

Optimized Steam Extraction Process

Savings
500 000 €
PER YEAR

Benefits

Increased steam extraction
averaging 5 tons/hour.

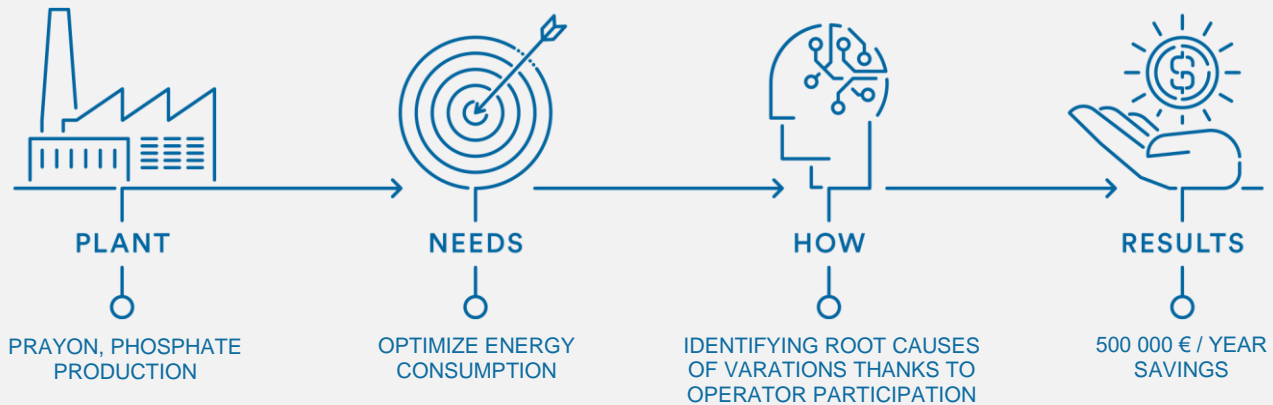
Recurrent savings
of 500 000 € per year on energy.

Long term approach with
a commitment to sustainability.

Improved internal communications and
workflow.

Implemented in less than 3 months
without CAPEX (capital expenditure).





Context

For over a century Prayon has been a world leader in phosphate salts production, dominating the food, technology and horticulture markets. The phosphate production process requires a lot of energy and generates big energy bills. In 2010, their main plant in Engis, Belgium added a sulfine exothermic unit and was able to reduce its dependency on external sources of both gas and electricity, eliminate oil use completely, and reduce its ecological footprint by cutting CO₂ emissions. However, they still did not meet their energy targets. Prayon contacted PEPITE to close the remaining gap and help them achieve optimized energy efficiency.

Solution

PEPITE used its Advanced Analytics and Data Mining expertise to reveal a gap in energy efficiency of more than 100 000 tons of steam a year. The root causes were identified and a people minded approach was introduced. Communication across 20 teams was strengthened, spanning three departments: management, energy and operations. Visual real-time tools were developed to monitor steam extraction flow and equipment maintenance, and new reporting practices were created to link departments.

The Winning Formula

- ◆ Analyze the existing situation and identify optimized operating conditions
- ◆ Develop key performance indicators and operator control systems.
- ◆ Operator and engineer training and follow-up.
- ◆ In a period of six months, Prayon Engis saved over 250 000 € on energy.