give cost savings.

COMPANY

UNIPAK, Beirut, Lebanon; paper sector, a carton manufacturer; 120 employees.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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WHO IS SBA ?

SBA, Sustainable Business Associates, is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) that is working to engage industrialists in 'eco-efficiency' with the aim of minimising environmental impact and improving business productivity. To pursue this aim, SBA has initiated the DELTA Programme to sensitise industrialists to new business risks and opportunities, and to provide them with the management tools and training to move towards sustainable development.

WHAT IS DELTA?

DELTA stands for Developing Environmental Leadership Towards Action.

Chapter 30 of Agenda 21 (an outcome of the 1992 United Nations 'Earth Summit') indicates that business & industry have a critical role to play in achieving sustainable development goals. After an initial awareness-raising phase, the DELTA Programme focused on structuring industrialists in 'business & environment' networks (DELTA Networks) in 10 countries of the Mashrek & Maghreb. These Networks are composed of key industrialists interested in taking a proactive, leadership role on environmental issues. The DELTA Networks are practical, working structures for industrialists to obtain information & contacts, exchange experiences, develop environmental

know-how, and gain access to practical management tools that can offer 'win-win' options based on eco-efficiency.

SUPPORT TO DELTA

 The DELTA programme is supported by the European Commission (LIFE), the Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation and other international organisations.

WHERE ARE THE DELTA NETWORKS?

DELTA Networks are operating in: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, and Tunisia.