

The Case of the Damaged Auto Parts

IQpack makes improvements to a pack and reduces costs through collaboration and Lean Six Sigma process.



The Problem:

A large, tier two automotive manufacturer of metal moldings had significant damage, storage, and handling issues, along with mounting claims and customer complaints with their bulk container for window moldings. The double wall container was weak and could not be stacked more than two-high in the warehouse, consuming precious floor space. It also would not ship effectively stacked two-high without potential collapse in truckload shipments to their customers in the U.S. & Mexico. Finally, there was an expensive, laminated custom wood structure inside the pack to support the products, but it provided zero value for stack strength.



The Solution:

IQpack began by establishing the operation's requirements and goals for storing, handling, and shipping aftermarket auto parts. The data led us to a recommendation and testing of 900# triple wall corrugated board. The board included die cut slits in the sides, allowing wooden boards to act as hangers, which supported the products inside. They were designed to lock into place, and to be installed and removed with ease. This solution eliminated **84%** of the corrugated in the bottom of the container, as it provided no value.



The Outcome:

- **Over \$200,000 a year in annual material savings**
- **Over 90% damage reduction**
- **Almost 35% less weight in material per pack**
- **84% improvement in floor space utilization**
- **Over 30% reduction in labor at end of life (recycling)**
- **Reduced lead-time in ordering packaging**



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