



GSI + NetSuite Helps Discrete Manufacturers Tackle their Biggest Challenges

Discrete Manufacturing



By combining its own expertise with NetSuite Cloud ERP, GSI, Inc., is helping manufacturers streamline their operations and work smarter in today's competitive manufacturing environment.



Complex global supply chains, changing labor requirements, managing multiple locations, and ever-changing customer demands are just a handful of the challenges that discrete manufacturers deal with on a daily basis.

Global trade wars, tariff increases, and pandemics all add to the chaos, making it extremely difficult for manufacturers to run efficiently using aging technology, disparate solutions, and manual systems.

Helping Discrete Manufacturers Get Ahead

Producers of distinct, finished products, discrete manufacturers often use a combination of disconnected systems, Excel spreadsheets, and basic accounting software to run their growing businesses. In the absence of an integrated, cloud enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, these producers usually have little visibility (or, none at all) over their operations or global supply chains.



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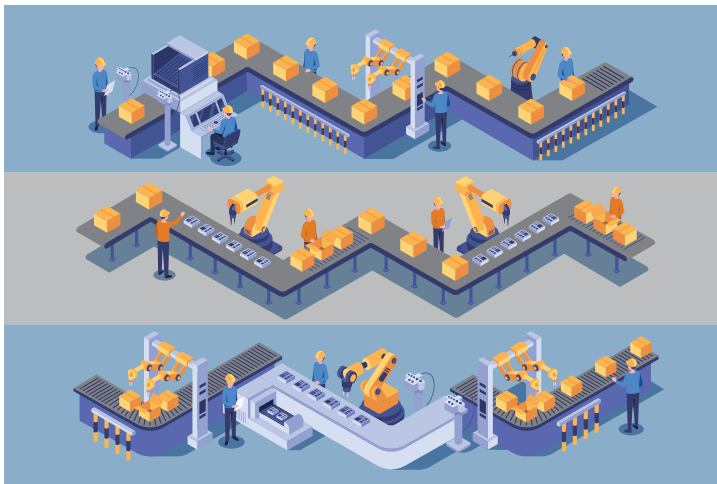
The impacts when global supply chains are disrupted—as was the case during the most recent pandemic—leave companies scrambling to fill in those gaps while continuing to meet their customers' needs in a profitable manner. Achieving this balance is nearly impossible using legacy systems that don't "talk" to each other. With no accurate insights into what's actually happening real-time, and no 360-degree view of business performance, manufacturers must rely on gut instinct as opposed to hard data when making decisions.



Addressing Key Challenges

In any business environment, discrete manufacturers need a unified technology platform to run their entire business on, and not just specific aspects of it. Increases in the cost of components can have wide ranging impacts, can your organization identify all outstanding orders impacted by a component shortage in moments? Your ability to adapt to an ever changing environment requires a real time comprehensive view of your business.

An ERP solution helps companies address these manufacturing challenges while providing companies a competitive advantage. NetSuite not only automates workflows and delivers valuable insights, but it also gives users complete control over their processes—all from one, centralized solution. Here are other critical business areas where GSI adds efficiencies and helps discrete manufacturers optimize their operations:



- **Inventory management and planning.** Discrete manufacturers face a plethora of challenges when it comes to planning shop floor inventory needs. In this environment, companies issue work orders that detail all of the different components required to build a product. If even just one of those components is missing and/or out of stock, production screeches to a halt and production deadlines are missed. Using an integrated solution like NetSuite, companies can regain control of their inventory management, material planning, and shop floors from a single, centralized solution. The solution provides real-time visibility over inventory, which means that if the planning department knows that a purchase order is shipping late, it can update that order and sense the implications downstream (right down to the customer level).

- **Shop floor reporting accuracy.** In the discrete manufacturing space, many shop floor environments can't obtain data capture from operators. That's because they rely heavily on clipboard and paper-based processes that aren't streamlined, integrated, or efficient. Without real-time visibility and data sharing, discrete manufacturers can't keep their key stakeholders updated on problems or implications. This can hurt service levels in a world where every customer counts. Using mobile scanning technology, NetSuite ERP provides high levels of visibility over the shop floor planning process and supports good decision-making and customer communications.



- **Production Planning.** Discrete manufacturers use highly complex processes that include both labor and machine instructions, NetSuite's finite production planning capabilities provide organizations the ability to view and edit their shop floor operations schedule through an calendar view application. Machine downtime, labor or material shortages, quality issues can all be addressed while maintaining available productivity with tools built to keep you working.

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Tackling Big Challenges

Armed with years of experience working with discrete manufacturers, the GSI team has vast experience in change management and manufacturing environments. It's also developed processes and methodologies meant to help organizations meet and accommodate the organizational change presented by these transformations. This is key in the discrete manufacturing environment, where a system is only as good as the individuals who operate it.



For example, the company that invests in a high-end shop floor reporting system without offering the operator the training and support needed to accelerate employee adoption will just wind up wasting its money and time on the system. Worse yet, in some cases the additional confusion of poorly trained or unmotivated operators can be productivity losses. At GSI, we help companies assess their current processes and internal human resources, and then work with them to develop a phased approach to adopting a best-in-class manufacturing system—and at a pace and a rate of change that are acceptable for that specific organization.

GSI also provides all of the necessary training and the support structure that discrete manufacturers need to ensure a successful ERP implementation.

Positioning Your Company for Success

As discrete manufacturers prepare for variable demand, they will require technology tools to help accommodate that demand. This will be particularly important in 2021, as companies shift out of pandemic mode and gear up to meet the needs of their customers. To achieve this goal, they will need to be able to effectively plan for, sense, forecast, and then meet that demand. Without access to a systematic toolset, managing through the uncertainty will only become more difficult.

The time has come for discrete manufacturers to prepare for both uncertainty and variable demand in 2021. Whether the goal is to minimize production downtime, increase labor utilization, or create a seamless e-commerce experience for customers, the discrete manufacturer that invests in cloud ERP now will be well positioned for success both today and well into the future.

For more information:

Contact us today to learn more. You can also email us or call (855) 474-4377.

GSI, Inc.

GSI, Inc. (GetGSI.com) specializes in providing a broad spectrum of business, functional, and technical consulting services for Oracle JD Edwards, Oracle NetSuite, Oracle Cloud, ServiceNow, BMC, HubSpot, Salesforce and other enterprise applications. We also offer an extensive array of cloud/hosting solutions for Oracle Cloud, Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud and private cloud. GSI combines its deep application and industry experience with advanced A.I. and automation to deliver cutting edge intelligence. This advanced intelligence combined with our outstanding people allows GSI to deliver Service Excellence every single day. GSI's comprehensive suite of solutions include AppCare, a 24/7 managed service; GENIUS AI, an Application Intelligence Platform (AIP) for creating application health and user experience monitors; GENISYS, a solution for modeling, measuring and maximizing system performance; gShield, a comprehensive security solution; RapidApproval®, a Salesforce AppExchange solution for streamlining the approval request process; RapidReconciler®, its inventory reconciliation software and JDE Cloud⁹, a complete cloud-based hosted service. GSI consulting services are backed by its signature 100 percent guarantee. Founded in 2004, the rapidly growing company is headquartered in Atlanta with locations nationwide. GSI, Inc. has been named to *Inc. Magazine's* Inc.5000 list of fastest growing companies for two consecutive years.

