From Firefighting to Flow: Reclaiming Operational Control through Real-Time Visibility

OVERVIEW

A leading manufacturer's pursuit of market share growth and margin expansion was undermined by a foundational weakness: non-existent or inconsistent operational data and shop floor visibility. The reliance on fragmented legacy systems, manual tracking via paper and spreadsheets, and disparate data formats from various machine vendors created enterprise-level blind spots and operational risk. These gaps and inconsistencies made it impossible to standardize KPIs and production data across lines, processes, and plants to establish a cohesive operational and continuous improvement strategy across its network. Operating without these required making operational decisions from lagging financial metrics that were far removed from the shop floor. Machine breakdowns and schedule delays frequently led to firefighting and delivery delays.

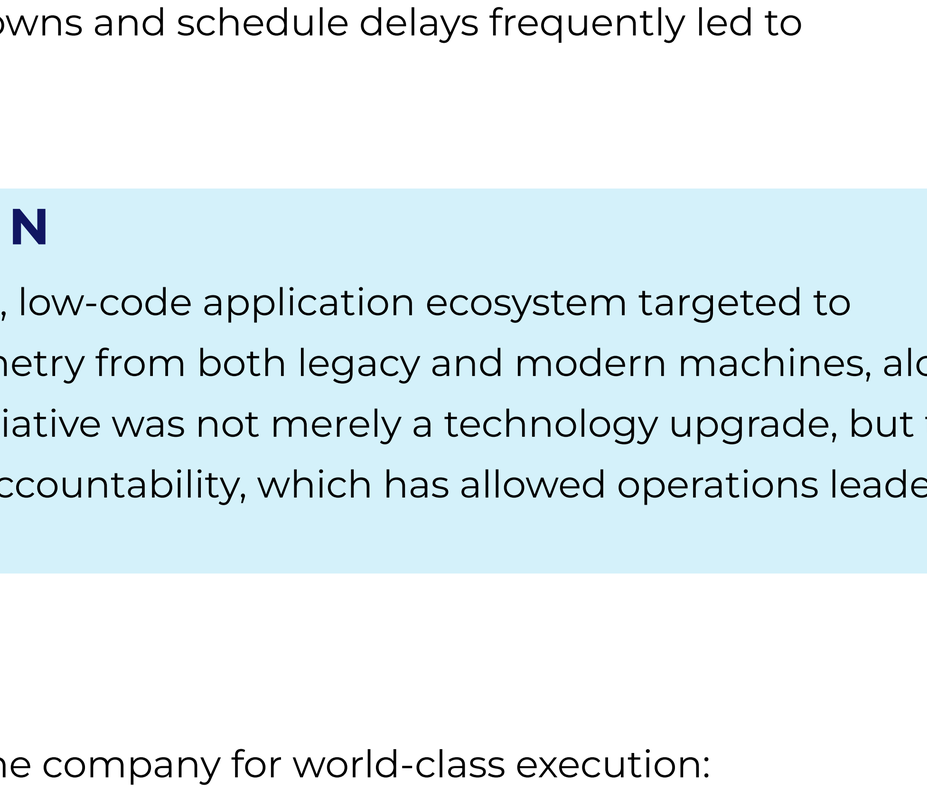
SOLUTION

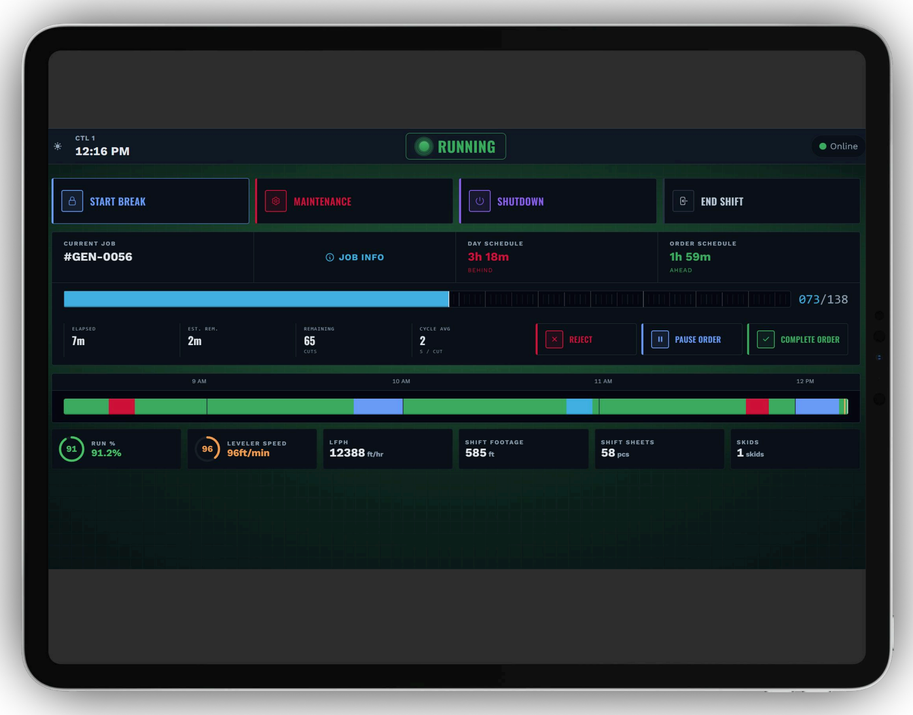
Kinetech partnered with the manufacturer to deploy a custom-built, low-code application ecosystem targeted to existing workflows. The solution securely aggregates real-time telemetry from both legacy and modern machines, along with critical operator contextualizations from the shop floor. This initiative was not merely a technology upgrade, but the establishment of process visibility and a single source of truth and accountability, which has allowed operations leaders to operate proactively rather than reactively.

OUTCOMES

The new ecosystem delivered immediate results while positioning the company for world-class execution:

- **Real-Time Visibility:** Instant workcenter oversight enables proactive supervision and replaces subjective reporting with objective, data-driven accountability.
- **Capacity Optimization:** Increased machine run rate by 20% and reduced job changeover time by 45%, therefore unlocking substantial capacity through better utilization.
- **Standardized Performance:** By identifying productivity gaps between shifts and lines, "best practices" were codified and scaled to ensure consistent output across all teams.





- **Operational Stability:** Uniform processes across sites created more flexibility to handle disruptions, significantly reducing operational risk and protecting OTD.
- **Predictive Scheduling:** Transitioned from firefighting to proactive planning by using historical data to create achievable schedules and identify potential delays hours in advance.

Copyright ©2026 Kinetech Cloud, LLC™ All rights reserved.