



Become a Factory of the Future

Your guide to embracing the Great Reset with cutting-edge technology



A vision for the future

Innovative technologies, Industry 4.0 and the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) are changing the manufacturing industry in profound ways, driving organizations to strive to become factories of the future. But what does this future hold?

The factory of the future refers to manufacturers who have transformed operations through improvements in infrastructure, flexibility, digital adoption and sustainable processes. These companies utilize smart manufacturing and embrace advanced technologies to protect their employees, meet production needs and better prepare for what's next.

The start of a revolution

Implementation of new technologies, automations and practices has ushered in Industry 4.0 — the latest industrial revolution. Fueled by data and machine learning, manufacturers are changing their approaches to producing goods, managing employees and running factories.

Companies that embraced Industry 4.0 saw accelerated growth, improved productivity, heightened flexibility and increased profit. Then came the events of 2020.

A great disruption, a Great Reset

While each industry experienced the massive impact of COVID-19, manufacturing companies were uniquely upended by the pandemic. Sudden rises and falls in demand, supply chain disruptions, worker safety concerns and the shift to remote work created new issues while exacerbating existing challenges.

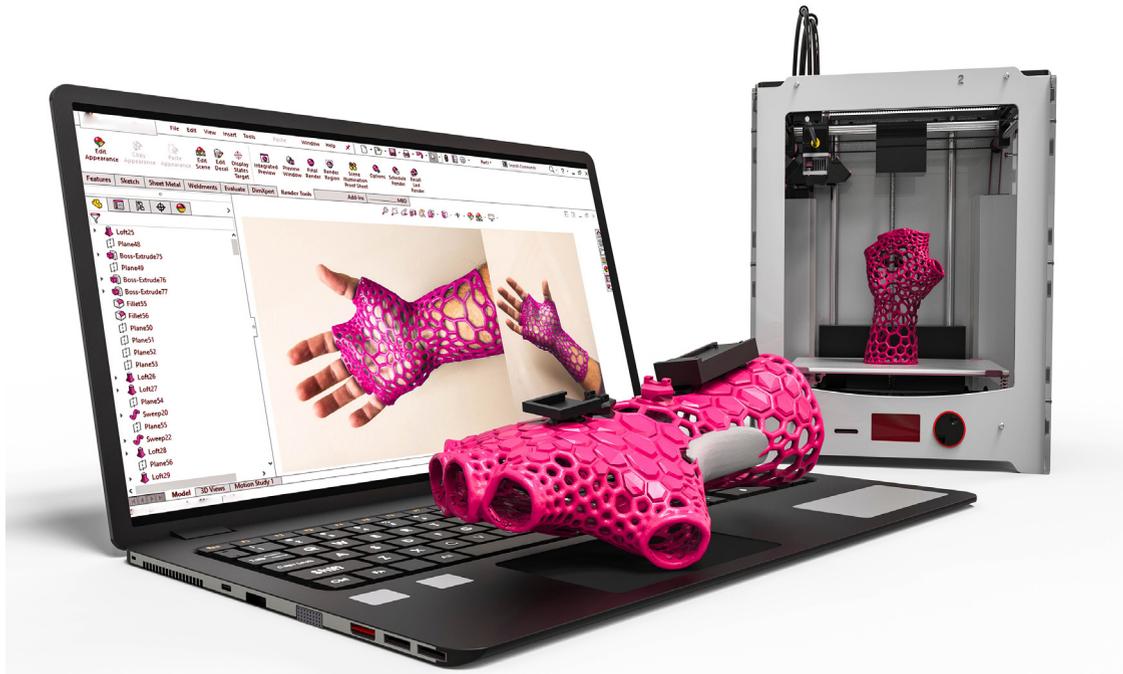
In the wake of these obstacles, manufacturers must embrace technology solutions that can weather disruption now and in the future. This heightened urgency to enter Industry 4.0 led to the prospect of a “Great Reset.” Coined by the World Economic Forum (WEF), this term highlights today’s unique opportunity to transform manufacturing operations.

