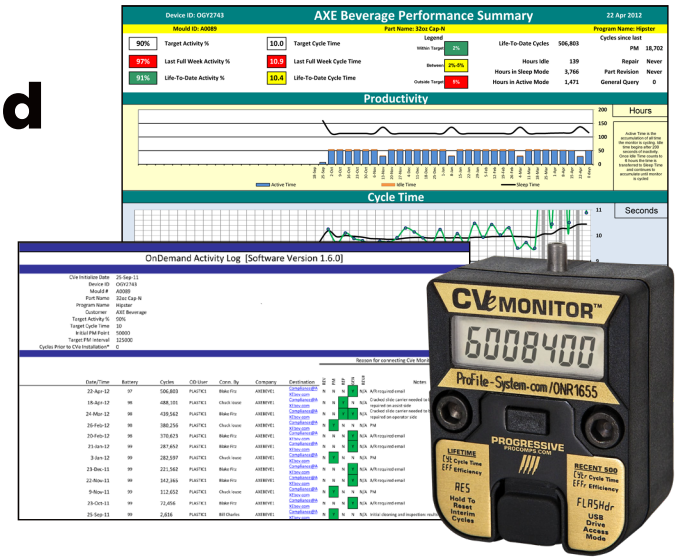
Optimizing Cycle Time for a 38mm Closure Mold

While the mold function was not the primary cause of issues, the decision to reduce cycle time had unintended consequences. Balancing efficiency and quality remains crucial in mold optimization. Using tools like the CVe Monitor and OnDemand are critical in the monitoring and analysis of the data.



Introduction

In this case study, we explore how an OEM Tooling Engineer (TE) collaborated with a molder to improve production efficiency by reducing the cycle time for a 38mm closure mold.

Problem/Challenge

The existing cycle time was set at 10 seconds, impacting profitability due to low margins on the product. The TE aimed to enhance productivity without compromising part quality.

Solution

Collaboration: The TE worked closely with the molder using a CVe Monitor and OnDemand reports to analyze the mold's performance and identify opportunities for improvement.

Cycle Time Reduction: The TE proposed reducing the cycle time from 10 to 8 seconds, aiming for faster production while maintaining quality.

Results

Positive Aspects:

- The mold continued to run well.
- Scheduled maintenance was adhered to.
- Part quality remained excellent.

Challenges:

- Parts occasionally got caught at the parting line due to the faster cycle time.
- Mold stoppages occurred as a result of the parts sticking on the core.

Impact:

- **Negative:** Lowering the cycle time negatively affected OEE and overall production output that equated to $50,000 over a 3 week period

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