



Improving the Experience for Production Staff in Manufacturing Companies

How Digital Signage is Becoming Critical to Efficient Manufacturing on Shop Floors and in Warehouses

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Overview

Industry 4.0 is revolutionizing manufacturing by integrating production resources to help improve productivity and agility.

These investments in technology are also highlighting the importance of people: more and more companies that focused on their digital manufacturing journey now realize they need to turn their attention to their employees and production staff. They must leverage the power of their data, and integrate their factory, warehouse, and field operators into their digital transformation, to realize all the benefits from their Industry 4.0 investments.

Industry 4.0 connects resources and contributors

Manufacturing companies can integrate all the connected resources of a process and their various business applications – enterprise resource planning (ERP), manufacturing execution system (MES), product lifecycle management (PLM), and warehouse management system (WMS). They can also connect their assets, supply chain partners, and even customers through networks and the cloud.

However, some production staff still have only limited access to the digital manufacturing resources

Despite this digital transformation many production staff are being left behind. They lack real-time access to production data or corporate information to help them make decisions and adjust activities. They also don't have easy access to digital knowledge resources, including maintenance guidelines and safety instructions.

This can impair performance

Industrial manufacturing companies usually recognize that this limited access to information by production staff has direct consequences that can include:

- No easy way to adjust production activities to changing conditions
- Difficulty in training and integrating new employees and temporary staff
- Unempowered workforce



The power of digital visualization

Visual communication is one of the most effective ways to capture attention and share information instantly. This is especially valuable in demanding manufacturing production environments. It can provide real-time update of information, help reduce paper consumption, and simplify administration, ensuring everyone has the most up- to-date information.

The right information to the right people at the right time

Innovative manufacturing companies have adopted digital signage to easily share information with their field workers on production lines, shop floor, warehouses, break rooms, offices, and lobbies as part of their digital transformation initiative. They use digital signage to extract, transform, mix, and combine data and information coming from multiple internal and external sources. It can be used for:

- Operational communication to support workers and management in their day- to-day tasks and missions.
- Institutional communication to help corporations convey important messages to employees, customers, and visitors.

Inform staff at production lines

Provide real-time visibility of production objectives, instructions, alerts, and status. Show quality indicators, scrap rates, incidents rates, safety instructions, best practices for sustainability, energy consumption indicators, and alerts related to supply chain events.

Assist production staff

Improve the on-boarding of staff with access from their workplace to digital instructions and guidelines such as fabrication orders, datasheets, and maintenance procedures.

Support managers

Displaying production data helps managers to have live exchanges with operators to analyze activity and make corrective actions.

Make supply chain flows more fluid

Share information between teams to ease interactions, improve cooperation, and accelerate production flows.

Enable digital reporting

Acting as a two-way communication channel to enable continuous improvement of the processes through real-time reporting and interactive feedback from production staff, including the status and resolution of incidents.



Digital signage can be used practically everywhere

With the deployment of digital signage on top of a digital manufacturing platform, almost every department in the business – quality, engineering, IT, HR, sales and marketing, corporate communication, sustainability – can all rethink their own processes and better contribute to the transformation of the digital supply chain.

Use of digital signage is flexible and progressive

Digital signage is non-intrusive and can be deployed as an add-on to existing investments. Its deployment can be progressive – used as a pilot for a specific topic in one plant, and then rolled out to new topics or plants. Digital signage enables innovation in a very broad variety of processes, allowing cross-functional teams to experiment with new ways to create value for workers, generating top-line, bottom- line, and greenline improvements.

Quick wins

Digital manufacturing platforms can generate and store huge volumes of valuable data and information. Digital signage can share this data and information rapidly with a large number of viewers. This is how digital signage always can generate quick wins and help gain an accelerated return on investment through productivity improvements, reduction of scrap rates, and improved management of incidents.

Key facts about digital visualization

- Visuals get close to 100 percent more views than text-based information
- Communicating visually is almost immediate and requires less attention
- Illustrations and graphics help people to understand complex situations
- People tend to retain visual information much longer that text
- In case of emergency, visual alerts get quicker reactions from viewers

What does it take to move to digital signage?

- A network of players and professional displays LCD, LED, e-paper, tablets – in different formats (single display, video wall, kiosk, et cetera).
- A digital signage software solution integrated with the digital manufacturing platform and managing the network of players and displays.



A critical component of digital manufacturing

While digital signage is simple, non-intrusive, and scalable the following factors should be considered for its successful and secure deployment into a digital manufacturing environment:

- Integration with the digital manufacturing platform and other data sources – The real-time and automatic update of the displayed information is critical to keep it meaningful and valuable to the production staff. That's why the digital signage infrastructure shouldn't run in a stand-alone way but be tightly integrated through the IT infrastructure with the digital manufacturing platform, as well with other internal and external data sources.
- Security Displays are usually deployed in multiple locations and so the signage network must have advanced security. Access to the management console and the displays must be managed carefully, and the architecture must comply with the company's security policies.

- Interactions Deployed close to the field workers, digital signage can be used as a two-way communication channel. Touch screens, RFID, image and movement analysis, scanning of QR and barcodes, and IoT can help team members send information and requests.
- 4. Maximization of the uptime of the displays As digital signage becomes integral to the production process, ensuring uptime of the solution, displays, tablets, and kiosks is critical. That's why there must be central monitoring and management of the network.
- Cooperation Manufacturing organizations are sophisticated and are evolving. Different teams can benefitfrom using digital signage displays and so the solution behind the signage must offer a very flexible and clear way of organizing and optimizing both the information and its use.



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Telelogos Media4Display

Telelogos Media4Display helps manufacturing companies around the world to improve the working experience of their employees every day. With Telelogos Media4Display digital signage software, they help extract data from digital manufacturing platform, turn it into valuable information, and provide it to the right people at the right time.

SAP and Telelogos Media4Display

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Telelogos

Telelogos is an independent software vendor focused on customers' and employees' onsite experiences. Companies and organizations across multiple industries use its digital signage, resource management and mobility solutions to improve employees, customers, and visitors' experiences. Telelogos solutions are deployed by an international network of system integrators and consulting companies.

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