

1. Company, Plant/Factory Profile

Lindt & Sprüngli France is part of Lindt & Sprüngli AG, a global organization developing, producing, selling chocolate products and recognized as leader on premium quality chocolate segment.

The holding company, Chocoladefabriken Lindt & Sprüngli AG, founded in 1845 with headquarters in Kilchberg ZH, is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange. With 14 135 employees, the Lindt & Sprüngli Group reported sales worth CHF 4,59 billion in 2021.

The board of Directors handles management and strategy while Group Management, headed by group CEO Adalbert Lechner, is responsible for operational and geographical management tasks and owner of a patented conching process.

L&S France is led by President and CEO Jean-Baptiste JARRY with Arturo FERRER as Vice President Operations overseeing manufacturing and supply chain processes.

There are two complementary establishments in France: Headquarter in Paris and the production plant in Oloron Sainte-Marie

The plant regroups together all the personnel assigned to Operations (Production, Maintenance, Engineering, Safety, Environment, Industrial Performance and Logistics), Research and Development, Quality, Purchasing, Administration & Finance, Human Resources, Import / Export Departments.

It's a unique plant in Europe that manage end-to-end process from the cocoa beans to the final product (tablets, pralines and chocolate panning) following four main process steps:

- Cocoa beans roasting and chocolate liquor preparation
- Chocolate mass manufacturing
- Moulding, extruding, coating and panning
- Wrapping, final packing

Oloron plant produced 42 055 Tons in 2023 with almost 50% dedicated to export; the production volumes have more than doubled in the last 20 years with the export growing 114% delivering 19 countries versus 6 in 2001.

Our product range includes references of tablets, pralines and chocolate panning products divided in two types of businesses: permanent (all year) and seasonal dedicated to Christmas gifting (production April – November).

In 2023, people employed full time were 546 in average. We reached a peak of 732 employees during summer, they were organized in shifts patterns rotating 8 hours shift providing 24/7 coverage, 5 or 6 days per week.

COMPANY PROFILE

- Permanent products :



- Seasonal products



2. Milestone on the Journey of Manufacturing Excellence

In October 2012, Lindt Group decided to launch a global TPM approach in the manufacturing facilities called Lindt Performance Way (LPW). Focus was initially set on the foundations: 5S and Performance Control Systems (PCS).

Lindt France was motivated to start the journey by several factors:

- **Market challenges:** An increasing challenging market (higher competition, fragmentation, almost zero category development) began to shrink Lindt France profit. By working on losses, TPM would improve the profits.
- **Increasing business complexity:** Customers expected wider Portfolio, as well as higher service levels. To achieve the goal, TPM methodology became necessary to improve time to market, performance delivery and improve our service.
- **Standardization between Lindt plants:** The international Lindt factories had different operational models and KPIs structure. Introducing the TPM approach allows easier comparison between plants.
- **Competitiveness and improvement opportunities:** Some Lindt facilities experienced advantages of the TPM methodology implementation. Lindt France was motivated to follow their example and increase internal and external attractiveness thanks to improvements on processes, organization and procedures that could be activated using the TPM methodology.
- **Volume Growth:** Oloron Sainte-Marie Plant experienced 115% increase in volume from 21517 tons in 2001 to 46195 tons in 2021. This drastic increase creates opportunities to improve the existing way of working and be ready to absorb the coming growth.

Major items that have been introduced with the TPM implementation were:

- **Overall factory re-organization** involving all the factory from the Top management to the shopfloor. The departments organization was modified to follow the pillar structures, with clear roles and responsibilities, that ensure the use of TPM methodologies and new mindset development.
- **Priorities alignment:** clarify and link all the factory activities to a logical process cascading through a Master Plan directly linked to the Business Strategy (KMI → KPI → KAI)
- **5S implementation** in production and offices
- **Standards setting and monitoring, restoring nominal conditions**
- **Autonomous maintenance** with all the factory at the step 4 and deployment of step 5 & 6.
- **TPM routines setting:** PCS meetings in all levels of the factory
- **Improvement data collection, work on their reliability**
- Activities optimization support by **digitalization**
- Work on **team efficiency** including headcount rationalization
- Setting a **skill assessment system** and improve efficiency of our **training organization**
- **TPM Culture development:** losses analysis mindset with the “0 loss” vision at all levels, Root Cause Analysis mindset to attack each loss, collaborative improvement using Kaizen ideas, Change management and culture of standard routines by all employees
- **Safety culture deployment** through tools like safety tags, genba audits and risk awareness shared with operators.

3. Benefits Achieved

Tangible business results followed through KPIs are visible in safety, quality, productivity, delivery, cost, morale and environment.

