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One Minute

All movements were calculated in units of less than seconds. In the afternoons, the line was stopped for ten minutes for a break. But this time, it had been started up after only nine minutes. Massive dismay: 'It is not time yet! One minute left!' But everyone started work at once because they did not want to fall behind at their stations. However, their fury became stronger and stronger. Robbed of a whole minute! Finally, some of the bravest workers switched off the power and the line stopped. The supervisors came running in and it took them a minute to get the line going again. The workers felt very refreshed at having recaptured their minute. Some smiles were even to be seen along the line.

(Linhart, 1978)