HI,

An additional question has come in about the usefulness of control
limits in X-R charts used in statistical process control (SPC). Thus,
this newsletter, is solely on this topic:

The P in SPC stands for *process.* You thus control the *whole process*,
not just the measured attributes, with the help of the underlying
measurement statistics. This only works though, if you let the control
limits follow the process.

However, if you lock the control limits at a certain value, you lose
most of the purpose of statistical process control:

- It is harder for the operator to read the process correctly.
- The operator's knowledge of the process declines.
- The process will be less cost-effective at the same time as the customer gets worse quality.
- Emerging process changes are addressed too late.
- It will be more difficult to detect machines and processes wrongly set up from the start.

The above are just some examples from actual production processes.

Regards,

Michael Nielsen