

## Making the Connection: Real-time Manufacturing Execution Systems (MES) and Industry 4.0

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### **Classic Definition of "Industry 4.0"**

Industry 4.0 creates what is or can be called a "smart factory". Within the modular structured smart factories, cyber-physical systems monitor physical processes, create a virtual copy of the physical world and make decentralized decisions.

Over the Internet of Things, cyber-physical systems communicate and cooperate with each other and with humans in real time, and via the Internet of Services, both internal and cross-organizational services are offered and used by participants of the manufacturing value chain (Wikipedia).





### What is the objective of "Industry 4.0"?

•Inter-operability: The ability of machines, devices, sensors and people to connect and communicate with each other via the Internet of Things (IoT)

•Transparency (of Information): Real-time transmission of key raw sensor and machine data to higher level (and higher-value) information systems i.e. shop-floor to top-floor/manufacturing to global enterprise systems... sensor to eventual Enterprise ERP and BI

•Technical assistance: Easy to interpret information for allowing individuals to make more well-informed decisions and solving urgent problems in real-time. Also, to support people by conducting a range of tasks that are repetitive, mundane, exhausting, unsafe and so on

•Decentralized decision-making: Localised controls and systems make/take local decisions (as far as possible). Exceptions are interference and conflicting goals (that require higher level computer and/or human input).



## How does this translate into (real-world &) real-time MES?

The basic principle of Industry 4.0 is that by connecting sensors, machines and software systems (including people), businesses are creating more intelligent and quicker networks along the entire value chain that can more automatically and autonomously control each other and create "added value" (increased productivity/profitability) in the process.

Example: Software/machines that can predict a failure and trigger a maintenance process autonomously (prior to an unscheduled/catastrophic failure).

Production, machines, equipment and people will become more and more networked until everything is inter-linked with everything else.

In an Industry 4.0 scenario, the boundaries of individual factories will most likely no longer exist. Instead, they will be lifted in order to inter-connect multiple factories across multiple geographical regions.







## Applicable Industries & Verticals - Discrete Manufacturing

- Plastics and rubber
- Automotive components/parts
- Electronic boards
- Medical devices/mouldings
- Printing
- Assembly operations
- Containers (Plastic/Paper/Card)
- Food
- Pharma
- Packaging
- Fabricated metals, metal parts

- Injection moulding
- Thermo-forming
- Metal pressing/forming
- Composites
- Extrusion
- Blow-moulding
- Die-casting
- Metal extrusion
- Cable manufacturing
- CNC machining (Computer Numerical Control)



## **Collecting Machine and Shop Floor Data?**

### Current adopted methods

- Manual/paper based time-sheets
- ERP MES functionality
- Scanning bar-codes
- Direct from sensors/machines/equipment





# Key Requirements – Automated Manufacturing Execution System

- Production monitoring
- Process monitoring
- Real-time plant-floor scheduling/planning
- Real-time & historical reporting and analytics: Plant and Enterprise
- Energy monitoring
- Quality monitoring

- Will provide <u>real-time</u>, <u>accurate</u> data
- Allows for <u>asking</u> the right <u>questions</u>
- The result is <u>well-informed, timely</u> decisions to allow human and/or automated adjustment to improve the current situation i.e. improve productivity and profitability



## **Real-time MES**

- Data directly from equipment (via electronic & computer interfaces)
- Monitor machines <u>automatically</u>, analyse production and performance 24x7
- Operators provide additional input. Easily add/retrieve data

### Translates into:

Increased production in the same (available) time, with the same (or a lesser) quantity of machines, labour and/or energy



## Real-time MES solves manufacturing/shop-floor problems...

- More <u>CAPACITY</u> without more assets Less downtime for more parts and less cost
- Improve <u>THROUGHPUT</u> Reveal and analyse loss – output speed/cycle-time/line rates
- Improve quality/<u>REDUCE SCRAP</u> Reveal quality losses and reasons
- Improve Overall Equipment Effectiveness/Efficiency OEE
- Improve use of (direct & in-direct) labour <u>REDUCE COST</u>
- Monitor energy consumption <u>LESS ENERGY USE</u>



## The old way....





## A new approach and complementing ERP...







- Data Collection Equipment
- Touch Screen (PC/Tablet) Technology
- Real-time data from any machine via digital and/or analog outputs, OPC and/or direct-to-PLC interfaces
- Real-time insight & data input from machine operators



## Achieving system connectivity





## Who uses it and why?



## **Real-time MES**



## "SHOP FLOOR TO TOP FLOOR (REAL-TIME DATA TRANSFER)"



## **Real-time Operational Visibility**

- Real-time production monitoring (instant data)
- Direct from the machine (fast/accurate data)
- Automatic (eliminate manual intervention)
- Insight (with operator depth and dimension)
- Instant feedback know the "reality" 24x7





## Real-time Planning / Scheduling

Ensure accurate tool – machine – job combinations Identify the right tool for the right job at the right time in real-time

Meet "Promise to Order" Drag and drop reassignment of jobs. Visual highlight of resource & constraints

Avoid resource conflicts Incorporate labour, planned maintenance, materials and planned downtime to optimize production





## Ensure Quality - SQC & Process Monitoring

#### **Real-time and flexible**

High performance connectivity Process and SQC tools to achieve "Zero Defects"

#### Accessible and Intuitive

Operators, Management, Engineering, Process Technicians, Quality





## **Energy Monitoring**

Real-time energy monitoring (instant data)

Direct from individual machines (accurate data)

Automatic (eliminate manual intervention)

Instant feedback – know the "usage" 24x7

Aid reduction in energy usage



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# Manufacturing Reports & Analytics

#### High performing reporting & analytics

Meeting elevated user expectations Easy to interpret real-time/historical analysis

#### **Collaboration**

Single plant score-card or enterprise Drill through / drill down analysis

## Out of the box continuous improvement

Flexible reports & analytics Out the box score-cards with over 1,000 analysis choices





## **User/Operator Interface**

#### **Real-time Shop-floor HMI**

Flexible deployment options Customisable Support Mobile / BYOD

#### **Rich Experience**

Real-time production and equipment visibility Alerts and notifications

#### Accessible and Intuitive

Operators, Process, Quality, Engineering, Management





## "Paper-less" Shop-floor Environment

Embedded context-based videos, PDF, Excel, Word etc files

**Personalized Information Panels** 

Additional Workflows





## **Integration with ERP Systems**





## Adopters & Users (Industry 4.0/Real-time MES)

## **Hanson Building Products**

Introduced real-time MES into 6 plants. Original systems were paper based, ambiguous and wasted significant management time analysing the data. Key business decisions can now be made quickly and has resulted in close to a **30% increase in OEE** as a result of using real-time MES.

## **Plastique Ltd**

Plastique runs a 24/7 hour operation, has 2,500 tools in stock and produces 250 new tools each year. Since installing real-time MES, it has **increased annual available time (efficiency) by 2,000 hours**, reducing the need for overtime and allowing Plastique to take on more work in the same time-frame.



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