

Filter by phase →

- Engineering
- Implementation
- Operation
- Decommissioning
- Remove Filter

CROSS-ENTERPRISE L6

- 6.1 Operator/supplier collaboration
- 6.2 Supply chain
- 6.3 Sustainability & Digital Product Passport

ENTERPRISE L5

- 5.1 Product T&T
- 5.2 Enterprise logistics
- 5.3 Facility management
- 5.4 Product development
- 5.5 Process development

PLANT L4

- 4.1 Product onboarding
- 4.2 Intralogistics (discrete industries)
- 4.3 Commissioning
- 4.4 Decommissioning

PROCESS L3

- 3.1 Process onboarding
- 3.2 Performance improvement
- 3.3 Process quality & reliability

APPLICATION L2

- 2.1 Condition monitoring
- 2.2 Predictive maintenance
- 2.3 Asset maintenance
- 2.4 Application Reliability

ASSET L1

- 1.1 Master data management
- 1.2 Automatic onboarding
- 1.3 Replacement, SP and consumables
- 1.4 Software and config management
- 1.5 Asset relocation

x. Analytics, simulation, compliance & data management

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ENTERPRISE L5

PLANT L4

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PROCESS L3

APPLICATION L2

ASSET L1

1.5 Asset relocation

x. Analytics, simulation, compliance & data management

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1.1 Master data management

Challenge: Master data is often a grown structure. It often lacks standardization and provide application specific data models which prevent fast and efficient implementation of Industry 4.0 use cases. Fast and efficient data sharing along the supply chain missing.

Description: The objective of master data management is to ensure the uniformity, accuracy, stewardship, semantic consistency and accountability of the enterprise's official shared master data assets for I4.0 use cases.

Roles/personas: asset managers of the operator and service manager of the manufacturers

Target group: manufacturer, operator and external service provider

Benefits & value: reduce systematic errors, reduce efforts of manual data management, increase access speed and details of master data, improve quality of master data in other processes (e.g., maintenance)

Supporting content:



Legend

Mandatory

Optional



Asset manager

Add/update/retrieve/remove plant specific information for assets (connected and non-connected)

Add/update authorization & data exchange concept for assets



Manufacturer

Adds/updates published to cloud central, direct entry or via AAS

Asset Twin (administrated by AAS)

Systems (e.g., master data, maintenance mgmt., MES)



CLOSE

An asset is the lowest entity relevant for maintenance of the operator. It can also be a maintenance relevant component that can be ordered (e.g., an actuator, a sensor, a pump – in most cases a screw is not relevant).



1.2 Automatic onboarding

Challenge: Onboarding of new assets causes efforts and often comes with errors as information needs to be gathered and maintained manually.

Description: The objective of the asset onboarding process is to provide a standardized procedure to onboard new assets to the OI4 edge and operator cloud. The goal is that physically connected assets are detected and asset identification will be updated automatically and related data according to the process manually or automatically as applicable.

Roles/personas: plant managers, technicians, maintenance managers and manufacturer

Target group: plant operators, manufacturers

Benefits & value: reduce systematic errors, reduce manual information search, increase access speed and ease of asset onboarding

Supporting content:



Legend

Mandatory

Optional

Information flow



CLOSE



Machine/plant

Physically connect new asset

Connected assets are detected

OI4 Identifier(s) created or updated in edge / operator cloud / cloud central



Asset manager

Manually identify assets & create OI4 Identifier(s) in edge/operator cloud or cloud central

Add/update/retrieve plant specific information for assets (connected and non-connected)

Define authorization & data exchange concepts for assets



Manufacturer

Initial upload of OI4 Identifier(s) to cloud central

On demand update of detailed asset information to cloud central

Updates published to cloud central

Asset Twin (administrated by AAS)

Systems (e.g., master data, IoT (operator cloud, edge), maintenance mgmt., MES)



An asset is the lowest entity relevant for maintenance of the operator. It can also be a maintenance relevant component that can be ordered (e.g., an actuator, a sensor, a pump – in most cases a screw is not relevant).



1.3 Replacement, spare parts and consumables

Challenge: Inefficient replacement of spare parts can lead to extensive downtimes in production. Preserving a large-scale stock of spare parts is cost intensive and requires warehousing.

Description: Spare parts management (SPM) is used by companies to ensure that the right spare part is at the right place at the right time. Replacement of spare parts can be planned reactive or proactive. The scope of SPM therefore includes all functions from the supplier through to the point of use: identification and coding, criticality classification, procurement, quality inspection, stocking policies, links to work planning, supplier management and internal performance.

Roles/personas: workers, asset/ maintenance managers, plant managers, technicians (operator or manufacturer)

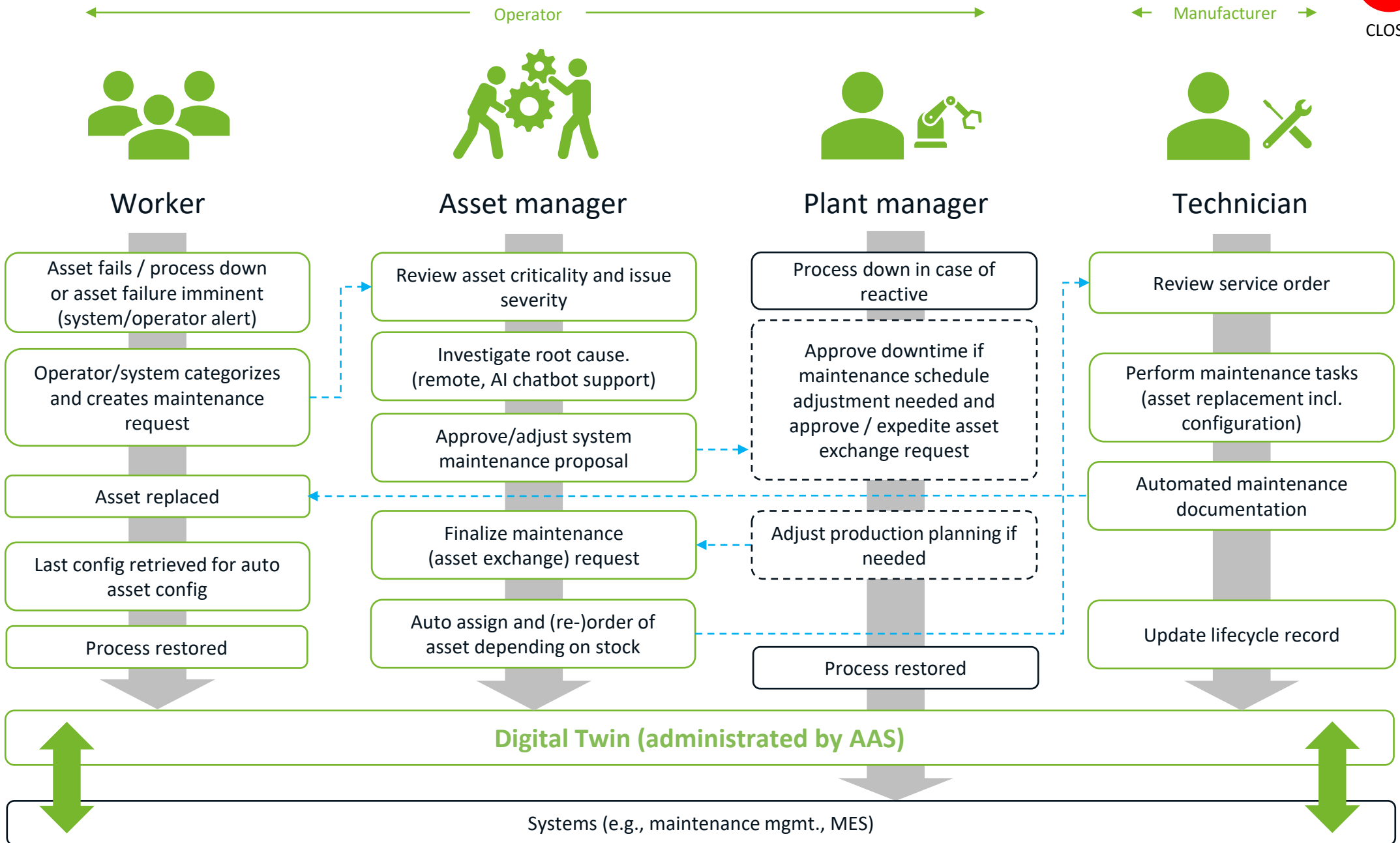
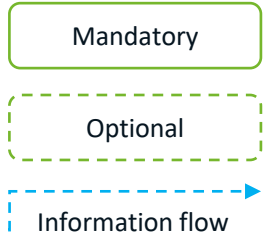
Target group: plant operators, manufacturers

Benefits & value: reduce downtime, reduce systematic errors, reduce problem identification and resolution time/effort (MTTR), simplify stock management

Supporting content:



Legend



An asset is the lowest entity relevant for maintenance of the operator. It can also be a maintenance relevant component that can be ordered (e.g., an actuator, a sensor, a pump – in most cases a screw is not relevant).