The WEF notes that “global economic challenges emerging in the wake of recent world events mandate a Great Reset among industrials, and a number of ‘durable shifts’ are proving key to achieving this.”¹ These shifts include agility and customer centricity, supply chain resilience, speed and productivity, and eco-efficiency.

Embracing this change requires innovative technology, as well as the knowledge and resources to effectively implement new systems. Key areas of focus include:

- Modern technologies
- Cloud computing
- Data innovation
- Heightened security

With deep expertise and trusted partner relationships, Insight is uniquely poised to help you respond to these industry changes with success and realize better business outcomes. Let’s take a deeper look at key areas primed for innovation and the IT resources that enable the factory of the future.



Future-proof your business.

Industry 4.0 envisions a connected factory where all devices and elements are able to communicate, facilitating enhanced visibility into every process, from planning to shipment. The IIoT is key to making this vision possible through sensors and devices interconnected with machine software and applications. From Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning to 3D printing, virtual reality and nanotechnology, advanced technology is dominating the industry.

Obtaining these innovative tools is key to staying competitive. However, robotics, connected devices and other smart tools need additional technology to support implementation and maintenance.

Taking a holistic approach

When implementing new technologies, manufacturers must also invest in the cloud, cybersecurity and top-notch software.

From shop floor scheduling, time tracking and inventory management to overall Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solutions, software is essential to your factory of the future. Manufacturers shouldn't neglect their desktop applications either, especially regarding collaboration tools. When many employees remain in a hybrid work structure, collaboration becomes even more important.

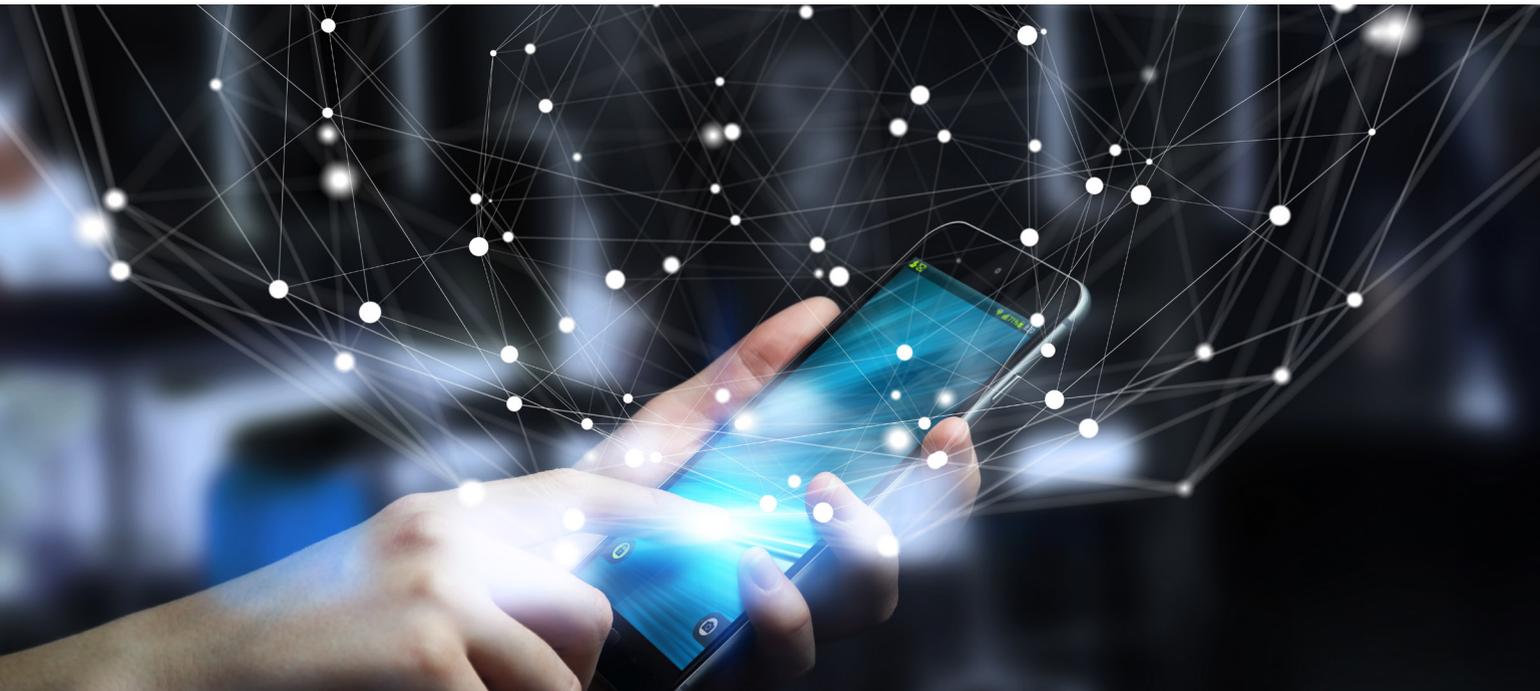
Achieve seamless cloud migration.

