



Royal Netherlands Airforce invests in organisation with training

Up to speed with practical Spare Parts Management training

In February 2014 Gordian started a Spare Parts Management training for the Royal Netherlands Airforce (RNLAf). The RNLAf implemented SAP as their ERP system resulting in a need for additional training courses to the fresh (non-commissioned) officers, and civil employees. The practical SPM courses aim for providing the participants with clear backgrounds and accessible methods which they can immediately put into practice. For instance portfolio analyses, tactical inventory control and focused data cleaning.

Reorganisation and changes of position

Apart from the immense SAP implementation, the RNLAf also restructured their organisation. The maintenance management and supply chain management organisation were subdivided into a number of asset based, multidisciplinary teams. Procurement, logistics, engineering, operations, and finance are the main items of these teams which are focused on efficient problem solving. However, in order to understand each other a certain level of spare parts management knowledge and expertise is required.

In addition, the RNLAf is organised in such a way that military people change their position a lot. This means that nearly all people are relatively new on their job and therefore must get up to speed by a specific and effective training.

Acquired knowledge applying in own environment

The spare parts management training provides knowledge and skills to the RNLAf organisation, in particular on a tactical level. The training consists of 8 modules varying from basic statistics, demand forecasting, and inventory control for both consumables and rotables.

To be self-sufficient it is important that people can reproduce what they learn. This is facilitated by exercises during and after each module, as well as client specific cases after they finished the theoretical part. The participants define goals themselves and come up with a plan of approach to reach these goals. Finally they present their case in front of the management.

Hands-on tools in a sustainable organisation

The SPM training combines scientific models with practical examples which adds value to the organisation of the RNLAf. Participants want to apply the theory as soon as possible and this training provides tools and methods to do so. The cases show that there is a lot of potential in terms of inventory reduction while service levels are maintained. This is an important by-product of the client-oriented SPM training.

Finally the level of knowledge and expertise within the organisation is aligned and kept at a consistently high level. Decisions can be made more rapidly and effectively. In fact, the RNLAf became more sustainable and is ready for the future now.



"A structural knowledge injection by means of the SPM training is essential for a professional logistics planning organisation at the RNLAf"

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