Five steps to getting digital manufacturing right

Productivity soars with digital manufacturing

Companies that get digital right boost efficiency by 15% to 20%, while classic continuous improvement programs deliver 2% to 4% on average returns of only.

How digital improves the supply chain

- Automated processes improve efficiency, reduce error rates and increase flexibility.
- More accessible information accelerates cycle times and improves collaboration with suppliers.
- Advanced analytics improve planning and forecasting.
- Digital tools enhance employee productivity and safety.

Three to consider:

- Coordinate across silos to avoid innovation tunnel vision.
- Set a long-term vision for digital innovation.
- Develop a network of trusted partners.

Five to avoid:

- Don’t pursue pilot programs that are disconnected from the long-term strategy.
- Create a 5- or 10-year plan and invest only in projects that work toward those goals.
- Exchange ideas and collaborate across departments to make sure digital investments benefit the company as a whole, not just individual functions.
- Know which digital capabilities to build in-house and when to partner with external vendors to rapidly adopt market innovations.
- Adjust goals as the market changes. Don’t pursue pilot programs that are disconnected from the long-term strategy.
- Create a 5- or 10-year plan and invest only in projects that work toward those goals.

Harnessing Digital in Manufacturing

Many digital efforts aren’t tied to a broader strategy. Go beyond experimentation to deliver lasting returns.

Industry 4.0: Getting Digital Manufacturing Right

Based on:

bain.com/digital-manufacturing