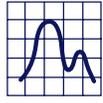# *STATISTICA*™ Case Study

Flex2000 – Using *STATISTICA Enterprise* for quality assurance and process improvement

SUMMARY

STATISTICA Enterprise provides Flex2000, a Portugese foam manufacturing company, with a multi-user software platform to analyze and ensure quality during the product manufacturing and inspection processes.

ABOUT FLEX2000

Flex2000 is a company that produces foams for applications in a wide range of industries: healthcare, bedding, automotive, shoes, etc. with many products such as mattresses, hospital mattresses, pillows and soundproofing materials.

The production of flexible polyurethane foam was started in 1976, still using a manual process that relied on boxes. Since the year 2000, Flex2000 – a Cordex group company – grew and strengthened its position in the Iberian market through the quality of its products and its commercial aggressiveness.

Flex2000 grew and developed its technical abilities, which allowed it to compete with widely known European companies. Presently, Flex2000 occupies an area of 43,000 square meters and is proud of the various certifications and recognitions that its products have achieved (e.g. OkoTex, CertiPUR, FIRA, etc.)

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

While searching for process optimization and variability reduction solutions, Flex2000 learned about StatSoft's solutions through one of their suppliers. After an initial presentation

THE SOLUTION: *STATISTICA ENTERPRISE*

"With StatSoft's experience, methodology and tools, we gained a better insight about our manufacturing process. StatSoft's implementation allowed us to get an immediate optimization of our processes and an overall improvement in our products' quality."

Silvio Costa, Quality Manager

and requirements analysis, the STATISTICA Enterprise™ system was selected, as it provides easy access to data from different sources and processes with access control and automated analyses, built according to the company's needs.

In an initial stage of the project, Flex2000 operators and engineers attended custom training courses which included: advanced statistics, SPC, MSA, Design of Experiments, predictive modeling and usage and administration of the software. During this stage, StatSoft implemented data entry interfaces for raw materials' certificates and laboratory data, as well as an ETL system that allowed the engineers to extract the production

data from the exact moment where the lab samples were collected.

StatSoft quickly moved from the training and consulting services to the implementation of a full system that allowed for easy traceability. This allowed Flex2000 to control hundreds of production variables and correlate them with the lab results, calculate several process capability indices and automate the creation of quality reports which brought great improvement to their manufacturing process and considerable time saving.

CONTINUING GROWTH

Through a very close cooperation, StatSoft and Flex2000 have been expanding the STATISTICA Enterprise™ system to other areas of the factory and using it for many different purposes.
• Manufacturing routes analysis
• Waste management
• Root cause analysis
• Efficiency analyses
• DoE for development
• Optimization and sales analyses for stock optimization.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Flex2000 and StatSoft presented a data mining case study – Using Data Mining Modeling for Process Improvement on Polyester Foams Type – at the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics' ENBIS-11 conference.

"I like suppliers who deliver quick and effective responses like StatSoft. Thank you."

Vitor Coimbra, Production Director

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ABOUT *STATISTICA* AND STATSOFT

StatSoft is one of the world's largest providers of analytics software, with 30 offices around the globe and 1 million+ users of STATISTICA software. StatSoft provides Enterprise Manufacturing Process Intelligence software solutions to help companies in a variety of industries better meet the high standards of control, monitoring, and documentation mandated by strict regulatory frameworks and to improve product and process outcomes. With its STATISTICA suite of quality control and analytics tools, StatSoft is a trusted partner of the world's largest Life Sciences companies, helping them reduce the time and cost of analyses, improve accuracy, reduce risk, and streamline workflows.