1.4 Software and config management

Challenge: It often requires extensive efforts to manage and update changes to software and firmware. The replacement of an asset and reconfiguration are often time consuming and costly. The topic is complex as changes usually affect multiple interfaces.

Description: The goal is to ensure that software configurations are properly identified, tracked, updated and controlled throughout their lifecycle. Key aspects are version control, merging of code, audit trail of changes, deployment and release management as well as configuration consistency of distributed systems.

Roles/personas: asset/maintenance manager, service manager (manufacturer)

Target group: manufacturers and operators

Benefits & value: improve asset and process performance due to software robustness, improve visibility and control over an asset's configuration/firmware & software, reduce systematic errors, reduce effort for asset maintenance

Supporting content:



Legend

Mandatory

Optional

Information flow



CLOSE



Machine/plant



Asset manager



Manufacturer

New asset successfully onboarded

Initial/periodic
*update request

Asset *updated as per approved maintenance schedule

If changed, save latest configuration

*Defaults defined for each asset (batch/templates)

Review changes & resolve potential conflicts

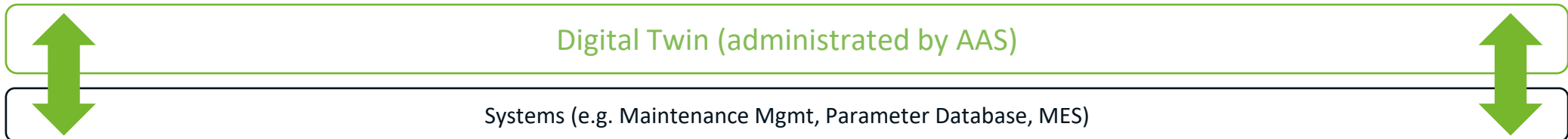
Asset authorization & data exchange rules determine if manual approval needed

Change asset configuration

Publish recommended default configuration for each asset type

Publish update software feature

Publish new firmware



An asset is the lowest entity relevant for maintenance of the operator. It can also be a maintenance relevant component that can be ordered (e.g., an actuator, a sensor, a pump – in most cases a screw is not relevant).



1.5 Asset relocation

Challenge: Asset relocation comes with issues such as disruption of operations (downtimes), costs (e.g., transportation, packaging, labor, or potential equipment modifications), coordination (mainly logistics), risk of damage or loss, regulatory compliance (e.g., specific permits or license management) and communication. Depending on the organizational level, asset relocation requires different process and legal functions, which are often covered in different data silos.

Description: Asset relocation refers to the process of moving physical assets, such as equipment, machinery, or inventory, from one location to another. According to the OI4 Process House the use case “asset relocation” occurs on every single level as assets can be transferred within a company’s premises, between different sites or across enterprises.

Roles/personas: plant managers, technicians, maintenance managers

Target group: operators and manufacturers

Benefits & value: Asset relocation can be a complex task, but it can help businesses streamline their operations, improve efficiency, and adapt to needs changing. Mastering the efforts of asset relocation can positively affect business flexibility and improve productivity.

An application is an aggregation of assets which you monitor and control. This is typically a module or a machine.



2.1 Condition monitoring

Challenge: Unplanned production downtimes and high maintenance costs.

Description: Condition monitoring is one of the most known I4.0 use cases. The main objective of condition monitoring is to diagnose and prognose faults in your machines, equipment, or systems. Fault diagnosis is the process of identifying the type, location, and severity of a fault based on the data analysis results. It is closely related and sometimes overlapping with common (predictive) maintenance use cases.

Roles/personas: asset/maintenance manager, plant manager, technician (manufacturer)

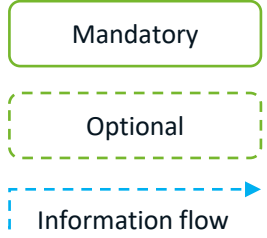
Target group: operators and manufacturers

Benefits & value: reduce downtime, extend asset lifetime, reduce systematic errors, reduce problem identification and resolution (MTTR) time/effort, simplify stock management and reduce stock

Supporting content:



Legend



← Operator →



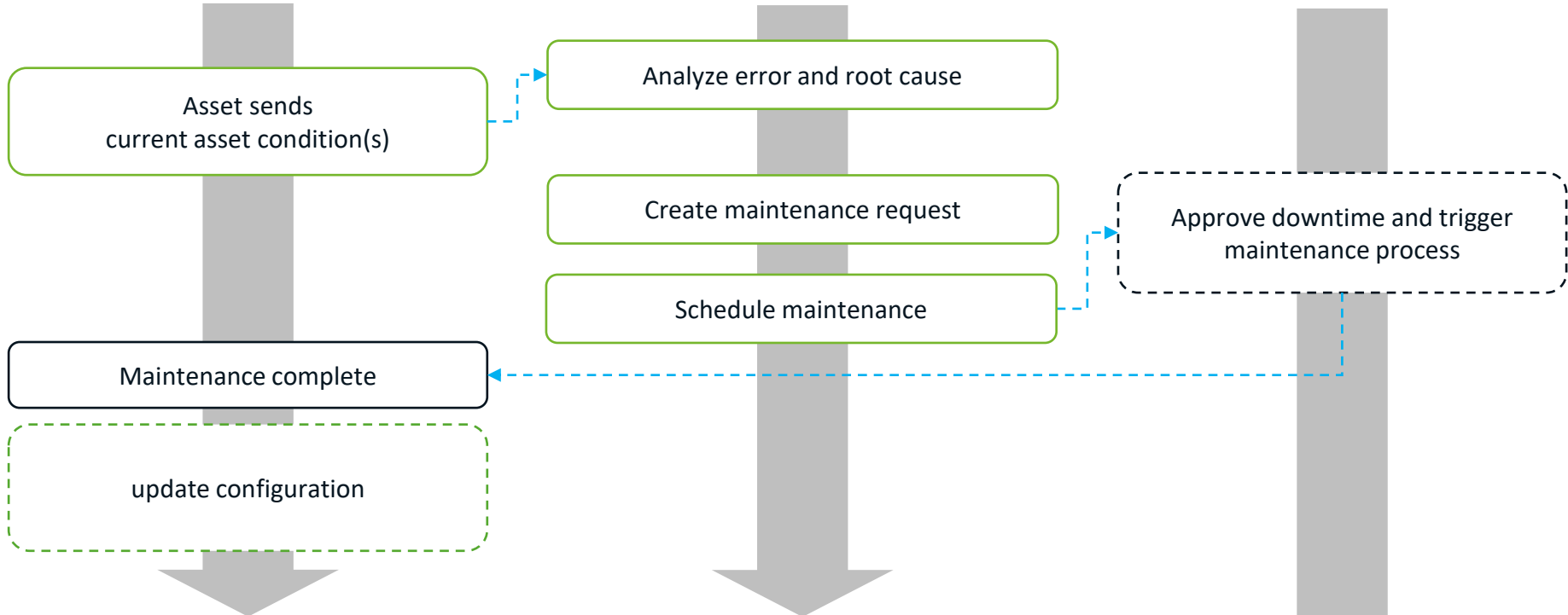
Machine/plant



Asset manager



Plant manager



Digital Twin (administrated by AAS)

Systems (e.g., maintenance mgmt.)



An application is an aggregation of assets which you monitor and control. This is typically a module or a machine.



2.2 Predictive maintenance

Challenge: Unplanned downtimes result in high costs for maintenance.

Description: Predictive maintenance is probably the most famous I4.0 use case. It is a proactive maintenance strategy that uses data analysis, machine learning algorithms, and other advanced technologies to predict equipment failures before they occur. To unlock the potential, you need to collect and analyze equipment data to identify patterns and anomalies that could indicate potential problems.

