



# THE PLEX SMART MANUFACTURING PLATFORM™

PLEX, BY ROCKWELL AUTOMATION | OVERVIEW



# LEAN INTO DIGITAL OPERATIONS.

You'd be hard-pressed to find a manufacturer today who's not thinking about smart manufacturing. And it's no wonder why. The push to produce more precisely, transparently, and efficiently—all while reducing waste—gets stronger every day. We'll explain how smart manufacturing technologies help manufacturers around the world to meet these new expectations.

**83%**

of industry professionals surveyed cite smart manufacturing as "critical" to their future\*

**88%**

of organizations surveyed are actively evaluating and/or using smart solutions\*

**86%**

of organizations already planning to adopt smart solutions anticipate doing so within two years\*



# Anything that can be made, can be made better.

And with that mindset, Plex was created. We set out (somewhat naively, perhaps) to make the right tools. Yes, we may have called it “the coolest information system in the world,” but what we meant was “the tools that the future would be built on.” Tools designed to work on the industrial scale. At the speed of a 24/7/365 always-on, hyper-connected, just-in-time global economy. A different kind of tool. A new generation. We’re talking technology. Intelligence. Connectivity. The kind that takes

120,000 inputs and spits out the single truth. The kind that unites 20 plants making 2,000 SKUs in 14 countries. The kind that predicts and solves slowdowns and issues before they become slowdowns and issues. And above all, the kind that makes awesome, amazing, “blow your mind” things possible. From the steam engine to Industry 4.0, the dream was always there. It’s the tools that were lacking. Until now.

**DISCOVER THE PLEX SMART  
MANUFACTURING PLATFORM™**

# NOW IS THE TIME FOR **SMART** MANUFACTURING.

The Plex Smart Manufacturing Platform™ is a digital system of record and engagement that enables manufacturers to execute on the core Industry 4.0 capabilities they need most.



The Plex Smart Manufacturing Platform™ was built to deliver the four key capabilities required of manufacturers and Industry 4.0—Connect, Automate, Track, and Analyze. With these four capabilities, you realize greater control with high levels of enterprise visibility and quality guarantees.

The Plex Smart Manufacturing Platform™ works by tying all your people, technologies, and machines together to create a complete, connected view of the entire business. In doing so, Plex becomes a digital system of record and engagement that radically improves your visibility into what's happening, what's about to happen and what just

happened. Plex doesn't just make manufacturing smart, it makes you smart about your manufacturing business. If producing high quality products is a high priority, Plex will help you make them more precisely and efficiently.

Plex will also improve the speed and accuracy of your operation while helping you reduce waste. We slash the time you're forced to spend meeting industry requirements like audits—often from weeks to mere hours. That, in and of itself, gives you a degree of control and efficiency that was, until recently, unthinkable.

# Built to evolve.

## A SOLUTION THAT GROWS AND CHANGES WITH YOUR BUSINESS

Whatever your needs are today, you can be sure they'll change tomorrow. And the one thing you don't want is to implement a new platform every time they do. With Plex, you've got options. Cloud-native and built to adapt and grow as your business changes, the Plex Smart Manufacturing Platform™ can power part of your business—or run the

entire enterprise. Plex applications can be used alone, or they can be used together as a complete, end-to-end solution. From the plant floor to your top floor, you get the peace of mind that only comes from knowing your solution will evolve with your business. Flexibility, scalability and innovation you can run with: now that's just smart. That's Plex.

### **PLEX ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING**

is a fully featured business operations solution that automates front- and back-office processes, including financial, revenue, human capital, inventory and order management, and uniquely includes manufacturing execution (MES) to manage production.

### **PLEX MANUFACTURING EXECUTION SUITE**

is a comprehensive manufacturing solution that connects, monitors, and controls machines, work centers, and data flows on the factory floor. The MES does this by tracking and gathering real-time data throughout the production lifecycle and on every piece of equipment involved in the production process—from order to delivery.

### **PLEX DEMANDCASTER SUPPLY CHAIN PLANNING**

combines data from multiple departments across your business to sync up demand and supply forecasting to improve inventory accuracy and production management.

### **PLEX QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

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

### **PLEX ASSET PERFORMANCE MGMT**

combines process, operational, and machine-level data through highly visual dashboards that empower manufacturers to improve business processes and production efficiency.

### **PLEX PRODUCTION MONITORING**

provides seamless connectivity to machines on the plant floor, delivering transparent, real-time operational KPIs and dashboards to drive continuous improvements.

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# ALL CLOUDS ARE **NOT** THE SAME.

## PLEX CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE

You need to stay focused on your business to stay agile as new challenges and opportunities arise. This requires that your software stay safe from security risks, vulnerabilities, unauthorized access, and data theft while delivering a high level of dependability. Unlike many other solutions, Plex was born in the cloud, not retrofitted to it later. So your business has confidence with hardened security, world-class availability, and scale powered by Plex's proven cloud infrastructure. In an industry where every moment counts, let Plex free you up to do what you do best.

