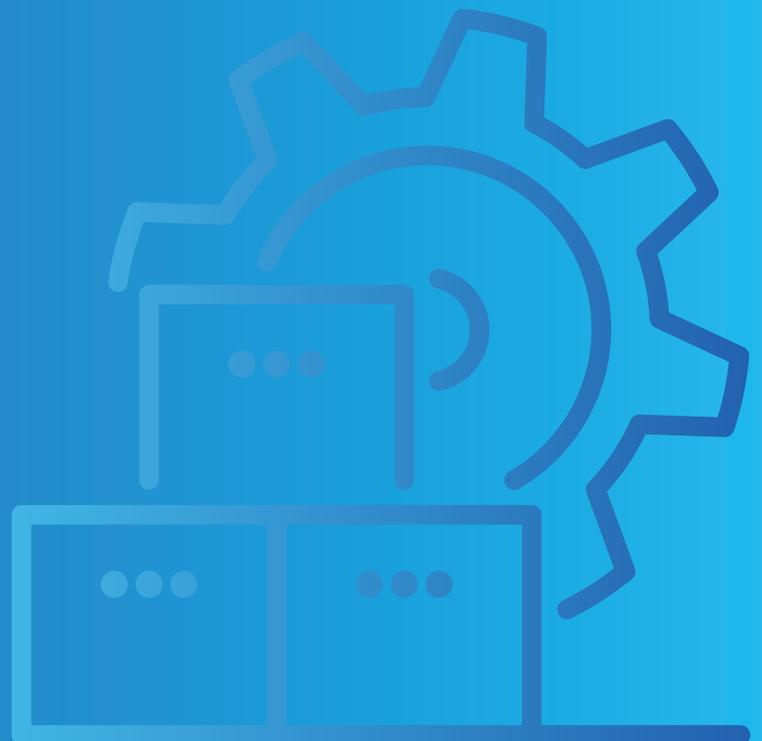


# Increase Productivity in Your Manufacturing Business by Connecting Your People—through Process and Technology

## Background

Manufacturing is unlike other businesses. While retailers focus on stocking and service companies focus on time, manufacturers create new products from scratch — adding a great deal of complexity to tax, accounting and finance processes. In order to accurately forecast, budget and manage cash flow, manufacturers must account for raw materials, processing costs and finished goods. This requires data collection across departments, divisions, and often from multi-site locations across the globe. The sheer volume of data and documents required to capture all manufacturing data necessary to complete a month-end close is time consuming and challenging. It often times feels more like a monthly “fire drill.” In an already complex finance environment, adding other industry-specific challenges such as changing technology, rising labor costs, a growing skills gap, and ever-changing regulations makes it easy to understand the unique pain points facing those in the manufacturing industry.



## The Challenges

Adherence to traditional manual-based, document-centric processes continues to be a huge barrier in automating and streamlining finance workflow, especially when you consider the following key challenges:



**Multiple contributors and data points** across divisions and locations requires significant time and resources to manage. Manual processes, like use of spreadsheets and physical signatures perpetuate inefficiencies and a reactive, chaotic work environment.



**Lack of visibility across processes.** When manual processes drive tax, accounting, and finance workflows, it hinders efficiency and significantly reduces visibility into operations. This opens the door to time lost, conversion cost errors, and an inability to accurately forecast and budget.



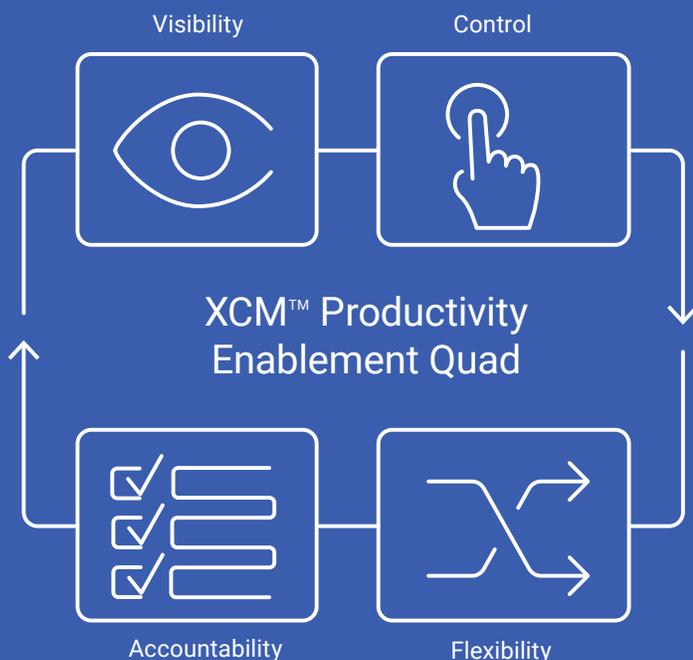
**Absence of standardized workflows** means that processes are defined based on the individual who handles the work. This hinders the ability to standardize workflow and optimize operations.

## The Solution

Connecting people and business processes using the XCM® productivity enablement and workflow platform drives efficiency and standardization, while elevating data to meaningful, strategic insights. XCM delivers a single platform to centralize tax, accounting, and finance processes; track requests for data across the company; increase staff productivity; improve cross-company communications; and capture all relevant manufacturing data to ensure bottlenecks are eliminated, deadlines are met, and resources are allocated based on role, skill set, and availability.

Manufacturing entities that have implemented Lean Six Sigma will experience added value. Lean manufacturing processes are built into XCM, supporting a company's existing Six Sigma processes and fueling positive results from the onset of implementation.

XCM allows users to manage and organize all tasks, resources, deadlines, and processes in one centralized platform – offering a single source of truth and reducing chaos. In fact, XCM centralizes information across all systems, functions, roles, and jobs, which allows resources and deadlines to be easily managed. Automated reminders can also be deployed to staff to ensure all tasks and deliverables are submitted in a timely manner – supporting accurate, timely forecasting and budgeting.



**Gain Visibility** into tax, accounting, and finance tasks and requests company-wide – including who is responsible for submitting data and documents and where tasks are in the process.

**Get Control** over assigning and prioritizing work to increase efficiency, minimize bottlenecks, and ensure timely data submission for accurate, real-time reporting.

**Ensure Accountability** by offering staff real-time views of work assignments and expectations for completion.

**Increase Flexibility** to respond quickly to changing priorities – continuously improving tax, accounting and finance workflows and supporting strategic planning and informed decision-making.

Request a demo today! Learn how XCM can help implement efficient and lean manufacturing tax, accounting and finance business processes to increase your productivity.

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