

Building the digital thread for manufacturing

Manage information across the manufacturing value chain



Benefits

- Speed time-to-market by 40% with optimized supply chains
- Reduce production costs by 15-20% through AI analytics
- 99.8% uptime with predictive maintenance capabilities
- Cut compliance documentation time by 65% via automation

Today's manufacturing landscape faces unprecedented disruption from multiple fronts—geopolitical conflicts driving up costs, climate regulations transforming processes, and digital technologies reshaping customer relationships. Forward-thinking manufacturers are responding by centralizing supply networks, optimizing operations for quality and sustainability, implementing software management systems, and building direct customer communication channels. The key to thriving amid these challenges lies in creating a seamless digital thread of information that connects all operational functions, eliminates silos, and establishes a single source of truth across the enterprise.

Today's manufacturing challenges

The COVID-19 pandemic broke many supply chains, making it hard to get parts and materials. Wars in Europe and the Middle East have made shipping more expensive and disrupted material supplies. At the same time, new climate rules are forcing companies to cut pollution and use less energy.

The digital world is changing things too. Customers now use social media and the internet to learn about products before they buy. This means manufacturers need to talk directly to customers online—something many aren't used to doing. Products are also getting smarter, with more software

Global automotive manufacturer transforms operations with digital thread

A leading automotive manufacturer struggling with supply chain disruptions and increasing software complexity implemented a comprehensive digital thread solution across their enterprise.

Results:

- **42% reduction** in engineering change implementation time
- **28% improvement** in first-time quality on new product introductions
- **\$4.3M annual savings** from reduced warranty claims

“The digital thread has transformed how we operate. Information that once took days to coordinate between departments now flows seamlessly, allowing us to make faster decisions and respond more effectively to market changes. It’s been a game-changer for our digital transformation journey.”

VP of Manufacturing Operations

[Read the full case study >](#)

inside them. This forces manufacturers to learn new skills in software creation and management.

These challenges won’t solve themselves. Companies that don’t change how they work and share information across their business will fall behind. The most successful companies will be those that can connect all their information together and make smart decisions quickly.

Building resilience through connected information systems

A digital thread connecting data across operations helps manufacturers adapt quickly to market changes and supply chain disruptions. This approach enables faster, better-informed decisions based on real-time information, allowing companies to identify issues early and maintain production even during uncertain times.

Reducing costs while improving quality and sustainability

Unified information management helps identify inefficiencies and eliminate waste. Companies can pinpoint quality issues at their source, reducing rework and warranty claims while supporting sustainability goals through better visibility into resource use and emissions. Manufacturers typically see improvements in first-time quality, directly impacting the bottom line.

Accelerating innovation through seamless software management

A digital thread integrates software development into the manufacturing ecosystem, enabling more efficient updates to products and production systems. This integration leads to faster innovation cycles and more responsive product development, with companies typically bringing new features to market faster than competitors using disconnected systems.

Building stronger customer relationships through direct communication

Connecting product information, service records, and customer feedback creates a complete view of the customer experience. This supports personalized communication and proactive service, helping manufacturers build stronger relationships with end users before and after sales.

Breaking down silos for a single source of truth

When everyone works from the same information foundation, miscommunication and errors diminish dramatically. This single source of truth eliminates costly delays from conflicting or outdated information, which can reduce cross-departmental errors and decrease time spent searching for information.

Transforming manufacturing through connected information

The ability to connect information across the enterprise has become a critical competitive advantage. By implementing a digital thread that spans from product engineering to customer service, manufacturers can build resilience, improve quality, accelerate innovation, strengthen customer relationships, and eliminate information silos.

Services

Implementation Consulting

Our manufacturing specialists work with your team to design and implement a digital thread strategy tailored to your specific operational needs and technology landscape.

Managed Services

Let our experts handle ongoing system management, optimization, and support, freeing your team to focus on strategic initiatives while ensuring maximum system performance.

Learning Services

Comprehensive training programs ensure your team can fully leverage your digital thread implementation, with options ranging from role-specific workshops to enterprise-wide digital skills development.

Change Management Support

Our proven methodology helps drive user adoption across your organization, ensuring you realize the full value of your information management investment.

OpenText offers a uniquely comprehensive approach to creating this digital thread. Unlike point solutions that address only specific aspects of information management, OpenText provides an integrated platform that connects all operational functions while adapting to your existing technology landscape. With decades of experience supporting manufacturing transformation, OpenText delivers both the technology foundation and industry expertise to help you navigate disruption and emerge stronger.

Companies that partner with OpenText typically see faster implementation, higher user adoption, and more substantial business improvements compared to those using fragmented solutions from multiple vendors. By choosing OpenText as your information management partner, you gain a strategic advantage in addressing today's manufacturing challenges while building the agility needed for tomorrow's opportunities.