



How to maximise the use of assets

.....
The Discrete Manufacturing Series

The problem

With globalisation, increased competition and a more demanding customer base putting pressure on discrete manufacturers, it's vital to seek new ways to boost the bottom line. To improve ROI and respond to customer demands faster, at a lower cost, many manufacturing plants are required to run 24/7, squeezing every last drop of availability and capacity from their assets.

Given this growing pressure on manufacturing assets, it's crucial to leverage the use of existing assets efficiently throughout the 'normal life' of the assets to ensure maximum ROI.

Machining and tooling used in manufacturing processes require significant investment from a business, which highlights the importance of maximising asset use further.

The solution

Effective production scheduling is the key to maximum use of assets.

Advanced scheduling

Advanced scheduling tools allow optimal production sequences, minimum change over times, and delivering to customer lead times.

Plant maintenance

Down times must be kept to a minimum. By automatically tracking the use of an asset, asset regimes can be initiated in a timely manner and scheduled for times that have a minimum impact on production but a maximum impact on performance.

Machine learning

Machine learning can use the data captured from sensors in equipment to not only monitor the performance of the machine but also provide predictions and suggest remedial actions. This can ensure effective application of maintenance activities based on performance status, rather than purely time based.

3D modelling

In a multi-site manufacturing business, centralised maintenance teams can use 3D modelling of the plant to gain a greater understanding of issues in remote locations, solving issues without the need for on-site physical presence.



Customer case study

Sevcon

Global manufacturer Sevcon needed to replace ageing and disparate IT systems running at its five international sites. A lack of integration meant that business managers were unable to get an accurate, up-to-date view of the company and its assets.

“We needed clearer, global visibility of information for employees. Microsoft Dynamics was the only solution.”

To improve its business processes and maximize efficiency, the group required a business management solution with strong reporting features, so users could extract information easily.

“We saw that our systems were preventing us from improving, developing, and increasing the size of our organization. Sevcon continually explores new technologies to benefit customers. Now we needed a new technology solution for clearer, global visibility of information for employees.”

“Microsoft Dynamics was the only solution that gave us a single view of all data, held on a single database. It helps to connect our employees, processes and business information no matter where they are located around the globe.”

Matt Boyle, President and Chief Executive Officer, Sevcon, says: “I now have a consistent overview of our global business on one screen. With a click of the mouse, I can switch between subsidiaries and compare real-time data in seconds. This is a huge improvement that adds significant value to the strategic decision making process.”

Microsoft Dynamics 365 Operations can maximise your asset use

Microsoft Dynamics 365 Operations (D3650) empowers business users with insight and intelligence, aiding faster and more accurate decision-making.

In D3650 you have full control over the lifecycle of your assets. Information including downtime, predictive maintenance issues, machine learning and scheduling is

shared with you in real time, allowing you to react immediately with the most up to date data.

Through maximising your assets, enhancing control and increasing levels of knowledge in your organisation, D3650 can improve your margins and ultimately your profitability.

Columbus Discrete Manufacturing Series

Our series focuses on five common problems discrete manufacturers are currently facing, and how to solve them, including case study examples of where discrete manufacturers have implemented our solutions and seen success.

If you want to know more about how Columbus and Microsoft Dynamics 365 can help your business, download our guide ‘Why Columbus and Dynamics 365’ or get in touch.

.....
www.columbusglobal.com