

# PRESS RELEASE :

## Top Form International adopt GSDCost to benchmark manufacturing time and cost and optimise garment costing process

Coats Digital's GSDCost solution will help Top Form establish and optimise standard manufacturing method and time, to support an efficient manufacturing process and enable accurate garment costing.

### About the customer



Established in 1963, Top Form International is a leading developer and manufacturer of ladies' intimate apparel. With a workforce of 8,000, the company produces a wide range of high-quality ladies' intimate apparel and accessories from factories in China, Thailand, and Cambodia.



### The challenge

Standard Time or Standard Minute Value (SMV) is the time required for a qualified worker at standard performance to perform a given operation. Since SMV forms the foundation of key business processes for a manufacturer such as line balancing, capacity calculations and production planning. It is essential to maintain SMV accuracy and consistency.

Prior to implementing GSDCost, Top Form relied on estimates and historical data for SMV calculations.



Since estimates and historical data rely heavily on materials, styles, machinery and people, which tend to change with time, the data quickly became inaccurate and obsolete, and costs were derived from guesswork rather than fact-based data.

The inaccurate data used in the business directly affected Top Form's efficiency calculation, capacity calculation, line balancing, labour and garment costing, and ultimately business profitability.

### KEY FACTS

#### CUSTOMER

Top Form Brassiere Manufacturing Co Ltd.

#### LOCATION

China, Thailand and Cambodia

#### CHALLENGES

Inaccurate measurement of standard production time and method, leading to lost efficiency and inaccurate garment costing.



## Establishing a manufacturing standard

By implementing GSDCost, Top Form will be able to ensure garments are designed and developed to the right price point, thereby optimising margin, while ensuring fair labour costs are accurately reflected, thus benefiting both the business and its workers.

GSDCost's scientific manufacturing method analysis process, through the application of motion codes with Predetermined Time Standards (PTS), will help Top Form to accurately and consistently establish 'Standard Time' throughout its factories.



*It was an easy decision for us to choose GSDCost given that it is the only globally acknowledged time-cost manufacturing standard for the garment industry.*

*GSDCost will help us to precisely and accurately establish manufacturing standards, which will be used as a foundation for the correct standard method and time, as well as supporting realistic and sustainable production targets for our operators.*



**A.P.D. Prabath,**  
**Group Head of Industrial Engineering,**  
**Top Form Brassier Mfg. Co. Ltd.**

GSDCost's scientific and fact-based approach to calculating the standard time will help the Top Form team standardise every step of each operation to create an accurate method database which will further help in better planning, balanced production lines and improved quality.

The Top Form team will also utilise GSDCost's method standards and advanced methodologies to reduce the 'Standard Time' of each operation in the production line and boost productivity even further.

The introduction of fact-based, scientific approach in this critical area of the business will eliminate guesswork and subjectivity in garment costing and optimise the costing process to avoid over or under costing, improving business profitability.

**Stephen Dodgson, Sales Director of Coats Digital for South-East Asia commented:**

*"We are proud to be working with Top Form International and supporting the business in ensuring that it remains flexible, resilient and strong while being innovative and forward looking.*

*The adoption of best practice and digitization of key processes will play a key part in this journey, and GSDCost will support the business in establishing and optimising sustainable manufacturing methods and times, supporting accurate garment costing, and improving productivity."*

## GSDCost training and next steps

Phase-1 of the GSDCost training was conducted onsite at Top Form's Product Development and R&D Centre where the team was guided through the various levels and applications of the GSDCost Predetermined Time Standard (PTS) system.

The programme included a detailed analysis of the system and practical visualisation exercises which are carefully structured to aid the team in the interpretation of the GSDCost codes.

This was followed by the GSDCost software training where the participants were guided through the software user interface and features, combining the GSD methodology with the speed and depth of the GSDCost solution.

The newly licensed GSD practitioners were then taken to the production floor where, under guidance, they applied their newly learnt skills in a working environment using a core style.

They were quickly able to adopt the new software given the logical and user-friendly interface.

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*GSDCost is an effective tool to engineer the garment cost since all the manufacturing data is based on stringent, fact-based data points. It will help us to avoid over/under costing our garments and enable us to make informed business decisions to drive a sustainable and more profitable business.*

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**A.P.D. Prabath,**  
Group Head of Industrial Engineering,  
Top Form Brassier Mfg. Co. Ltd.

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*Top Form International is a leading intimate apparel manufacturer and we're proud to be working with their world-class team to support their digitization journey. The diligent team of Top Form quickly grasped the theoretical and practical concepts of GSDCost and performed exceptionally well in the final training evaluation. We're confident that the Top Form team will be able to efficiently utilise the GSDCost solution and achieve optimal garment costing and manufacturing excellence.*

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**Michael Chiu,**  
Project Manager, Coats Digital

During the final phase of the GSDCost training, the Top Form team will implement the GSDCost standard in all its production facilities to benchmark manufacturing time and costs, thus accelerate the company towards manufacturing excellence.

For more information about the features and business benefits of GSDCost, or any of Coats Digital's supply chain solutions, visit: [www.coatsdigital.com](http://www.coatsdigital.com) or email: [marketing.coatsdigital@coats.com](mailto:marketing.coatsdigital@coats.com).



## Additional Resources

- Learn more about **GSDCost**

## About Top Form International Limited

Established in 1963, Top Form International is a leading developer and manufacturer of ladies intimate apparel, including brassieres, leggings, camisoles and girdles among others. With a workforce of 8,000, the company produces a wide range of high-quality ladies' intimate apparel and accessories from factories in China, Thailand and Cambodia. To learn more, visit [topformbras.com](http://topformbras.com)

## About Coats Digital

Coats Digital is the leading digital transformation partner for the fashion supply chain, powering sustainable processes and high value insights through connected technologies. We leverage deep industry and technology expertise to help brands and manufacturers optimise, connect and accelerate business critical processes from design and development to method-time-cost optimisation, production planning and control, fabric optimisation and shop floor execution. Used in over 3,000 factories globally, our unmatched end-to-end apparel, footwear and textile software and SaaS solutions improve agility, speed to market, efficiency, transparency, and sustainability. Coats Digital - **transform with intelligence.**  
[coatsdigital.com](https://coatsdigital.com)

Coats Digital is the software business of Coats Group, the world's leading industrial thread company and a trusted industry player.

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## About GSDCost

Part of Coats Digital's Brand and Manufacturer Suite, GSDCost is the time and cost benchmarking standard for apparel brands and manufacturers. GSDCost provides a scientific, fact-based approach to quantifying and optimising manufacturing methods and costs and accurately and consistently establishes international standard time values for garments and other sewn products in the apparel supply chain.

GSDCost provides the ability to establish and quantify each step or operation in the manufacturing process, from cut to pack, and allows visibility of a business' true manufacturing cost, allowing improved decision making and margin optimisation.

The new browser-based version of the solution GSDCost<sup>v5</sup> leverages the latest software architecture to deliver a highly intuitive SaaS solution and also introduces a globalised fair wage tool, which brings a new level of visibility and transparency to discussions on time, cost and compliance. GSDCost<sup>v5</sup> launches with a native integration into the Res.Q shop floor suite of solutions providing a real-time, digital feedback loop of actual versus standard minute value at the operation level, highlighting variances and opportunities for proactive, continuous improvement.