

Working together generates smarter solutions

"As an Improvement Engineer at Neways Industrial Systems, I am responsible for analysing our work processes to make them even more efficient. My main focus is to bring the right people together to find a solution that works for everyone. My aim is to work smarter, not harder. If we can achieve the same result, or a better result, in less time, I have achieved my goal.

When I joined Neways, I felt welcome and at home right from day one. The atmosphere is informal, and people know each other personally. That's probably also why coronavirus has had such a significant impact. You can't just drop in for a chat anymore. You only really agree a time for a video call if it's work-related. Fortunately, I'm now able to work at the company again from time to time. That's the only place you can really connect with people; doing so via a computer screen is much more difficult.

At the beginning of this year, I completed the Neways Young Talent Programme. It was very informative and an experience I can definitely recommend. We met up every month for workshops and to prepare assignments, which we then put into practice. Being able to apply the assignments directly in your working environment makes the experience tangible, and there is always enough to discuss. Collaborating with colleagues who look at things differently, because they approach problems from a different discipline, opens up a completely new perspective. We have become quite a close-knit group, and if the lockdown hadn't happened, we would definitely have all got together again.

The project I am most proud of this year is an A3 improvement project where we and a multidisciplinary team reduced the throughput time of the systems and associated work in progress for an important customer. Our basic goal is to work on the right products at the right time. We explored the full scope of the problem first and created a visual plan. That visual plan is more meaningful than the numbers alone and also helps with setting a concrete goal: the throughput time for each part of the product may not exceed one week. We have now identified three factors that influence the throughput time and are explicitly tackling each one in turn. The desired result is apparent here: a decrease in inventories and the throughput time. So we are on the right track!"

BUILDING SMARTER SYSTEMS FOR A CHANGING WORLD

SMARTER
SOLUTIONS

CONTRIBUTING
IDEAS

EXPERTISE

COLLABORATION

NICOLE AARTS
**CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
ENGINEER**
NEWAYS INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS

