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Quote of the Month:

“The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.”

- Lao-tse



? Ask Dr. Brush



Contributed by:
Max Carthew
C.E.O.

THE CURVED DASH OLDS



Ransom E. Olds had in mind an automobile factory from an early age. He finally finished his first gasoline-powered car, although not soon enough to enter the Chicago Road race.

As luck would have it he found an investor who was looking for someone to start a business who would employ his two sons. The Olds Motor Works was founded in Lansing and before long a car was ready for sale. This first effort proved too expensive for the market so Ransom set out to build a runabout for \$650. The little vehicle was cute with its curved dash and sharp lines.

Disaster struck in March 1901 when the factory burned to the ground. Only one vehicle had survived the blaze. Without drawings and tooling they restarted the factory and concentrated on the curved dash model. It was ready in time for the Madison Square Auto Show in November 1901 and for publicity it was driven to New York across country. When the muddy looking driver pulled up in front of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel he was shooed away by the doorman and had to park in a side street and enter by the tradesman's entrance to find Olds who was pacing the floor.

The car was neat, it was capable and it was cheap, it caught on right away. Folks in the city had to have one, such that one dealer put in an order for 1,000 cars.

Olds developed a good assembly method using many parts prefabricated by the Dodge Brothers. However he still employed the usual method of bringing the men to the vehicle.

It would be some time before another pioneer of the automobile was to build a factory where the cars were brought to the men. This would revolutionize the manufacturing process, and make the inventor a billionaire, but that's another story.

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SPC – ALWAYS BE IN CONTROL

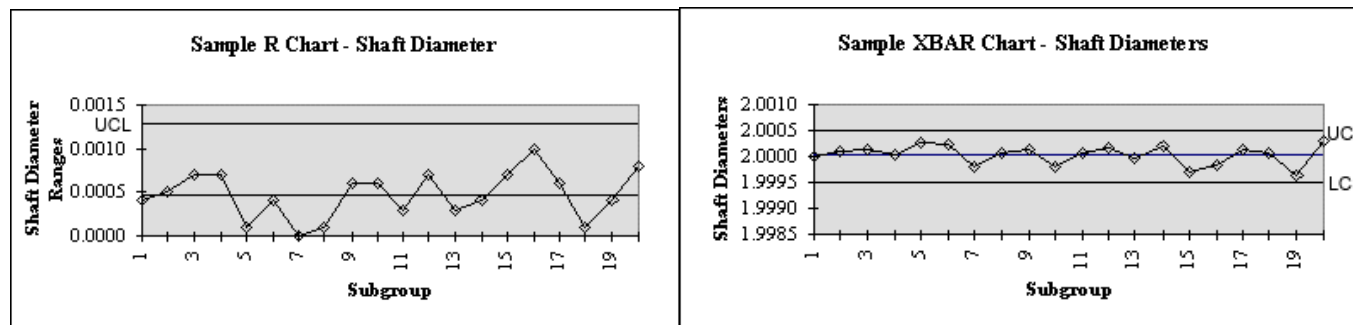
The paint job and exterior appearance is the first thing a person notices when they see a car. However, many people do not realize how difficult it is for the paint industry to achieve a quality paint job as there are many factors that go into achieving good appearance. These factors must be controlled within an operational window. This is where SPC or Statistical Process Control is needed. SPC uses math to measure how well the process has control of the important parameters.

Some important factors for paint appearance are: spray booth downdraft, cross draft, humidity, and temperature. These must be controlled to close standards for a good paint job. When these parameters are not controlled, the finish might have sagging, vertical peel, or horizontal peel. When this occurs the painted part must be repaired or possibly even discarded

. Data from the process is gathered to calculate averages, ranges, and the standard deviation. From this a control chart is plotted. Examples are shown of a simple range control chart [figure 1] and average control chart [figure 2]) SPC uses an upper and lower control limit to show the range of control for items such as humidity or temperature

With the help of a control chart an engineer is able to see whether the parameter they are trying to control is inside or outside the design or engineering tolerances for the specific part that is being painted and the specific paint being used. If these control limits are inside the design or engineering tolerances, the process is being controlled. However, if the upper and lower control limits are outside the design or engineering tolerances the process is not in control and corrections need to be made.

By tracking the process using statistical data in this way an engineer can keep an ongoing log of the process condition. When data points move out of the normal control range it will be immediately apparent so corrective action can be taken.



*Contributed by: Dave Matejewski
Kettering Co-op Student*

CURRENT PROJECTS

- ❖ **PDA News:** OMEGA has shipped instruments to General Motors and Subaru during the past quarter. We have several inquiries from customers in the USA and Canada. Our new PDA brochure will be available by early December '04.
- ❖ **General:** Omega is working at several General Motors sites on the latest energy reduction initiatives. The Prime Contractor for this work is IIS located in California and Texas. We also have ongoing work at Visteon – Utica, Chrysler – Warren Truck, and Honda – Alliston.

BRAGGING CORNER



Jeff and Julie Wallis are pleased to announce the engagements of two of their daughters. Susan will marry Seth Hefner on Dec. 4, 2004. Stephanie will be joined with Paul Cox on July 2, 2005. Jeff and Julie are very excited to have these new additions to their family.



This Fall, Billy Ringrose made the Clarendville varsity football team. He is the starting offensive tackle and also plays defensive tackle. He currently has varsity bowling and track letters and has recently received his academic letter as well.



Bill Ringrose would like to introduce you to his newest grandson, Nicholas Ryan Douglas. Nicholas was born on August 20, 2004 weighing 7 lbs 13 ozs and was 19 ½ inches long. Nathan is excited to have a brother.

Mich-Again



http://www.tree-mendus.com/apple_pics/apple_pics.html

MICHIGAN APPLES

In 2004, when McDonald introduced small bags of peeled and sliced apples as an alternative choice to fries, which apples did they choose? Michigan apples, of course. I do not know which variety is selected; we have over twenty of them. Michigan offers an apple for every taste. Aside from the classic Red and Golden delicious, you can indulge in an ultra-juicy McIntosh, a tangy Jonathan, a sweet Empire, a mellow Gala, an aromatic Jonathan, a low-acid Fuji or a crunchy Honeycrisp. You can bake delicious pies with Ida Reds and Northern Spies.

Apart from our state's economy and the taste of these fruits, there are other reasons why we should eat apples. Doctors tell us that apples contain antioxidants that help prevent free-radical damage such as skin cancer, flavonoids that decrease the risk of heart disease, and soluble pectin that lowers the harmful form of cholesterol (LDL).

And, you can always go to the Chicago Thanksgiving parade to see the Michigan Apple Queen and her court.

Contributed by: Annick Hivert-Carthew



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WHO HAS SEEN THE WIND?

“Who has seen the wind?
Neither I nor you:
But when the leaves hang trembling,
The wind is passing through.

Who has seen the wind?
Neither you nor I:
But when the trees bow down their heads,
The wind is passing by.”