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Northwest Rubber Extruders, Inc. *Newsletter*

Investing in Our Future

Northwest Rubber Extruders has made a commitment to provide the highest quality product on time at a fair price. To accomplish this we are making major investments in our production equipment. We have rebuilt our compression molding presses and are currently replacing the screws and barrels on our extruders.

The increase in efficiency from these activities will enable Northwest Rubber Extruders to continue providing our customers with high quality products at a reasonable price.



Kaizen Platinum Award Winners



Congratulations to our Kaizen Platinum Winners Alek Lyubchik, Petr Lyubchik, Dean Putnam, and Jody Loomis.

The molding department was experiencing excessive spoilage on a high volume injection molded part.

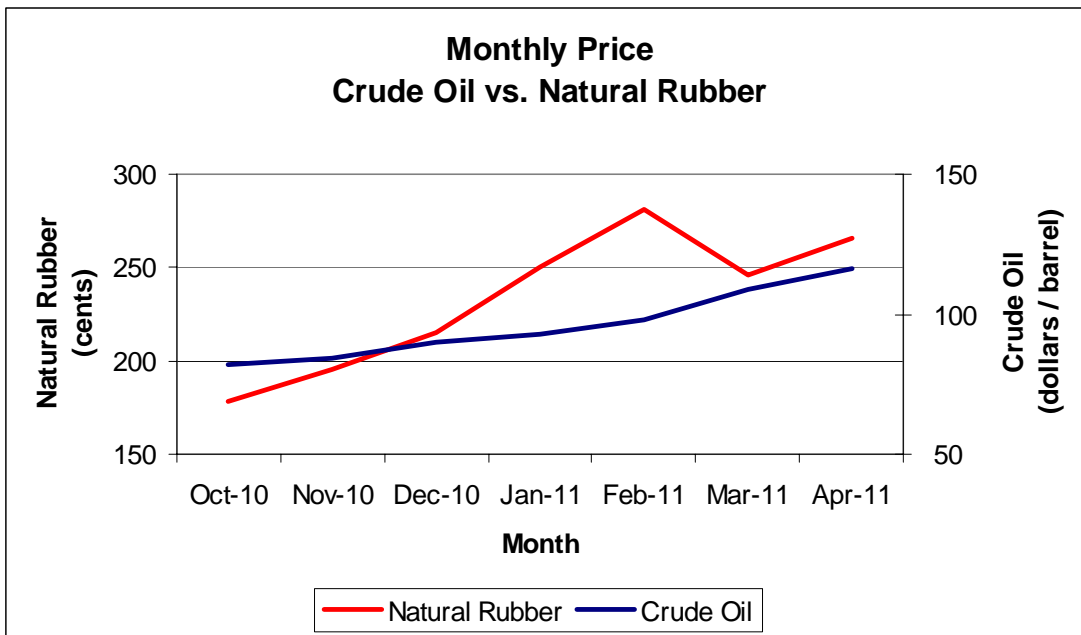
The team accepted the challenge and made major improvements to the process using problem solving techniques they have learned. Spoilage was cut in half from their efforts.



Rubber Commodity Pricing

The recent growth in the economy has created an increase in demand for goods and services. Unfortunately, many polymer plants were closed or downsized during the recent recession. This has caused a shortage in supply of raw materials. Also adding to the poor market condition is that the price of rubber's basic ingredients namely the monomers are influenced by the price of petroleum.

With the shortage in supply, uncertainty in the Middle East, and rising transportation costs the price of rubber ingredients is increasing significantly. Shown below is a comparison of crude oil (petroleum) and Natural Rubber pricing from October 2010 through April 2011.



RUBBER TRIVIA

The scientific community once declared rubber useless because it was gummy in the summer, stiff in the winter, and it rapidly deteriorated.

F We have expanded our product line to include
Y extruded silicone sponge and a full line of dip
I molded grips. If you have a need for any of these items, feel free to call and talk with our sales team.



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