Industry 4.0 is best supported by cloud infrastructure, and embracing the cloud is essential for manufacturers to support advanced robotics and IoT. The cloud also allows for faster, more accurate oversight of technologies, as well as more sustainable practices.

Cloud migration can help support smart manufacturing initiatives, including:

- Operations management: Achieve seamless management of the design, production, quality controls, vendor relations and more with cloud-based software.
- Data analytics: With cloud-integrated data, you can easily analyze information points to better tailor products and services.
- Supply chain integration: Cloud-based systems allow everyone along the supply chain to view the same real-time information, making it easier to collaborate and solve problems.
- Product development: Streamline product design and time-to-market by giving engineers the ability to access high-powered digital design tools anywhere, on any device.

Cloud computing is a key component of Industry 4.0 and a critical investment for keeping pace with a changing industry.



Maximize productivity through data.

How often are your operations halted by machine complications? And how often do you discover the source of the problem after the fact?

These setbacks can severely deter production, and just one hour of downtime can massively impact your business. According to an ITIC study, the average cost of a single hour of downtime is \$100,000 or more.²

Lessen downtime with data analytics.

With edge connectivity and computing, data can be gathered and processed in real time. You'll have full insight into troubleshooting assessments and predictive maintenance, leading to less downtime and higher productivity.

Real-time data can also:

- Improve GPS location tracking.
- Detect inventory trends.
- Remotely authenticate user access.

To maximize these benefits, manufacturers need to regularly refresh their data centers and storage. At Insight, we offer primary storage, secondary storage and cloud storage solutions.

In fact, in 2018, Insight helped a manufacturer refresh an aging data center environment with new servers. The results included: improved time to market by 25%, more efficient workloads, increased performance speed and reliability, and enhanced employee productivity.



Safeguarding your systems

Manufacturing consistently ranks in the top 10 most cyberattacked industries, with hackers seeking fame, money and industrial espionage. Industry 4.0 relies on digitally connecting people, processes and technology, introducing a new world of possibilities — and threats.

With the increased dangers of an evolving threatscape, cybersecurity is a vital component of a future-focused factory. Key areas for protection include:

- Cloud
- IoT devices
- Endpoints
- Applications

Finding the right technology solution is crucial to your manufacturing success, but securing these technologies is just as important. Our team of experts can help ensure your safety each step of the way.

Are you ready to embrace innovation?

There's no better time to go all-in on Industry 4.0 technology, but you don't have to go it alone. Insight is here to serve as a true technology partner, offering targeted tools, solutions and guidance to move your factory into the future. Talk with a specialist today to hear what Insight can do for you.



About Insight

Insight Enterprises Inc. empowers organizations of all sizes with Insight Intelligent Technology Solutions™ and services to maximize the business value of IT. As a Fortune 500-ranked global provider of Digital Innovation, Cloud + Data Center Transformation, Connected Workforce, and Supply Chain Optimization solutions and services, we help clients successfully manage their IT today while transforming for tomorrow.



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¹World Economic Forum. (September 2020). Global Lighthouse Network: Four Durable Shifts for a Great Reset in Manufacturing. In collaboration with McKinsey & Company.

²Information Technology Intelligence Consulting. (April 2020). ITIC 2020 Global Server Hardware, Server OS Reliability Report.