



MAINTENANCE AWARD

WINNER

Business Unit 2 Maintenance Team,
Alpen & Weetabix Minis (Weetabix Food Company)

It's the age-old conundrum: how to keep your plant up and running, without having to take assets offline to do so.

For the Weetabix Business Unit 2 Maintenance Team, this was proving to be a major headache. Over 80% of maintenance tasks had to be carried out while the plant was offline, which added complexities across the entire site.

As many of the offline tasks had to be moved across to online as possible – but how?

The answer came in the shape of new technologies, and a more proactive approach to maintenance. For instance, the team invested in a thermographic camera, which allowed them to monitor the temperature of the equipment in real-time.

Similarly, a vibration tool has meant they are able to detect excessive movement in machines down to the nearest millimetre, all of which provides data from which patterns and conclusions can be drawn.

This culture towards maintenance has also been taken up by the production team,

who have learnt how to undertake small maintenance tasks by themselves. This has freed up time for the maintenance team to work on more maintenance ideas. The production team have also been taught how to spot any potential signs of damage, or listen out for sounds that are out-of-the-ordinary. This is all part of Weetabix's wider strategy, called Performance through People, which aims to empower people across all areas of the business to become focused on productivity and performance.

The amount of data generated by the maintenance team has been invaluable to the new approach.

The 80% of tasks being performed during shutdown has fallen to just 20%, and daily operations review meetings are called to monitor how many preventative maintenance tasks the team have completed on time and how many are in backlog.

A shining example of how teamwork and technology can come together to create tangible and impressive results.

FINALISTS

Barry Parsons,
CI facilitator,
Entek International

**Glass Bottling Hall
Maintenance Team,**
Hanworth Dairy,
Milk&More, *PEME*

JUDGES' COMMENTS

“We are especially impressed by the team's use of KPIs and policy deployment, as well as how they collaborated with the site's production team to ensure they are able to undertake maintenance without shutting down the production lines”