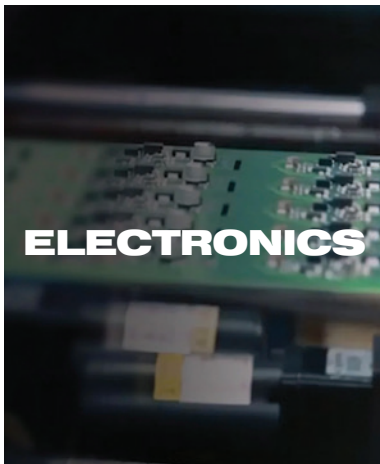


**"A" Security  
Rating\***



**99.99%  
Uptime**





# Built for Manufacturing.

## BORN ON THE PLANT FLOOR, FORGED IN INNOVATION

Plex was born on a plant floor—one that's every bit as real as yours. All we've ever done—all we will ever do—is work to develop innovative technology solutions for

manufacturers like you. It's a distinction that makes all the difference in the world. With Plex, you hit the ground running and don't look back. Can you really afford anything less?

## SMART MANUFACTURING JUST MAKES SENSE.

**95%+**

on-time delivery  
is common

**18%**

higher production rates  
than the market average

**60%**

higher quality with up to  
60% scrap reduction

**80%**

more inventory turns  
than the market average

# WHY LEADERS CHOOSE PLEX.

## **BECAUSE WE ARE A “CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM” OF SMART MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS.**

With rich data tracking and analysis, you can control and optimize operations—from plant floor to top floor.

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## **BECAUSE WE KNOW MANUFACTURING LIKE THE BACK OF OUR WORK GLOVES.**

We handle the technology so you can focus on your first priority: making awesome things.

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## **BECAUSE WE DELIVER TODAY—AND TOMORROW.**

We future-proof our solutions so you can scale at your own pace.

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## **BECAUSE WE ALWAYS PUT OUR CUSTOMERS FIRST.**

We incorporate your needs into our product roadmap, and our customer success team is always there to listen and respond.

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## **BECAUSE WE'RE DEDICATED TO CONTINUOUS INNOVATION.**

Not only do we roll out continuous updates, every time we do, every single one of our customers benefits. Instantly.

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## **BECAUSE WE'RE LEADING THE SMART MANUFACTURING MOVEMENT.**

We're leading the way with solutions, resources and events aimed at helping all of us—the whole industry—get smarter together.



# WHY THEY LOVE US.

**WE MEASURE EVERYTHING AND LET THE NUMBERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES**



*"It's no coincidence that we were recognized as a 'Supplier of the Year' after we implemented Plex. Plex enables us to manage our entire business in real time."*

**GARN EVANS**, Vice President of IT, Motus Integrated Technologies



delay in reporting  
(originally 12–16 hours)



plants unified: U.S.,  
Mexico, Germany and  
Japan



General Motors  
"Supplier of the Year"  
awards (consecutively)



*"We're now at nearly 99% on-time and in-full deliveries, which is extremely rare. That's thanks in large part to Plex—and it's opening the door to new business."*

**MARCUS MERCHANT**, Director of IT, Olde Thompson



in operating capital  
freed up



on-time, in-full  
deliveries maintained



reduction in inventory  
levels



*"Now we are addressing issues that go right to our bottom line because we have valuable details that we never had before. We can click a button and it's right in front of us."*

**JEFF KARAN**, Director of IT, G&W Products



reduction in inventory  
(less than 40 days'  
worth)



on-time delivery (up from  
mid-80%)



increase in profitability

# THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING.

## TRANSFORM YOUR COMPANY WITH PLEX BY YOUR SIDE

The promise of manufacturing shines brighter today than ever before—and Plex is one of the reasons why. From design and implementation to ongoing support and constant innovation, Plex is here to help you win. Whether we're integrating with your existing systems or providing an entirely new plant floor to top floor

solution, our world-class service organization is here to help you get the most out of your Plex, by Rockwell Automation relationship. After all, your success is the beginning, middle and end of why we exist -- you can expect a team willing to do whatever it takes to help you succeed.





# SMART IS THE WAY FORWARD.

## **LEADING THE SMART MANUFACTURING MOVEMENT**

Today's smart manufacturing movement is driven by macro trends like innovation, competition, resource constraints and the need for supply chain agility. Business as usual is a thing of the past. Today, manufacturers either find ways to move faster and more precisely—or they don't. The age of smart manufacturing is here. And whether you're knee-deep or still finding your footing, we urge you to join us. This is the future.

# WHEREVER YOU ARE, WE'RE WITH YOU.

700+ companies in over 40 countries

## ABOUT

Plex, by Rockwell Automation, is a leader in cloud-delivered smart manufacturing solutions, empowering the world's manufacturers to make awesome products. Our platform gives manufacturers the ability to connect, automate, track, and analyze every aspect of their business to drive transformation. The Plex Smart Manufacturing Platform™ includes solutions for manufacturing execution (MES), ERP, quality, supply chain planning and management, asset performance management, production monitoring, process automation and analytics to connect people, systems, machines and supply chains, enabling them to lead with precision, efficiency and agility.

## CONTACT

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