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Inventory and Cost Reductions with Vendor Managed Inventory and Kanban

RJ Pascual¹, SA Noriega-Morales¹, V Torres-Argüelles¹, A Valles-Chavez², and G Ibarra-Mejia¹

¹Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
Institute of Engineering and Technology
Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez

²Division of Research and Graduate Studies
Technological Institute of Ciudad Juárez

Corresponding author's e-mail: snoriega@uacj.mx

Abstract. This paper is about an improvement project using Vendor Management of Inventory -VMI- and Kanban, it was made in a world class company for the manufacture of laser printing cartridges under its own brand. Management believed that inventory of parts and space of stockrooms seemed to be out of competitive performance and because the systems associated to replenishment do not add value, a new system for inventory management was needed. For those purposes, the company used Kanban and VMI. The paper presents the literature reviewed, the description of the project and its deployment. Also shows results and their discussion.

Keywords: Vendor Managed Inventory, Lean Manufacturing, Kanban, TPM, SMED