



Worthwhile Operational Guidelines & Suggestions

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When to outsource?

When do you know it is time to outsource your manufacturing and/or engineering needs? Here is a list of 10 reasons put together by Martin Michael, Advanced Automation:

1. When maintaining internal capabilities is challenged and limited due to inability to find and retain qualified personnel,
2. When internal sources, regardless how good they are, become limited in bringing broad exposure to valuable lessons already learned by other companies and/or industries,
3. When maintaining 24/7 cross shift coverage in multi-shift facilities is cost prohibitive, resulting in lower end-shift production,
4. When your best internal people are spending all their time to keep the plant running, instead of looking for ways to make it more efficient, productive and competitive,
5. When capital improvement projects for the implementation of technology begin to become the business, rather than be an operational enabler that support the business,
6. When the dynamics of your business require the benefit of multiple independent skill sets at different times,
7. When the plant spends more time collecting and compiling operational data than finding ways to improve operational elements that drive quality and profitability,
8. When your operations and/or engineering group tells you that your plant is operating at the maximum effectiveness possible and you know there is always a room for improvement,
9. When you are still trying to determine what you gained from the last systems you put in two years after the project was completed,
10. When your plant creates so many paper forms that you can wallpaper the plant manager's office with new ones every day.



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