

The company began its 'lean journey' with visualfactory in a bid to save time and money and reduce errors, as production engineer Paul Cole explains:

"We were looking for a way of writing procedures that were easy for the operators to work to, using pictures and brief written descriptions. Many procedures, when written, are bogged down with words to the point that operators can't be bothered to read them. This leads to each individual working in a different way and introduces inconsistency and errors."

The workforce at Kelvin Hughes were using Microsoft Word to detail their Work Instructions, a process Paul described as "laborious".

Then came visualfactory – on the back of a first-hand recommendation.

"The switch to visualfactory was easy," Paul says. "Training was provided at our premises - and visualfactory provides online courses to use."

The benefits were quickly realised too.

"The benefits of using VisualFactory are the ease of use in building Standard Operating Procedures that are easy to use by the operator - and easy to build by the administrator. Rather than having a separate SOP for every product you can build one SOP covering many variants. This saves a great deal of time. Updating existing SOPs is quick and easy too."

Kelvin Hughes has also made big savings thanks to visualfactory – not least because of its android compatibility – with recent updates making the software easier to navigate and view on tablets.



This alone has cut costs by more than 50 per cent.

Prior to using visualfactory on tablets, Kelvin Hughes used a small form factor PC. The cost was £800 per system – vastly higher than the £320 needed for each mobile device now.

"VisualFactory is a great tool giving greater control," Paul summarises.

"Operators all work the same way with quality 'built in' to the product, greatly reducing any errors. It ensures the correct items are used and the product is built the same way every time - no matter who works on the line."

"A good 'right first time' tool."

KELVIN HUGHES

Case study

Kelvin Hughes is a world leader in the design and supply of navigation and surveillance systems.

"VisualFactory is a great tool giving greater control"

From instrumentation to digital charts, integrated bridge display systems to solid state surveillance radars, Kelvin Hughes has established itself as a technology innovator and reliable partner to the world's navies, merchant shipping, and pleasure craft operators.



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Simplify - Standardize - Automate

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