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MANUFACTURING'S MIGHTIEST SUPERHEROS!



**THE 5 BEST WAYS
TO BECOME A
MANUFACTURING
SUPERHERO**

WE ALL WANT TO BE THE
BEST AT WHAT WE DO, RIGHT?

BUT AS A MANUFACTURER,
WHAT DO YOU **ACTUALLY
NEED TO DO** TO BE A
MANUFACTURING
SUPERHERO.

With the knowledge gained from working directly with manufacturers over the years, we've put together a list of the top 5 best practices for manufacturing companies to help you be your best.



What is a best practice?

A best practice tells you the best way to do something to get the best results.

A procedure, method, or technique that consistently is more effective, produces better results than other approaches and strategies, and can be duplicated is considered a best practice.

Why should manufacturing companies follow best practices?

Best practices will make you more efficient, improve your company's performance, create a better workplace for your employees, increase customer satisfaction, and boost your bottom line.
What more could you ask?



Now more than ever, your employees are your most valuable resource and must be treated as such. Labor shortages across the industry have made recruiting and retaining talent increasingly difficult. You need to focus on — and empower — the people on your shop floor to create an efficient business that people want to come to work at every day.

INVEST IN TRAINING

Give your staff the training they need to do their jobs right. Well-trained staff are more likely to stick around and add long-term value to your organization. Consider cross-training your team to make your shop even more efficient.

SET EXPECTATIONS

Your team needs to know what is expected of them to deliver results. Your employees may spend a significant portion of their workdays focused on the wrong objectives if goals and priorities aren't clearly stated.

EMPOWER YOUR EMPLOYEES.

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2 QUALITY MANAGEMENT IS CRUCIAL.



Creating quality products for your customers is your ultimate goal. Whether it is an independent system or part of your ERP (see number 5), you need a first-rate quality management system (QMS).

With a QMS, a manufacturer can increase consistency, cut down on costly errors, and improve customer satisfaction. Though establishing quality management processes may take some time, they ultimately save time and money. When high-quality materials are used, defects are eliminated, the quality of machinery is improved, and workers are skilled, production efficiency rises. Good quality management leads to better-end products and increased profitability.

EARLY AND OFTEN

Reduce your non-conformance costs by implementing quality control earlier in your manufacturing processes. Use your QMS to inspect parts from your vendors when you receive them. Monitor quality metrics — and customer requirements — throughout production to ensure a quality end product.



Processes are the basis of everything you do: Make sure they are defined — and synchronized with your ERP — to increase efficiency.

Well-defined processes allow your team to follow the same procedures repeatedly, ensuring that your shop runs efficiently. Each workstation should have a checklist, and your staff must be trained to follow it. This will ensure consistent quality, less downtime, and optimum production.

Although maintaining standardization can be difficult, it's worth the effort. Utilize the best practices built into your ERP to streamline your processes and optimize production. Re-engineer your processes by taking the time to analyze, create, and implement newer and better ones aligned with your ERP.

BUILD A BETTER BOM

Many custom manufacturers struggle with BOMs (Bills of Material) and managing BOMs on complex builds. But, by following industry best practices when it comes to structuring a BOM, you will ensure that you have an effective format — and that you always do it the same way — making it easier for all of your departments, from procurement to production to accounting, to do their jobs.



The best manufacturing companies are always focused on safety. Creating a healthy, supportive, and safe workplace keeps your workers safe, avoids unnecessary shutdowns, makes your shop run more efficiently, and leads to higher levels of job satisfaction among your employees. Safe workplaces have many benefits, and it is worth it to create an environment that values safety as a top priority.

Ensure proper safety equipment is always worn and create practices that work for your shop and specific needs. Your team will be motivated to follow the guidelines if you establish a culture that values safe work habits.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

Not only does this reduce downtime and keeps maintenance costs under control, well-maintained equipment is safer to use.

TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION

By putting safety first and reiterating how important it is, you create a transparent workplace culture, that is less reactionary, and instills open communication.

ORGANIZE YOUR SHOP

A well-organized shop is neat and tidy, reducing workplace falls and injuries, but also makes it easier to find items, saving time and money.

FREQUENT BREAKS

Injuries occur when employees are too tired and stop paying attention to risks. It may seem counter-intuitive, but frequent breaks make for safer — and more productive — employees.

5 HAVE AN ERP.



Hear us out — we're not just saying this because we are an ERP system — all the best manufacturing companies have an ERP system because ERPs are the best way to create visibility across your organization, increase efficiency, improve business processes, and lower your operational costs.

Without an ERP system, manufacturers must run their organization using multiple software programs and systems that don't talk to or work with each other.

This results in poor performance.

But with a manufacturing-specific ERP, you can run all of your departments off the same system, making your operation run more efficiently, improving crucial processes within your organization — including streamlining your supply chain — and allowing you to deliver more jobs on time.

Simply put, an ERP is the best solution for integrating people, processes, and technologies across a business — the advantages of which are almost endless.



AUTOMATION IS THE FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING

Enabling automation in your shop boosts productivity, streamlines processes, enhances quality, reduces errors, improves safety, and lowers costs. But you can't have automation without first creating a connected shop. Your ERP is the foundation on which you can build your automated shop of the future.

Genius ERP delivers a complete enterprise resource planning solution, including software, implementation services, and field expertise for small to mid-sized custom manufacturers across the US and Canada.



Genius ERP is built for SME manufacturers handling make-to-order, engineer-to-order, custom-to-order, and assemble-to-order manufacturing. Accurate estimating, product engineering, inventory control, production planning, account management, and complete oversight: One system that helps simplify complex manufacturing.

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