

10 Signs Your Shop Floor Needs Better Visibility

Achieving real-time production insights doesn't have to start with an ERP replacement

ERP modernization may be part of your long-term plan, but delayed, disconnected shop-floor information is a problem you can be solving today.



Shop floor visibility checklist

Use this checklist to identify where visibility gaps may be holding operations back and where a focused first step could make an immediate difference.

Add a check to each scenario described that resonates with your shop:

- 1 **Production status arrives after shifts end**
Output, downtime, scrap, and job updates are reported hours (or days) after work occurs. ☐
- 2 **Supervisors chase down answers**
Understanding the status of a job requires walkarounds, calls, whiteboards, spreadsheets, or conversations on the floor. ☐
- 3 **Plan-versus-actual performance is unclear**
Teams cannot easily see whether a line, work center, shift, or work order is ahead, on track, or falling behind. ☐
- 4 **Downtime cause is not visible**
Equipment stops may be recorded inconsistently, without the context needed to identify recurring issues or take corrective action. ☐
- 5 **WIP is difficult to locate or explain**
Teams struggle to answer: Where is the job? What operation is it in? What is it waiting on? ☐
- 6 **Production data lives in too many places**
Operators, supervisors, planners, quality teams, and maintenance personnel each have part of the picture, but no shared, timely view. ☐
- 7 **Manual reporting creates duplicate work**
Operators record information on paper, spreadsheets, or disconnected systems, only for someone else to re-enter or reconcile it later. ☐
- 8 **Schedule changes do not reach the floor**
Priorities change, but the latest production plan is not consistently reflected in day-to-day execution. ☐
- 9 **Problems are discovered after affect delivery**
Late orders, missed output targets, quality issues, and capacity constraints become clear when recovery options are limited. ☐
- 10 **Your ERP roadmap is underway—but operations need answers now**
You may be evaluating, planning, or implementing ERP modernization. That should not mean waiting to improve shop-floor decision-making. ☐

What your results mean

0–2 checks



Build on a strong foundation

Your operation likely has solid visibility in place. Focus on targeted opportunities to improve data quality, response time, and cross-functional alignment.

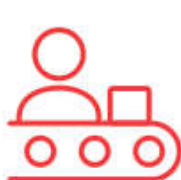
3–5 checks



Prioritize your biggest visibility gap

Manual processes or delayed production updates may be making it harder to respond quickly. Start with one high-impact use case, such as downtime, WIP, or plan-versus-actual tracking.

6–8 checks



Visibility is likely creating operational drag

Your teams may be spending too much time gathering information and not enough time acting on it. A connected shop-floor view can help turn delayed data into timely action.

9–10 checks



The case for action is immediate

Visibility gaps may be limiting throughput, responsiveness, and delivery performance today. Start with a focused pilot in a critical line, work center, or process.

Get the full manufacturing buyer's guide



A practical manufacturer's guide to improve shop-floor visibility without a rip-and-replace solution

Learn how to close critical visibility gaps today while building a stronger foundation for tomorrow's ERP modernization.

[DOWNLOAD THE FULL BUYER'S GUIDE](#)