



## **Southwest Cheese Company, LLC Sustains Lean with Visual Communications from Visual Workplace, Inc.**

### **Food Manufacturing Cost Saving Continuous Improvement Case Study**

Southwest Cheese Company LLC is one of the largest and most successful cheese and whey protein manufacturers in the world. Born from a dairy industry joint venture between Glanbia plc and the Greater Southwest Agency, Inc., Southwest Cheese has grown to become a leading manufacturer of nutritious cheese and whey protein ingredients that help feed the world. Their customers are among the top global food processing companies, receiving the highest quality, best-value products available in the dairy industry today.

Southwest Cheese processes over 3.8 billion pounds of milk, produces in excess of 388 million pounds of superior block cheese and 29.1 million pounds of high value-added whey protein powders each year. The Southwest Cheese Company generates sales in national and international markets and employs a first-rate workforce of over 300 employees.

**Challenge:** The Southwest Cheese manufacturing facility in Clovis, New Mexico is a Lean, 5S organization. Visual communications are important for organization and compliance regulations. Southwest Cheese lacked signs in their facility and recognized they were necessary in order to maintain a continuous improvement environment.

**Solution:** Southwest Cheese needed signs in their facility but didn't want to create long-term extra expenses. They reached out to Visual Workplace, Inc. to help with an innovative system to internally create and customize visual communications for their workplace. Visual Workplace proposed their Visual Sign Shop, a mobile system designed to give companies the flexibility and speed to create visual communications quickly and easily.

**Cost Savings:** Saved a total of \$44,400 in 6 years on visual communications at \$7,400 / year.

#### **Over 6 years of savings using the Visual Sign Shop**

<b>Total Signs Made = 1,992</b>
<b>Cost to Purchase = \$55,900</b>
<b>Cost to Make = \$11,500</b>
<b>Total Savings = \$44,400</b>

*...the possibilities are endless when having the ability to design, plot and display your signs on demand...*

**What would this cost savings look like in your organization?**

**Signs can be created quickly and look professional.**

With the Visual Sign Shop you can design and create many different visual communications with flexibility and speed at a much lower cost than purchasing each sign individually. The Visual Sign Shop gives you the flexibility to create a sign on the spot. You can create signs to indicate Eye Wash Stations, PPE Requirements for 5S, Kaizen events or Kanbans. Creating visuals to communicate hazardous areas and safety regulations leads to more cost savings by reducing injuries and keeping employees healthy. There are so many different signs you can make – the list is endless! Get lean with the Visual Sign Shop from Visual Workplace, Inc.



*“With the Visual Workplace Visual Sign Shop, you have speed without sacrificing quality.*

*The vinyl is durable and affordable.”*

**Theresa J. / GPS Team Leader  
Southwest Cheese**

**Visual Communications  
for Your Facility**

visualworkplaceinc.com / (877) 523-4088