Roles/personas: plant managers, asset- and maintenance managers

Target group: operators

Benefits & value: Reduce potential for downtime, extend asset lifetime, reduce systematic errors, reduce problem identification and resolution (MTTR) time/effort, simplify stock management

Supporting content:



use case 1



use case 2

Legend

Mandatory

Optional

Information flow



CLOSE

← Operator →



Machine/plant

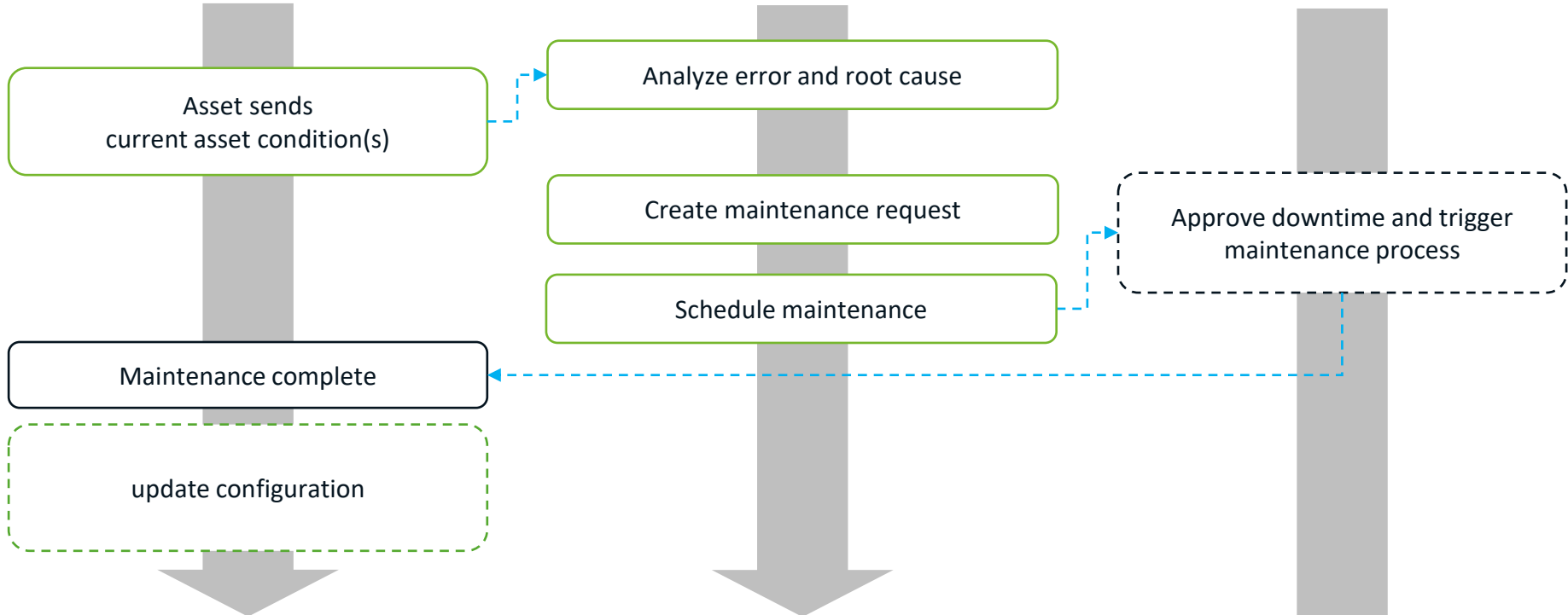


Asset manager



Plant manager

USE CASE 1: ERROR CASE

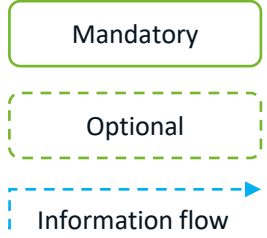


Digital Twin (administrated by AAS)

Systems (e.g., maintenance mgmt.)



Legend



← Operator →



Machine/plant

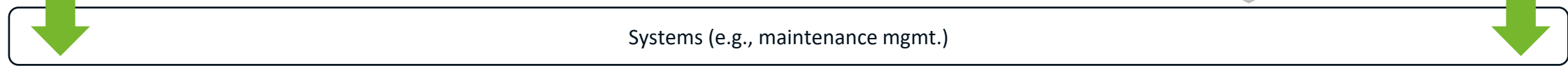
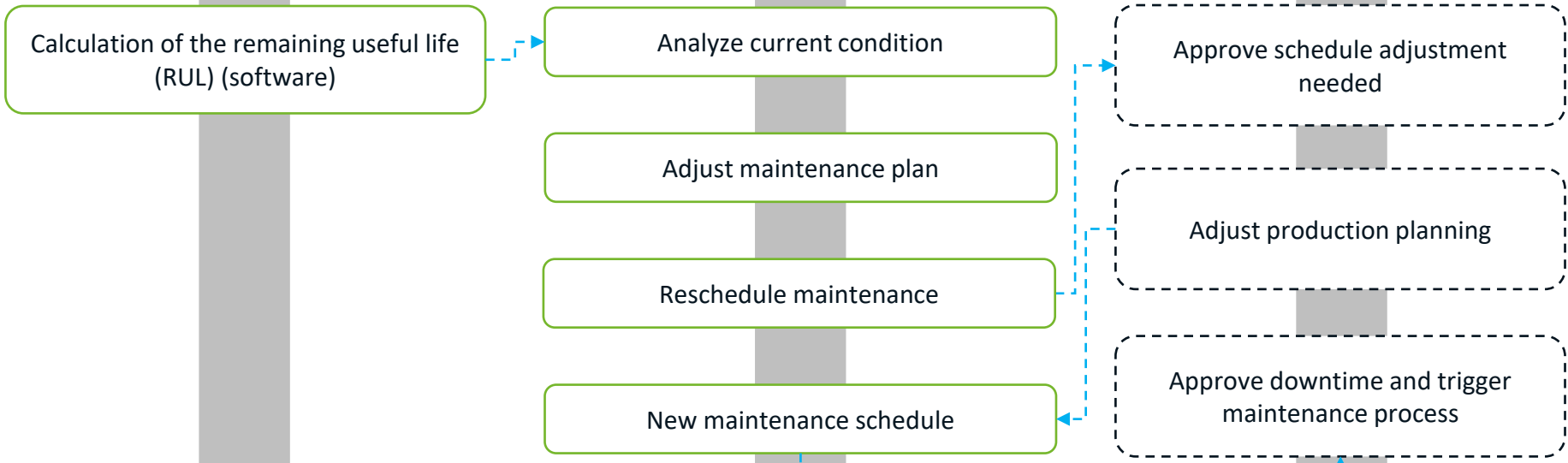


Asset manager



Plant manager

USE CASE 2: REMAINING USEFUL LIFE



Systems (e.g., maintenance mgmt.)

An application is an aggregation of assets which you monitor and control. This is typically a module or a machine.



2.3 Asset maintenance

Challenge: High efforts and costs to keep physical assets in good working condition (such as equipment, machinery, and buildings).

Description: Asset maintenance can include tasks such as routine inspections, cleaning, lubrication, and minor repairs. Internal maintenance can provide greater control over maintenance schedules and quality. External maintenance, on the other hand, refers to maintenance activities that are carried out by manufacturer and/or external service providers, such as specialized maintenance contractors or vendors. External maintenance can provide access to specialized expertise, equipment, and technology.

