# Louisiana Fish Fry Boosts OEE by 12% in 9 Months

## SUMMARY

After two unsuccessful implementations of other production monitoring tools, Louisiana Fish Fry onboarded Nulogy's **Smart Factory Solution** (formerly Mingo Smart Factory), where they finally found the right fit for their operations and **achieved a 12% increase in OEE in the first 9 months of implementation.**

## Company Overview

**LOUISIANA**
FISH FRY PRODUCTS

Established in 1982, Louisiana Fish Fry is a popular brand for Cajun and Creole fry mixes, sauces, and gravy mixes, and serves both the retail and foodservice industries.

## Challenges

Louisiana Fish Fry was interested in a manufacturing analytics platform that could provide deeper insights into their downtime causes and daily production performance. Their use of the **Smart Factory Solution**, however, was not their first foray into production monitoring software. Or their second.

Their first manufacturing analytics software solution introduced a digital board to the plant floor for the first time. Coding downtime causes into the system, however, was time consuming and required an IT professional who was familiar with the manual coding process. It was also difficult to export data.

The next software solution Louisiana Fish Fry implemented had a more flexible cloud hosted system, but its rigid dashboard meant that Louisiana Fish Fry had to reconfigure their data to fit into it—a time-consuming task.

**As the saying goes: the third time's the charm.**

> [Smart Factory] has changed my day to day because I can ask it for the data I need and it goes right to my inbox. I get what I need, and that part of my day is done.
>
> **Chris Mericas**
> Sr. Operations Analyst

## Results

The Louisiana Fish Fry team needed to know when the plant was having a good day or a bad day in order to improve efficiency and throughput. As a result, their requirements for Smart Factory were to provide:

- A visual representation tied into the job schedule to help workers self-motivate their progress; and
- Analytics to address why there was excessive downtime.

After implementing the **Smart Factory Solution**, the company was able to achieve:

### Enhanced data visibility across the company

On the plant floor, the analytical functions within the Smart Factory dashboard helped Louisiana Fish Fry identify downtime causes and where they needed to focus their maintenance efforts: not just how often a machine was down, but why.

In addition, the real-time data provided by **Smart Factory Solution** is now used to drive continuous improvement for each shift. Louisiana Fish Fry installed color-coded scoreboards on television screens around the plant to help workers see when they were doing well (green light) and when there was room for improvement (red light). Self-motivating the staff was a key management strategy for high quality products, while enabling the supervision team to shift their priorities to maximize capacity.

### Improved efficiency

By providing a better understanding of the volume and causes for their frequent downtime, the **Smart Factory Solution** enabled Louisiana Fish Fry to motivate their employees as well as provide a focal point for maintenance crews to prioritize their efforts to improve uptime.

These actions led to significant improvements in efficiency for Louisiana Fish Fry, with the team seeing their OEE jump by an impressive 12% within the first nine months.

In addition, by leveraging the real-time data provided by the **Smart Factory Solution**, Louisiana Fish Fry can now respond more quickly on the plant floor to ensure smooth production efficiency.

### Increased profitability

The adoption of the **Smart Factory Solution** also enabled Louisiana Fish Fry to make data-driven financial decisions for greater profitability.

In one instance, the data provided by Smart Factory enabled the Louisiana Fish Fry team to quickly compare the availability of spare parts versus refurbished parts required for an order, and conduct ROI analyses for faster financial decision-making.

In addition, the Smart Factory dashboard helps identify large stop causes such as equipment breakdowns—while also quantifying the financial impact of addressing these stops. Now, when budgeting for capital planning, Louisiana Fish Fry can analyze historical data to see:

- What has been the biggest hindrance on the plant floor?
- What have been the largest sources of downtime?
- Can money be spent to address these issues?

By leveraging the real-time data provided by the **Smart Factory Solution**, Louisiana Fish Fry is making faster, smarter financial decisions that tangibly uplift their bottom line.

> From the Operators all the way up to the VP of Operations, people are looking at [Smart Factory] either in the dashboard, on the computer, or through the visual factory screens daily.

**Chris Mericas**
**Sr. Operations Analyst**

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