

SOLUTION OVERVIEW

# PLEX MANUFACTURING EXECUTION SUITE (MES)

## ON MICROSOFT AZURE

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Smart Manufacturing  
Starts Here



PLEX



# SMART MANUFACTURING STARTS NOW



Resilient operations are more important than ever. You need to continually innovate and deliver 100% quality, 100% of the time. But operational hurdles, including too much paper and too many manual processes, limited visibility into work in progress, traceability issues and more, often get in the way.

Working harder isn't the answer—working smarter is.

Smart manufacturing allows you to connect people and systems, automate processes, track data from end to end, and capture and analyse information like never before. With smart manufacturing, your operations are connected, controlled, and performing at maximum levels of efficiency and accuracy.

For the foundation of your smart manufacturing, you need an integrated platform. One that unites all the domains needed to engineer, manufacture, and deliver high-quality products—a solution like the Plex Manufacturing Execution Suite (MES) on Microsoft Azure.

## Powered by Microsoft Azure!

Fuel your smart manufacturing with a reliable, scalable, and flexible cloud platform that's trusted by organisations big and small.

## Overcome your top obstacles

If manual processes and disconnected systems are causing your organisation to experience any of the challenges below, you will benefit from Plex MES.

- **High levels of scrap and rework**
- **Excessive inventory carrying costs**
- **Traceability issues**
- **Limited visibility into work-in-progress**
- **Too many systems and no single version of the truth**
- **Missed production schedules**
- **Poor production throughput**
- **Extreme errors**
- **Operating with old data**
- **Slow reaction times**

**With Plex MES, the paper chase ends.** Control, transparency, and synchronisation become your “modus operandi.” New levels of performance are achieved, and doing more without adding more becomes the norm.

# YOUR GATEWAY TO SMART MANUFACTURING

Plex MES puts better connectivity, increased automation, more precise tracking, and deeper data analysis within reach.

## The Plex Difference

Traditional MES solutions focus mainly on the plant floor, with minimal integration beyond your factory's four walls. A unified MES/Manufacturing Operations Management (MOM) solution like Plex MES offers the flexibility and functionality required to enable smart manufacturing. With Plex MES, you'll gain control of your plant floor with a comprehensive, real-time view of your entire production

lifecycle, and full connectivity to your ERP. You'll easily automate tasks, prevent errors, drive in-line quality, and synch up the top floor with the plant floor. And you'll always have access to your operations through the Azure cloud platform. The result? Less risk, higher quality, happier customers, and a healthier bottom line.



### VISIBILITY

Gather real-time and accurate material and traceability data to keep production running smoothly.

Improve reporting efficiency and accuracy with a single, digital source of real-time production and scrap data.

Mitigate recall risk and/or exposure of recalls with easy access to accurate, database-driven traceability information.

### QUALITY

Keep quality processes consistent and comply with specified quality standards.

Instill quality through closed-loop checks and preventive measures without degrading production performance.

Operationalise quality activities and achieve check-sheet compliance with in-line quality control.

### CONTROL

Choreograph production processes directly from the control plan to shorten cycle times and improve efficiency.

Increase productivity and avoid manual-process errors with paperless operator control.

Streamline production workflows with a flexible, configurable manufacturing-specific solution designed to complement your ERP.

## Unleash the power of a two-in-one smart manufacturing suite

### Manufacturing Execution

- Production
- Labor Tracking
- Tooling
- Maintenance
- Quality
- SPC
- Control Plan
- Deviation Tracking
- Inventory
- Traceability
- Genealogy
- Barcoding



### Manufacturing Operations

- Production Planning & Finite Scheduling
- BOM & Recipe Control
- Engineering
- Inventory Management
- Costing Product Management





# SECURITY. RELIABILITY. CONTINUOUS INNOVATION.

Unlike many competitive solutions, Plex MES was born in the cloud, not retrofitted to it later. So, you get world-class hardened security, high availability, and scalability. And most importantly, you get an environment that keeps you on the leading edge.

With traditional on-premises, hosted, and even most SaaS vendors, you must wait anywhere from months to a year or longer to get new releases that patch bugs or offer new functionality. You're also sometimes forced into painful upgrades to take advantage of these updates.

With Plex, you never have to wait for the latest and greatest. We deliver new features and improvements on a nearly daily basis, and you're free to take advantage of them at any time.

## Delivered on the trusted Microsoft Azure cloud platform:

- Meet reliability goals with the resilient foundation of the Azure cloud platform.
- Protect against constantly evolving threats with built-in security controls and unique threat intelligence.
- Evolve production applications with a scalable and flexible cloud platform.
- Help achieve GDPR compliance with Azure's industry-leading security controls, compliance tools, and privacy policies.



## Make your operations more profitable



### Improve Manufacturing Quality and Control

Error-proof your manufacturing processes from raw materials to finished goods. Mitigate the risk of recalls by tracking the exact components used in each product you make.



### Increase Output

See what's happening in real time and spot problems before they slow you down. Monitor and adjust the cycle time for each step in your manufacturing processes to minimize WIP and accelerate production.



### Eliminate Unnecessary Costs

Streamline operations to reduce the time it takes to make each product, eliminate downtime, and minimize waste.



### Reduce Scrap and Rework

Precisely analyze production lines and finished products to detect any inconsistencies and immediately address them to limit faulty products and materials wasted.



### Decrease Inventory

Eliminate the need to store surplus inventory with complete visibility into what is on hand at each facility, and what needs to be ordered.

# PLEX MES DELIVERS REAL VALUE

## Automotive Supplier

Reduced scrap rates from

**2.5%** to **1.5%**

Eliminated premium freight costs, previously **0.7%** of total sales.

Achieved nearly **100%** on-time delivery.

## Food Manufacturer

**99.6%**

inventory accuracy, up from **70%**.

Saved

**\$500,000**

in inventory write-offs due to tighter controls & visibility.

**100%**

of quality specifications connected to the production floor.

## Automotive Supplier

**10-15%**

increase in delivery rates over a **9** month period.

Reduced inventory to

**< 40 days**

Increased profitability on existing revenue by

**12%**



# THE PLEX SMART MANUFACTURING PLATFORM APPLICATIONS

With the Plex Smart Manufacturing Platform on Microsoft Azure, you've got options that range from stand-alone MES to a fully integrated, end-to-end solution that will power your entire enterprise. All delivered on a global, reliable, and future-ready cloud platform



#### **Plex Manufacturing Execution Suite (MES)**

is a comprehensive manufacturing software solution that provides real-time, paperless production management to drive enterprise-wide compliance, quality, and efficiency.



#### **Plex Quality Management System (QMS)**

is a cloud-based digital quality solution that standardises and automates quality documentation, processes, and measurements.



#### **Plex Production Monitoring**

Set up and leverage user-friendly dashboards and scoreboards to display real-time production measures including cycle times, capacity utilization, and OEE.



#### **Plex Asset Performance Management**

helps you optimize the performance of machines, equipment, and other assets used in production. Connect the data from your machines to avoid production equipment failure and the unplanned downtime.





**ANYTHING THAT CAN  
BE MADE, CAN BE  
MADE BETTER...**

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