Roles/personas: plant managers, technicians, asset- and maintenance managers

Target group: plant operator, manufacturer

Benefits & value: reduce potential for downtime, extend asset lifetime, reduce systematic errors, reduce problem identification and resolution (MTTR) time/effort, simplify stock management

Supporting content:

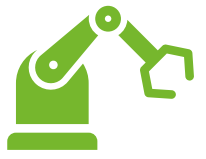
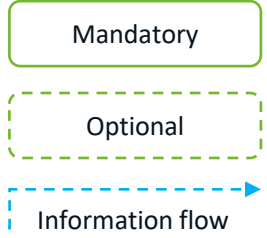


internal
maintenance



manufacturer
maintenance

Legend



Machine/plant



Asset manager

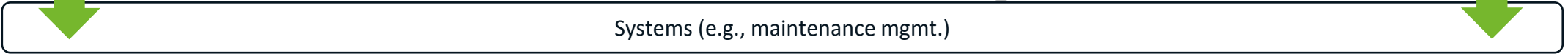
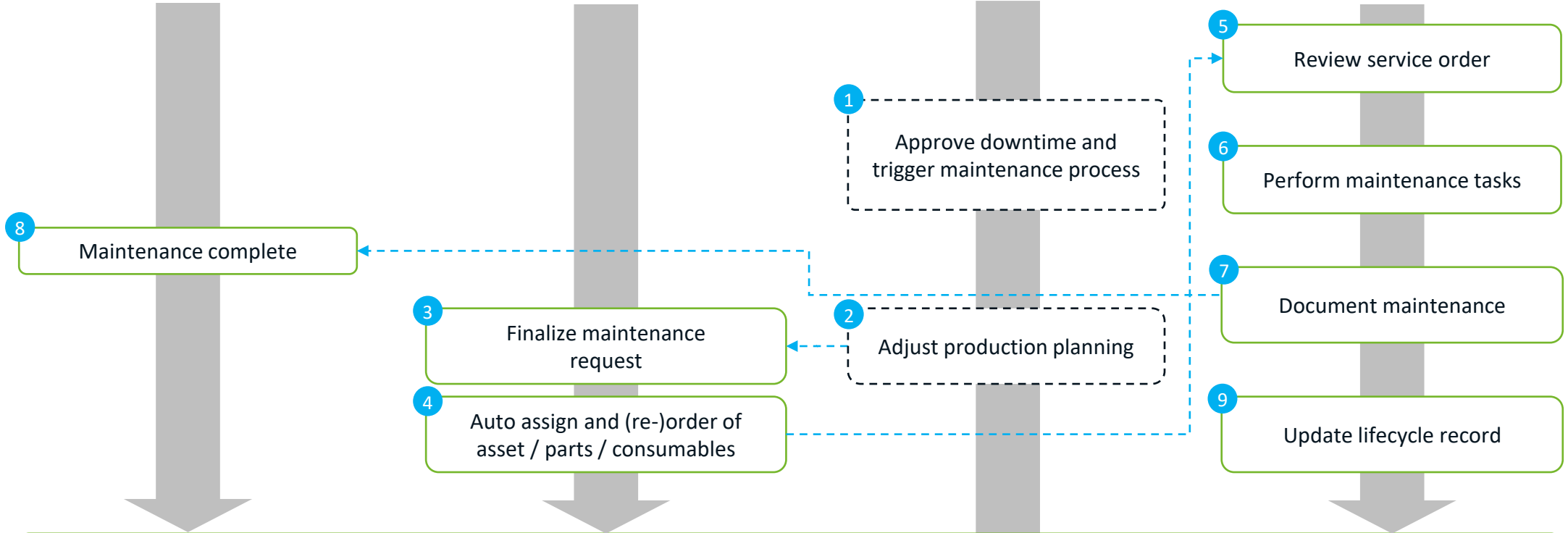


Plant manager

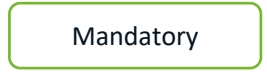


Technician

INTERNAL MAINTENANCE



Legend

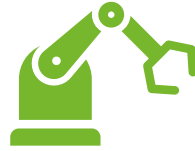


CLOSE

← Manufacturer →

← Operator →

← Manufacturer →



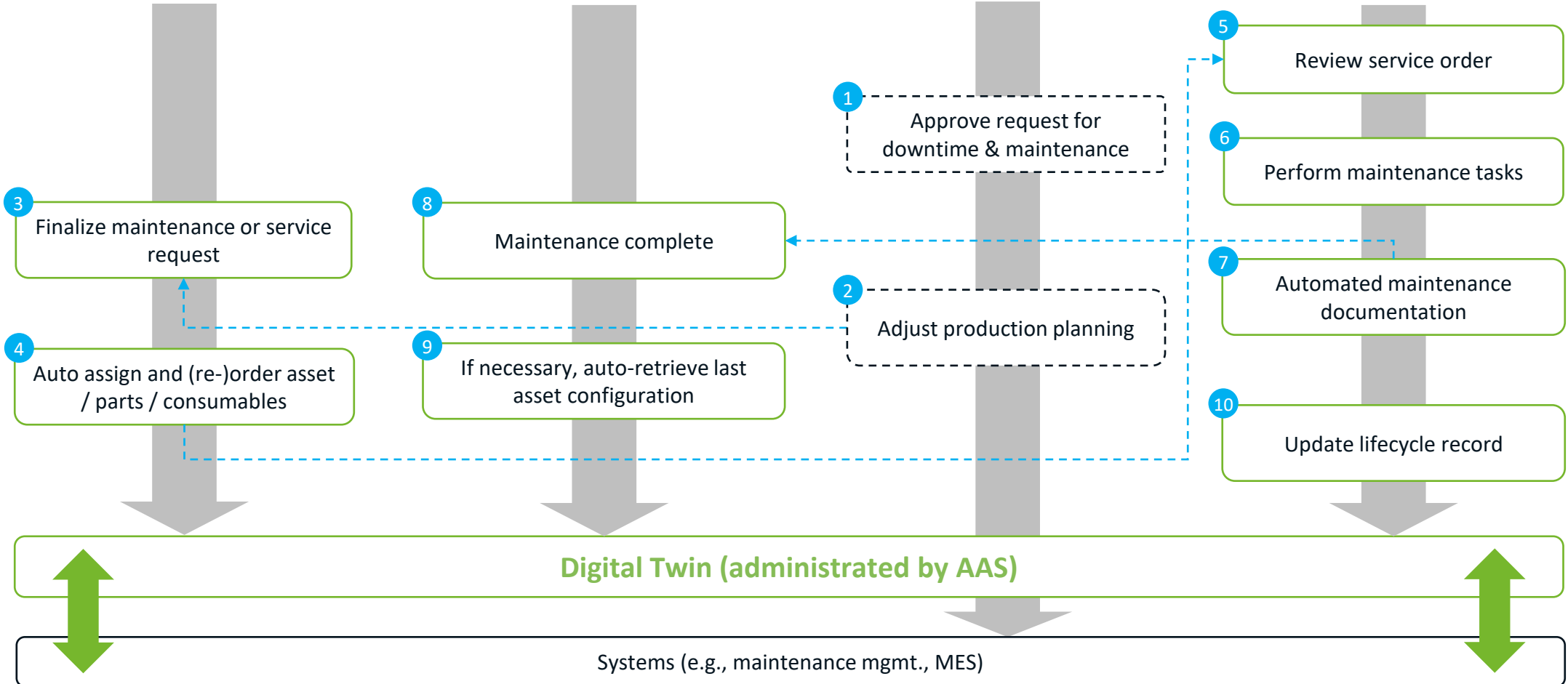
Manufacturer

Machine/plant

Plant manager

Technician

MANUFACTURER MAINTENANCE



L2.3

Asset maintenance

Definition

Asset maintenance can include tasks such as routine inspections, cleaning, lubrication, and minor repairs. Internal maintenance can provide greater control over maintenance schedules and quality. External maintenance, on the other hand, refers to maintenance activities that are carried out by manufacturer and/or external service providers, such as specialized maintenance contractors or vendors. External maintenance can provide access to specialized expertise, equipment, and technology.



Go back one layer



2.3.1 Asset calibration

Description: wip

Supportive content: wip

An application is an aggregation of assets which you monitor and control. This is typically a module or a machine.



2.4 Application reliability

Challenge: Ensuring the reliability of an application involves challenges such as identifying potential points of failure, managing software bugs and errors, and maintaining performance under varying workloads. Balancing reliability requirements with feature development and time-to-market pressures can also be challenging.

Description: Application reliability refers to the ability of a software application to consistently perform its intended functions without failure, even under stressful conditions or heavy usage. This includes minimizing downtime, handling errors gracefully, and providing a seamless user experience.

Roles/personas: Reliability engineer, software developer, quality assurance engineer, system administrator, customer support specialist

Target group: Software companies, technology startups, online service providers, e-commerce platforms, financial institutions

Benefits & value: A reliable application enhances user trust, satisfaction, and loyalty by providing a consistent and error-free experience. It reduces the risk of lost revenue and damage to brand reputation caused by downtime or performance issues. Additionally, it fosters customer retention and acquisition, driving long-term business success.