Since the adoption of the program Lindt France has developed a safe workplace and minimize the environmental impacts. The development of quality culture helped to decrease the number of consumers complaints. Direct and indirect costs have been decreased. On-time delivery has been improved reducing our penalties and improving the satisfaction of our customers.

The involvement of the shopfloor employees has allowed the plant to pass several steps in the TPM maturity. All employees have been involved in the 5S, Kaizen teams, daily management, or pillars. This has transformed the mindset of the plant and given more autonomy to our teams. The consciousness of the losses in operations has been drastically improved. Now, we take decisions based on the losses analysis and can define the way to tackle losses with the objective to eradicate it.

The multidisciplinary teamwork has been introduced thanks to TPM and it is now a standard to tackle every issue. Some employees could demonstrate their leadership and ability to drive the change, we use them as ambassador of the TPM culture.

4. Key of our Manufacturing Excellence

LPW will continue to keep focus on manufacturing, implementing 12 TPM pillars and launching on 2024 the Cost pillar. We will continue to develop the maturity of our pillars by expanding knowledge on methodologies, indicators deployment, losses analysis and advanced tools.

EPM and TPM office pillars will open the path to make the TPM approach more visible outside of Operations by involving functions that had no or minimal exposure to the system so far (e.g. Marketing, Sales, Retail). On the same way, after improving and stabilizing the internal scope (factory), in the future the Lean Flow pillar can start to expand the TPM journey to the overall value chain from suppliers to customers to deliver the maximum value to our consumers. As well, the Environment pillar will be able to enlarge its scope to raw material, packaging material and suppliers.

Additionally, Lindt France will have some major investments link to capacity and productivity increase. It will be key for the factory to work within the EEM & EPM pillars to ensure vertical start-up of all new equipment's and directly involve in the early stages new Product Development process.

Initiatives like digitalization, utilization of Artificial Intelligence, de-materialization of IT infrastructures will be developed to raise the detailed system knowledge of our people, anticipate problems or reduce nonvalue added activities.

Finally, we will explore opportunities and challenge ourselves to be more agile.

5. Achievement Record

Company & plant name	Lindt & Sprüngli France – Oloron Sainte-Marie Factory, France
TPM Slogan/Objectives	Lindt Performance Way: 1 Team - 0 loss – 100% Excellence

Category	Index	Unit	BM (TPM Started or last time awarded) Kick off TPM 2015	Historic					Actual Status	Target
Enter the year →			2015	First score if no data in 2015	2020	2021	2022	2023	YTD 11 2024	2024
S	Number of work-related accidents requiring days off work	Cases/ year	16	-	3	3	3	0	1	0
S	Number of work-related accidents not requiring days off work	Cases/ year	9	-	9	4	7	2	5	4
P	Productivity for main products	Parts/Operator hours	128	-	174	192	193	204	217	215
P	OEE (or Overall Plant Efficiency)	%	65,9 (Year 2017)	65,9 (Year 2017)	65,3	66	66	64	65	66
P	Performance Rate	%	81,3	-	82,7	81,1	82	82,3	83	82,5
P	Quality Products Rate	%	98,2 (Year 2017)	98,2	99,0	98,7	99,4	99,3	99,0	99,4
P	Number of breakdowns	Breakdowns/ year	840 (Year 2017)	840	422	424	383	217	189	200
P	MTBF	Hour	No Data	150	No Data	No Data	179	159	209	180
P	MTTR	Hour	2,25 (year 2017)	2,25	1,8	1,76	1,314	1,34	1,3	1,35
Q	Number of customer complaints	Number/year	1 358 (Year 2020)	1358	1358	1114	1107	1195	780	1125
Q	In-line defect rate (scrap)	%	2,5	-	1,3	1,2	1,2	1,09	1,05	1,1
Q	In-line defect rate (rework)	%	3,4	-	3,6	3,2	3,2	3,41	3,31	2,95
C	Cost index	Cost/Unit Cost/Kilogram	5,98	-	5,41	5,50	5,95	6,78	7,13	7,26
D	Delivery performance	%	96,8	-	97,3	99,0	98,9	99,4	98,2	99,3
S	Frequency rate	Number of occupational accidents with leave for 1 000 000 worked hours	9,25	-	2,08	2,08	2,13	0,7	0,9	0,7
M	Number of Employee Suggestions	Number/year	1378 (Year 2019)	1378	1236	709	696	882	810	1000

NOTE: Some indicators were not in place or were not reliable when we launched our TPM program. If not, we mentioned the score with the year of implementation in the column "First Score (Year)"

* In 2017, the definition of OEE and our tracking system were revised by including additional loss categories like changeovers, weekly cleaning, preventive maintenance, etc. For this reason the scores for 2015 and 2023 are not comparable (not the same perimeter).