WORK-IN-PROCESS TRACKING

CURTISS-WRIGHT

INDUSTRY: Industrial Manufacturing, Oil & Gas

WEBSITE: curtisswright.com

ABOUT CURTISS-WRIGHT

Curtiss-Wright, founded by aviation pioneers Glenn Curtiss and the Wright brothers, has a rich history of innovation. Originally a leader in aerospace and military technologies, the company has grown into a global industrial manufacturer. Today, Curtiss-Wright produces high-performance valves and other critical components for industries like aerospace, defense, and energy. With a focus on quality and reliability, Curtiss-Wright continues its legacy of excellence and innovation across diverse markets.

"I have nothing but compliments for all parties involved. This has been the smoothest integration and implementation I have ever experienced — everything went smoothly."

— *Lillie Walsh, Senior Manager of Supply Chain*

From 7 Days to 24 Hours: How Curtiss-Wright Accelerated Production Orders with Xemelgo

OVERVIEW

Curtiss-Wright, a leader in industrial manufacturing with roots in aerospace innovation, implemented an RFID tracking solution to optimize its valve assembly operations. Faced with challenges tracking materials and managing work-in-process (WIP), the company partnered with Xemelgo, Arrowhead, and Zebra Technologies to deploy a comprehensive RFID system. This solution provided real-time visibility, significantly reducing WIP inventory by 90% and shortening order processing times from seven days to 24 hours. The implementation not only streamlined operations and improved on-time delivery but also enhanced customer satisfaction. The project's success showcases Curtiss-Wright's commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology to maintain its legacy of operational excellence and customer satisfaction.

CHALLENGES

- **Limited visibility into WIP**, making it difficult to manage and expedite aging or hot production orders
- **Long production lead times** due to a complex product mix with millions of part variations
- **Reliance on institutional knowledge**, intensified by retirement of experienced workers and new employees
- **Low employee morale** and increased frustrations due to non-value-added time searching for valves

SOLUTION

- **Automated WIP Tracking:** RFID labels attached to job travelers and RFID readers deployed sitewide automatically track production orders.
- **Proactive Operations Management:** Real-time alerts and management map dashboard department health and performance for aging, delayed, and expedited orders to proactively identify and eliminate bottlenecks.
- **Data Integration:** API capabilities seamlessly integrated RFID data with Curtiss-Wright's Power BI tools, enhancing data-driven decision-making.

RESULTS

Boosted Operational Efficiency	85% Reduction in Lead Time	90% Reduction in WIP Inventory
Real-time visibility and proactive management tools helped identify waste and remove bottlenecks.	Order processing times dropped from 7 days to 24 hours, enhancing delivery speed and customer satisfaction.	Improved material flow significantly reduced WIP inventory value.

xemelgo

Xemelgo's innovative software suite empowers businesses to seamlessly manage their entire operations, from raw materials to finished goods. With real-time visibility into Work-in-Process, Inventory, Assets, and Shipments, Xemelgo helps optimize operations across the manufacturing, supply chain, and retail industries.