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3.1 Process onboarding

Challenge: Process onboarding for an asset entails overcoming challenges such as integrating new processes with existing operations, ensuring personnel are adequately trained, and minimizing disruptions to production. Coordinating the transition smoothly while maintaining productivity and quality standards presents a significant challenge.

Description: Process onboarding involves the integration and implementation of new operational procedures or workflows related to the asset. This includes training personnel, updating documentation, and adjusting processes to ensure seamless integration while optimizing asset performance and reliability.

Roles/personas: Process onboarding manager, asset manager, operations supervisor, training coordinator, quality assurance specialist

Target group: Manufacturing plants, industrial facilities, energy production plants, transportation companies, utility providers

Benefits & value: Process onboarding enhances operational efficiency, reduces downtime, and improves asset performance by ensuring personnel are proficient in new processes. It minimizes risks associated with operational changes and promotes a smooth transition to optimize asset utilization and achieve production goals.

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3.2 Performance improvement

Challenge: Performance improvement involves overcoming challenges such as identifying areas for enhancement, implementing changes without disrupting operations, and measuring the effectiveness of improvements. Balancing short-term gains with long-term sustainability and maintaining stakeholder buy-in can also be challenging.

Description: Performance improvement focuses on enhancing efficiency, reliability, and effectiveness to maximize output and minimize costs. This may involve process optimization, technology upgrades, maintenance enhancements, or workforce training to address performance gaps and achieve operational excellence.

Roles/personas: Performance improvement manager, asset reliability engineer, operations analyst, maintenance supervisor, continuous improvement specialist

Target group: Manufacturing plants, industrial facilities, energy production plants, transportation companies, utility providers

Benefits & value: Performance improvement initiatives lead to increased asset uptime, reduced maintenance costs, and higher production yields, ultimately driving profitability and competitiveness. They also enhance safety, quality, and customer satisfaction by optimizing asset performance and reliability while minimizing waste and downtime.

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3.3 Process quality & reliability

Challenge: Identifying and addressing root causes of variability, ensuring consistency in output, and minimizing defects. Balancing quality objectives with production efficiency and cost constraints requires careful management and continuous improvement efforts.

Description: Process quality and reliability for an asset focus on ensuring that operational processes consistently meet quality standards and performance requirements. This involves implementing quality control measures, conducting reliability assessments, and optimizing processes to enhance product quality, reliability, and consistency.

Roles/personas: Quality assurance manager, reliability engineer, process engineer, production supervisor, quality control technician

Target group: Manufacturing plants, industrial facilities, energy production plants, transportation companies, utility providers

Benefits & value: It improves product consistency, reduces defects, and enhances customer satisfaction. It also increases asset uptime, reduces maintenance costs, and minimizes risks associated with operational failures, ultimately driving operational excellence and competitiveness.

A plant comprises the process industry and the factory in the discrete industry. A plant (factory) is a facility used for production or processing of goods. There can be multiple plants per production site.



4.1 Product onboarding

Challenge: Requires digital product documentation and internally a central product data base. Today the product data is distributed in several silos and therefore the challenge of creating a digital product twin and services based on that data.

Description: Product onboarding refers to the processes to create the seamless digital product twin across the whole value chain from research & development to aftermarket & service. The product type is started in the research & development process and maintained across the whole lifecycle. The following processes vary between process and discrete industries. In the discrete industries the product instance is created now of serialization in production (like a birth certificate) and maintained across the lifecycle. In process industries typically batches are used, and the batch number is created in the beginning of the production process.

Roles/personas: developers, product managers, production- and service employees

Target group: discrete and process industries

Benefits & value: increase data quality, improve process quality (e.g., lower return and complaint rate), pre-requisite for other use cases

A plant comprises the process industry and the factory in the discrete industry. A plant (factory) is a facility used for production or processing of goods. There can be multiple plants per production site.



4.2 Intralogistics (discrete industries)

Challenge: Internal material movement and flow can cause delays. Expansive warehousing to manage inventory, order picking, packing, and shipping can be a side effect of intralogistics issues.

Description: Intralogistics refers to the internal logistics within a company or organization, including the planning, implementation, and control of the flow of materials, products, and information from the point of origin to the point of consumption. It involves the efficient movement, storage, and handling of materials and products within a facility or warehouse, as well as the coordination of transportation and logistics activities.

Roles/personas: factory (production- and purchase manager, machine operator), warehouse/parts center (PC manager, worker), vendor (supplier)

Target group: discrete industries

Benefits & value: Optimized flows of materials and products within a facility require the use of software and technology to manage, track and coordinate logistics activities. Efficient and effective management of intralogistics activities will pay off due to higher material throughput and smaller footprint.

Supporting content:



list of
actions



supply
route

Underlying layers

4.2.1 Large parts
management

4.2.2 Small parts
management

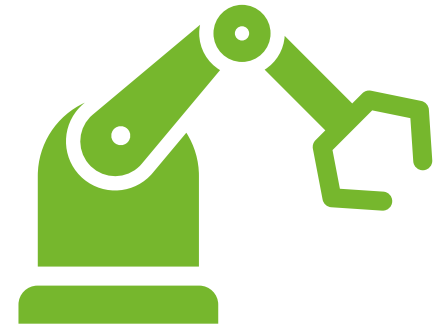
4.2.3 Non-conformity
management



CLOSE



WAREHOUSE/ PARTS CENTER



FACTORY



PC manager

- Actions:
- Confirm parts in inventory
 - Manage inventory levels
 - Coordinate with suppliers



Production manager

- Actions:
- Change of specifications
 - Change of schedule
 - Production schedule
 - Material return
 - Material request



Machine operator

- Actions:
- Pick large material from stock
 - Pick small material from sideline
 - Inspect quality of materials
 - Non-conformity reports



Worker

- Actions:
- Unpack and receive material
 - Prepare parts for each manufacturer line
 - Inspect and register outgoing parts
 - Pick large parts
 - Place empty pallets
 - Place empty containers



Purchase manager

- Actions:
- Purchase orders
 - Supplier coordination
 - Procurement schedule



Worker

- Actions:
- Place large parts
 - Confirm inventory status
 - Pick empty pallets containers
 - Pick return parts

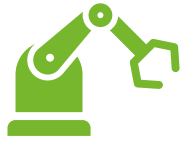
Legend

Mandatory

Information flow



CLOSE



Factory

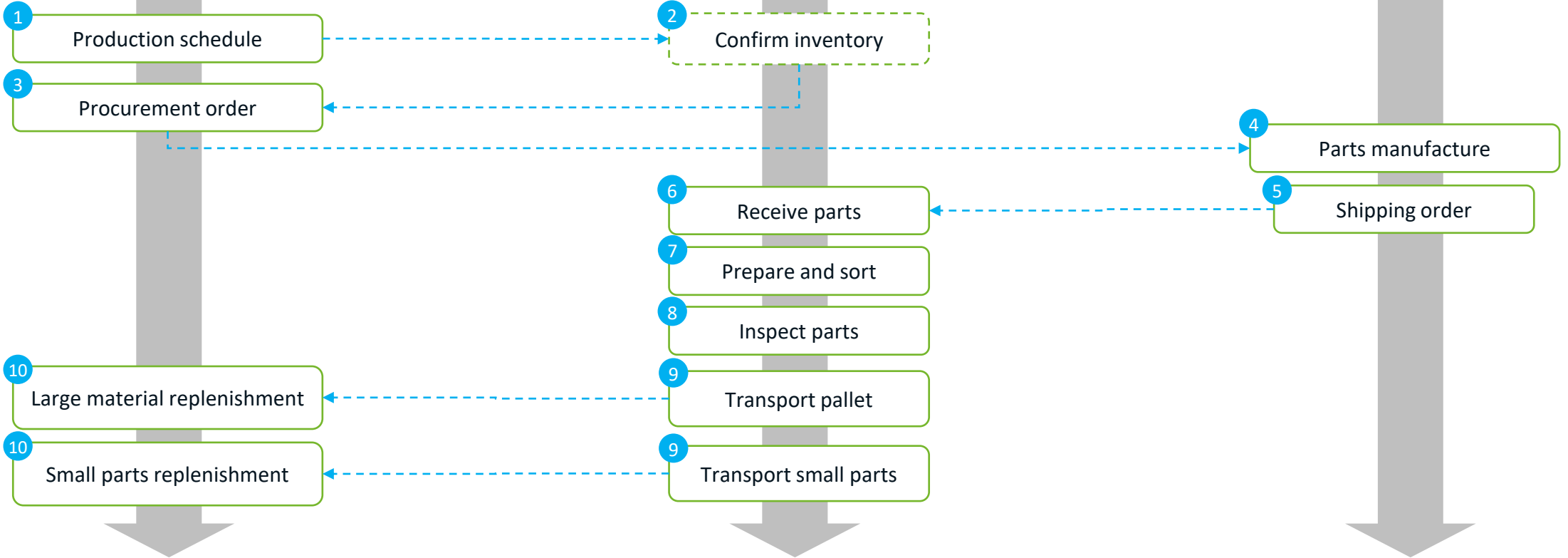


Warehouse / parts center



Vendor

OVERALL SUPPLY ROUTE



L4.2

Intralogistics (discrete industries)

Definition

Intralogistics refers to the internal logistics within a company or organization, including the planning, implementation, and control of the flow of materials, products, and information from the point of origin to the point of consumption.



