Manufacturing Execution Suite (Plex MES)

THE PLEX MANUFACTURING CLOUD

> "We focus on what we can offer that nobody else can… …Our differentiators have become better shop floor controls, advanced technology, speed-to-market and flexibility."
>
> - John Sammut, CEO, Firstronic

PLEX

THE MANUFACTURING CLOUD

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CONTROL SHOP FLOOR OPERATIONS. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH

In today's competitive world of manufacturing, effective and efficient shop floor operations can deliver the differentiation and cost advantage that a manufacturer needs to stay competitive. Excess inventory, late deliveries, excess scrap and poor quality are some of the sources of potential waste in manufacturing. By eliminating these wastes through lean manufacturing practices, a manufacturer can reduce the cost of operations and create more business opportunities for growth.

CONNECTING THE SHOP FLOOR AND THE TOP FLOOR

Typically, the shop floor operation is like a black box to Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems and thus is invisible to executives outside of production. Planners in the back office, preparing the production plan, need visibility to shop floor resources in order to deliver an achievable master production schedule. Production updates might only be reported to the business at a designated frequency – leaving hour-by-hour operations disconnected from reports. Without an MES works with your ERP, big gaps in critical business information may result, making it difficult to make timely decisions.

SHOP FLOOR VISIBILITY ENABLES TRACEABILITY AND QUALITY

A manufacturing execution system (MES) is your eyes and ears on the shop floor to help you manage production proactively. An MES monitors inventory movement and location as raw materials get enriched into finished goods. Further, an MES enables quality assurance procedures to ensure an acceptable product that complies with customer and industry requirements and can protect your company from expensive and disruptive recalls.

By integrating an MES with your ERP software, you can better choreograph production production processes and be more proactive in delivering quality products in a timely, cost-effective manner.

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ERROR-PROOFED PRODUCTION CONTROL

Plex MES delivers a real-time, paperless production ecosystem that initiates, guides and choreographs processes as designated by the control plan. It is a central hub connecting each workcenter to the production schedule and records production and quality data digitally and accurately. Real-time data collection and reporting ensures that issues become visible instantly, giving operators and supervisors better tools for making real-time control decisions.

HIGH RESOLUTION VISIBILITY

For every action on the shop floor there is a transaction in Plex to record who did what, when and where. The result of this precise genealogy is a detailed historical record that can track back to where issues may have originated—especially during work-in-progress. This visibility helps you maintain lower inventory levels, tying up less capital on the floor while cutting carrying costs going forward. Real time manufacturing intelligence lets you monitor critical KPIs for quicker, more confident decision-making. And exposing the operational characteristics of your shop floor assets helps improve performance and reduce unplanned downtime.

CONNECTED BY DESIGN

To enable the visibility and control you need on the shop floor, you need a flexible, configurable connection to your top floor ERP. Plex MES connects all of the capabilities you need in an MES with a single source of truth that is easy to implement and complement your ERP with a suite of manufacturing solutions from MES to Manufacturing Operations Management (MOM).

An intuitive, touchscreen-enabled Control Panel is at the heart of Plex MES for real-time monitoring and management of production activities on the shop floor.

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ERROR-PROOFED CONTROL

- Common control panel choreographs production processes driven directly from the control plan to reduce cycle times and improve efficiency

- Machine integration tools to connect with your shop floor equipment to automate production recording and to enable Industrial IoT.

- Paperless, easy-to-use, and error proofed to make doing the right thing, the easiest thing to do.

- In-line quality control to govern quality activities and ensure check sheet compliance.

HIGH RESOLUTION VISIBILITY

- Real-time inventory data visibility with unsurpassed accuracy—including work-in-progrss--collected at the point of production, movement and shipment to reduce inventory and carrying costsMitigate recall risk and/or exposure of recalls with easy access to accurate, database-driven information for product traceability, genealogy and lot management.

- Real-time manufacturing intelligence to monitor critical KPIs for quicker, more confident decision-making

- Visibility to operating characteristics of shop floor assets to enable continuous improvement, reduce unplanned downtime, and add resiliency to operations.

CONNECTED BY DESIGN

- Flexible, configurable, cloud-native solution for ease of deployment, standardization and replication.

- Scalable shop floor solutions from basic MES to more options-rich MOM that complement your ERP with the manufacturing capabilities it lacks.

- Asset performance monitoring to reduce disruptions.