Go back one layer



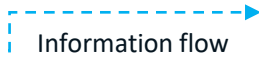
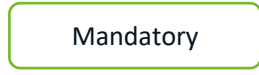
4.2.1 Large parts mgmt.

Description: Larger parts are products usually ordered for a production or engineering order. They usually are more complex, also from perspective of value, quality inspection

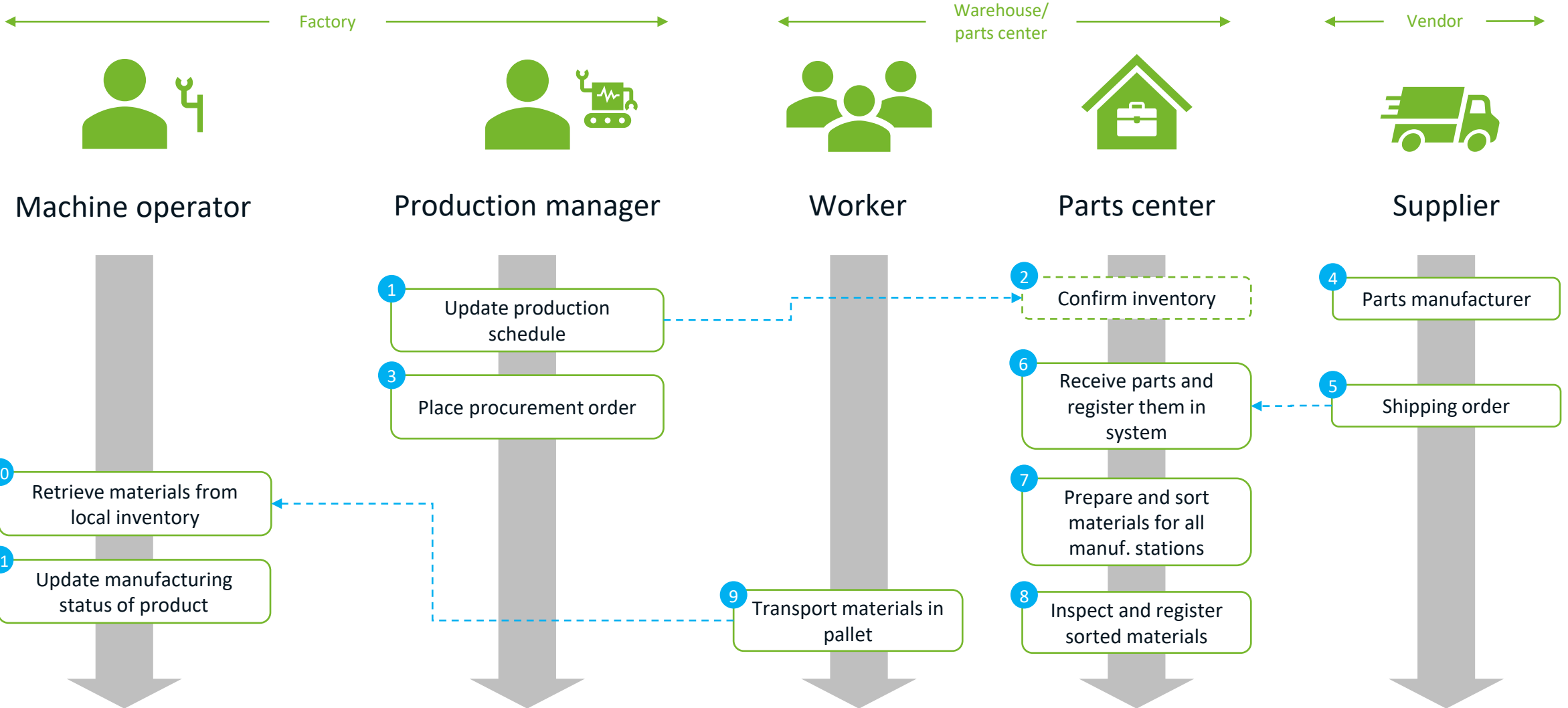
Supportive content:



Legend



CLOSE



L4.2

Intralogistics (discrete industries)

Definition

Intralogistics refers to the internal logistics within a company or organization, including the planning, implementation, and control of the flow of materials, products, and information from the point of origin to the point of consumption.



Go back one layer



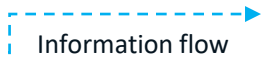
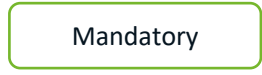
4.2.2 Small parts mgmt.

Description: Smaller parts are products usually ordered in bulks on stock and can be ordered by production with Kanban or pick process. They usually are less complex, used for different orders, such as bolts and nuts.

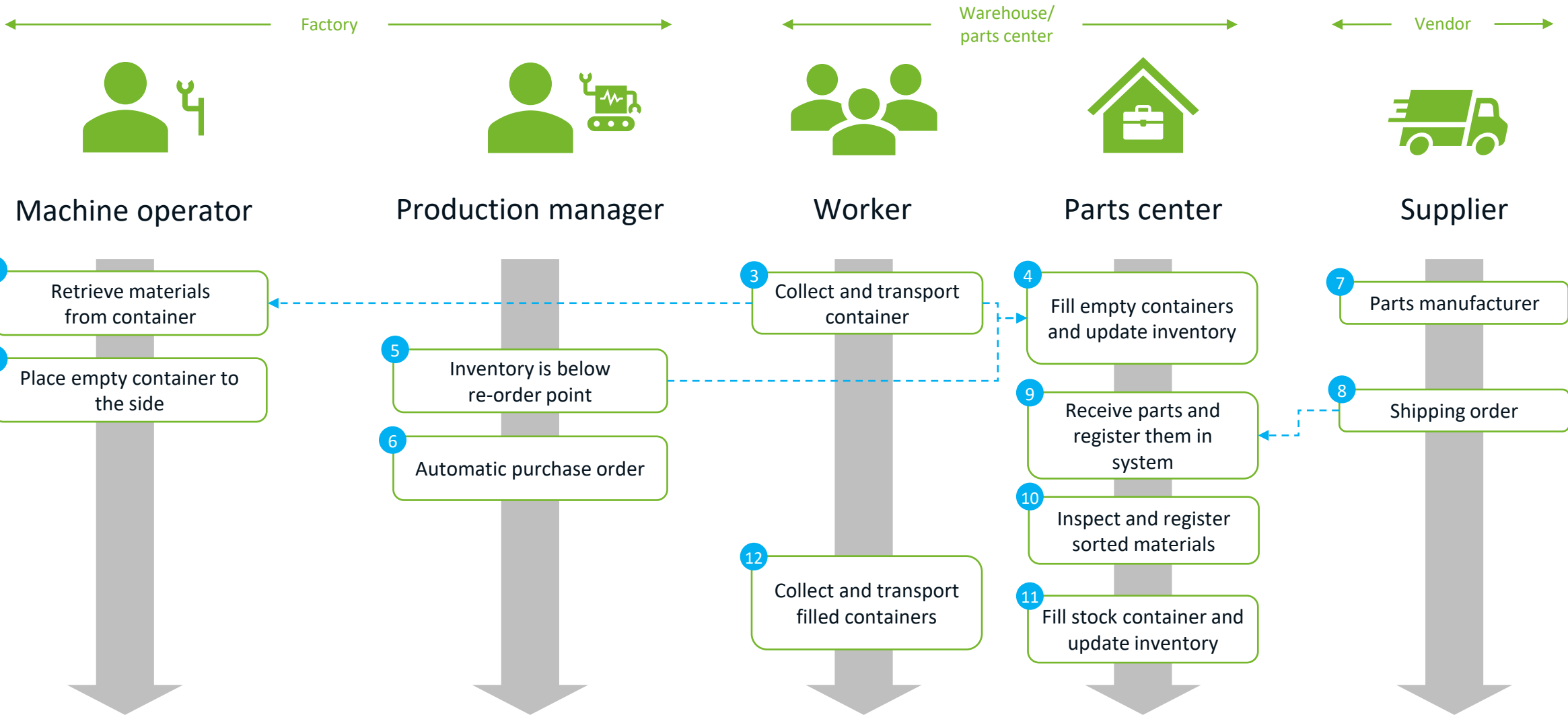
Supportive content:



Legend



CLOSE



Intralogistics refers to the internal logistics within a company or organization, including the planning, implementation, and control of the flow of materials, products, and information from the point of origin to the point of consumption.



Go back one layer



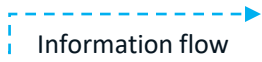
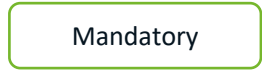
4.2.3 Non-conformity parts mgmt.

Description: Non-conformity parts are defect parts which needs to be scrapped or returned and of course replaced for the production process.

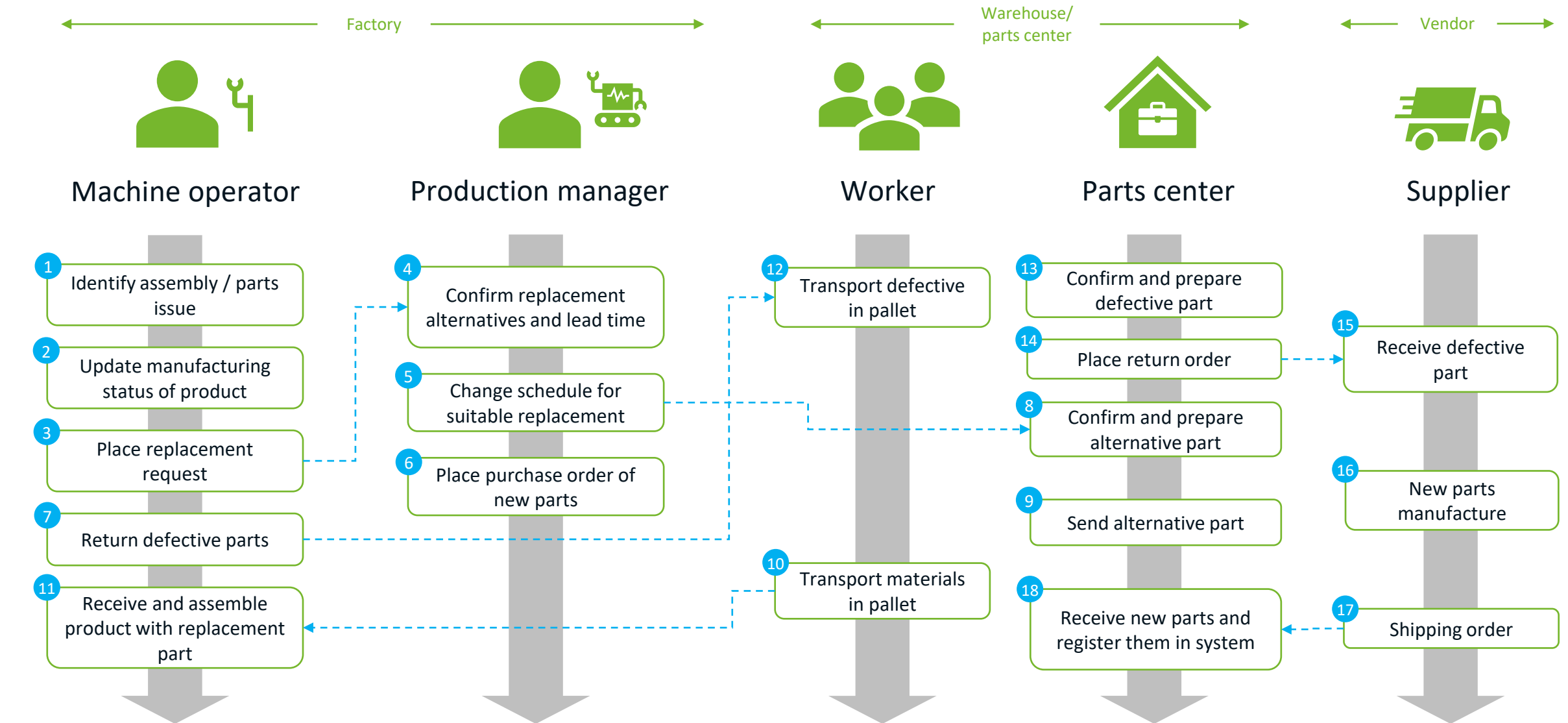
Supportive content:



Legend



CLOSE



A plant comprises the process industry and the factory in the discrete industry. A plant (factory) is a facility used for production or processing of goods. There can be multiple plants per production site.



4.3 Commissioning

Challenge: Commissioning of assets within a plant poses challenges such as ensuring seamless integration of new assets with existing infrastructure and systems. Coordinating commissioning activities across multiple departments and stakeholders requires effective communication and project management. Additionally, meeting performance and safety standards while minimizing disruptions to ongoing operations is essential.

Description: Commissioning involves the process of verifying, testing, and certifying newly installed or modified equipment to ensure it meets operational requirements and safety standards. This includes functional testing, performance validation, and operator training to ensure smooth transition and optimal performance. Commissioning ensures that assets are fully operational and compliant with regulatory requirements before they are put into service.

Roles/personas: commissioning manager, project engineer, operations manager, maintenance supervisor, safety coordinator

Benefits & value: Effective commissioning of assets within a plant improves operational reliability, safety, and efficiency, reducing the risk of downtime and costly delays. It ensures that assets perform as intended, meeting production targets and quality standards. Additionally, commissioning enhances asset lifecycle management by identifying and addressing potential issues early, leading to long-term cost savings and improved asset performance.

A plant comprises the process industry and the factory in the discrete industry. A plant (factory) is a facility used for production or processing of goods. There can be multiple plants per production site.



4.4 Decommissioning

Challenge: Decommissioning assets within a plant involves managing complex regulations, coordinating activities, and ensuring minimal disruption. It also requires careful resource management to facilitate the transition away from decommissioned assets.

Description: Decommissioning systematically shuts down, removes, and disposes of obsolete equipment while adhering to regulations. It optimizes space, reduces costs, and mitigates risks associated with unused assets, contributing to overall operational efficiency.

Roles/personas: Decommissioning manager, project engineer, environmental health and safety coordinator, facilities manager, and procurement officer

Benefits & value: Decommissioning streamlines operations, cuts costs, and ensures compliance with regulations while promoting sustainability and freeing up resources for future use.

An enterprise can comprise multiple plants as well as multiple legal entities (e.g., subsidiaries). This is the company level where all the information and processes of the lower levels are consolidated.



5.1 Product track and trace

Challenge: Material track and trace shall provide visibility and transparency into the movement of materials, allowing organizations to ensure product quality, safety, and compliance, as well as to identify and address supply chain issues or disruptions.

Description: Material track and trace refers to the process of tracking and tracing materials. Material track and trace typically involves the use of technology such as barcodes, RFID tags, or GPS tracking devices to monitor and track the movement of materials. This technology is often integrated with supply chain management systems or enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems to provide real-time visibility into inventory levels, location, and status.

Roles/personas: plant managers, supply chain manager, logistics coordinator, quality assurance specialist, IT systems analyst, compliance officer

Target group: manufacturing plants, automotive industry, consumer electronics manufacturers, aerospace industry, pharmaceutical companies

Benefits & value: Material track and trace provides real-time visibility into the movement of materials, allowing organizations to identify and address supply chain issues, supply chain inefficiencies, disruptions or quality standard requirements quickly. Further it helps organizations to comply with regulatory requirements, such as those related to food safety or product labeling: T&T enables identification and resolution of issues, reducing the risk of product recalls and associated costs. Additionally, these systems support regulatory compliance and strengthen supply chain relationships by fostering transparency and trust.

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5.2 Enterprise logistics

Challenge: Enterprise logistics aims to optimize supply chain performance, reduce costs, and improve customer service.

Description: Enterprise Logistics refers to the process of planning, implementing, and controlling the movement of goods and information throughout an organization's supply chain. This involves managing the movement (or storage) of goods from one location to another, including selecting carriers, negotiating rates, and monitoring shipments.

Roles/personas: logistics manager, suppliers, warehouse manager, transportation manager, procurement specialist

Target group: supply chain

Benefits & value: Optimized inventory management regarding demand forecasts based on data analysis and statistical methods. Also refers closely to Product Track & Trace as real-time visibility of supply chain activities is vital for overall performance. Further benefits are data for conducting proper risk management and to optimize sustainability related topics such as reducing waste, improving energy efficiency, and using renewable resources.

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5.3 Facility management

Challenge: Facility management faces challenges such as maintaining aging infrastructure, ensuring compliance with health and safety regulations, and managing energy efficiency. Budget constraints and the need for effective coordination among various service providers can also complicate facility management efforts.

Description: Facility management involves the coordination of physical workspace and support services to ensure the functionality, comfort, safety, and efficiency of the built environment. This includes the management of buildings, utilities, security, cleaning, and other services that support the core business operations.

Roles/personas: Facility manager, maintenance supervisor, HVAC technician, security manager, janitorial staff

Target group: corporate offices, manufacturing plants

Benefits & value: Effective facility management enhances operational efficiency, reduces costs, and ensures a safe and productive environment for occupants. It also supports compliance with regulations, prolongs the lifespan of assets, and improves the overall quality of the facility's services.

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5.4 Product development

Challenge: Product development for an asset within a plant in an enterprise environment faces challenges such as integrating new assets with existing systems and infrastructure. Managing the complexity of coordinating cross-functional teams and ensuring compliance with stringent regulatory and safety standards can be difficult. Additionally, balancing innovation with cost control and project timelines is crucial.

Description: Product development involves the design, creation, and implementation of new or improved machinery, equipment, or technology. This process is aimed at enhancing production efficiency, product quality, and operational reliability. It requires collaboration across various departments including engineering, maintenance, and production.

Roles/personas: Product development manager, design engineer, process engineer, maintenance engineer, quality assurance specialist

Target group: Manufacturing plants, automotive industry, consumer electronics manufacturers, aerospace industry, pharmaceutical companies

Benefits & value: Effective product development for plant assets leads to improved operational efficiency, reduced downtime, and enhanced product quality. It supports innovation and ensures that the plant remains competitive by adopting the latest technologies and processes. Additionally, it contributes to cost savings through optimized resource use and improved asset performance.

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5.5 Process development

Challenge: Process development within a plant in an enterprise environment involves challenges such as integrating new processes with existing operations and ensuring minimal disruption. Managing cross-functional collaboration and adherence to regulatory and safety standards adds complexity. Additionally, balancing innovation with cost efficiency and maintaining project timelines is essential.

Description: Process development setting focuses on designing and optimizing production processes to enhance efficiency, quality, and safety. This involves the development and implementation of new methods, workflows, and technologies aimed at improving overall operational performance. It requires collaboration among engineering, production, and quality assurance teams.

Roles/personas: Process development manager, process engineer, production manager, quality assurance specialist, continuous improvement specialist

Target group: Manufacturing plants, manufacturer

Benefits & value: Effective process development leads to increased operational efficiency, reduced production costs, and improved product quality. It supports innovation by integrating advanced technologies and methodologies, ensuring the plant remains competitive. Additionally, it enhances compliance with safety and regulatory standards, contributing to a safer and more reliable production environment.



6.1 Operator/supplier collaboration

Challenge: Misaligned objectives and priorities can lead to conflicts and inefficiencies in the collaboration process. Communication barriers and lack of transparency can result in misunderstandings and delays. Additionally, differences in technology, processes, and standards can create integration issues and reduce overall performance.

Description: Operator/supplier collaboration involves the strategic partnership between operators (businesses that manage the supply chain or production) and suppliers (entities providing goods or services). This collaboration aims to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve product quality through shared goals, information, and resources.

Roles/personas: Supply chain manager, procurement officer, supplier account manager, logistics coordinator

Target group: Manufacturing companies, retail chains, distribution centers, logistics service providers

Benefits & value: Effective operator/supplier collaboration can lead to reduced operational costs, improved product quality, and faster time-to-market. It also fosters innovation through shared expertise and resources, enhancing overall competitiveness in the market.

Supporting content:



6.2 Supply chain

Challenge: Supply chain management faces numerous challenges, including demand forecasting inaccuracies which can lead to overstock or stockouts. Disruptions such as natural disasters, political instability, and economic fluctuations can severely impact supply chain continuity. Additionally, maintaining efficient communication and coordination among all parties involved is often complex and fraught with potential for misalignment.

Description: A supply chain encompasses the entire network of entities involved in producing, handling, and distributing a specific product, from raw material suppliers to end consumers. It involves a series of steps including procurement, manufacturing, transportation, and retailing. Effective supply chain management aims to streamline these processes to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and meet customer demand promptly.

Roles/personas: Supply chain manager, procurement officer, logistics manager, inventory manager, quality control

Target group: Manufacturers, retail companies, wholesale distributors, logistics and transportation

Benefits & value: A well-managed supply chain enhances operational efficiency, reduces costs, and improves customer satisfaction by ensuring timely delivery of quality products. It also allows businesses to be more responsive to market changes and customer demands, thereby maintaining a competitive edge.

Supporting content:

Underlying layers

wip

wip

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6.3 Sustainability & Digital Product Passport

Challenge: Capturing and exchanging product data for more sustainable business processes

Description: The Digital Product Passport (DPP), established by the European Commission in the proposal for the Regulation on Ecodesign Requirements for Sustainable Products (ESPR), is set to become a key instrument for ecological and digital transformation.

Roles/personas: factory (production- and purchase manager, machine operator), warehouse/parts center (PC manager, worker), vendor (supplier)

Target group: From supply chain to OEM, end users

Benefits & value: By continuously providing relevant information in digital format throughout the entire lifecycle of products and their components, the aim is to significantly reduce resource consumption and disposal burdens, and instead promote the repair, reuse, repurposing, and recycling of discarded products in the context of a sustainable circular economy.

Underlying layers

wip

wip

wip



ASSET TWIN

A dynamic, shared set of „distributed digital information“ about an asset and/or equipment, that various stakeholders (operators, manufacturers, service partners) can contribute to, and acquire information from. The OI4 Alliance focusses on the following aspects of the digital twin: EDGE, operator cloud, cloud central and manufacturer cloud.

DIGITAL TWIN

A digital twin is a virtual representation of a physical object or system. This can be either an asset, a product or a technical process that is running on the assets like painting e.g., it is a dynamic, shared set of „distributed digital information“ that various stakeholders (operators, manufacturers, service partners) can contribute to, and acquire information from. There is a relationship between the different digital twins.

MANUFACTURER & OPERATOR

A machine or equipment manufacturer is a company or organization that specializes in designing, producing, distributing and servicing machinery, equipment, or industrial devices used in various industries. In the context of the OI4 Alliance, the machine or equipment operator uses these machines or equipment to manufacture his own products or run his services on it. Generally, we use the term operator related to maintainable asset (machines, equipment, devices). The manufacturer is usually also in an operator role during his manufacturing process, e.g., using machines on which he produces his equipment. Manufacturers and operators both are suppliers and customers. Supplier and customer are more generic terms, used in context of product twin. To run maintenance of the asset across its lifecycle the manufacturer usually not operates alone, but in a network with his suppliers, importers and service companies.

OI4 PROCESS HOUSE

A process house is a graphical representation that structures a certain set of business processes. The purpose of the OI4 Process House is to document and structure OI4 Alliance relevant use cases. This allows to align internally and helps supporting customers in their process design. These use cases include relevant process steps from the perspective of an operator in collaboration with a manufacturer. The processes are described via the swim lane method with process steps assigned to certain roles (personas). The process house is based on collected industry best practices and will be updated periodically.



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PRODUCT TWIN

In the industrial environment, digital product twins are developed and applied along the product lifecycle. Starting from the initial project idea through development and design to series production and product deployment for digital services. The product twin can be transferred alongside a supply chain. The OI4 Alliance considers the digital product passport is a subset of the product twin.