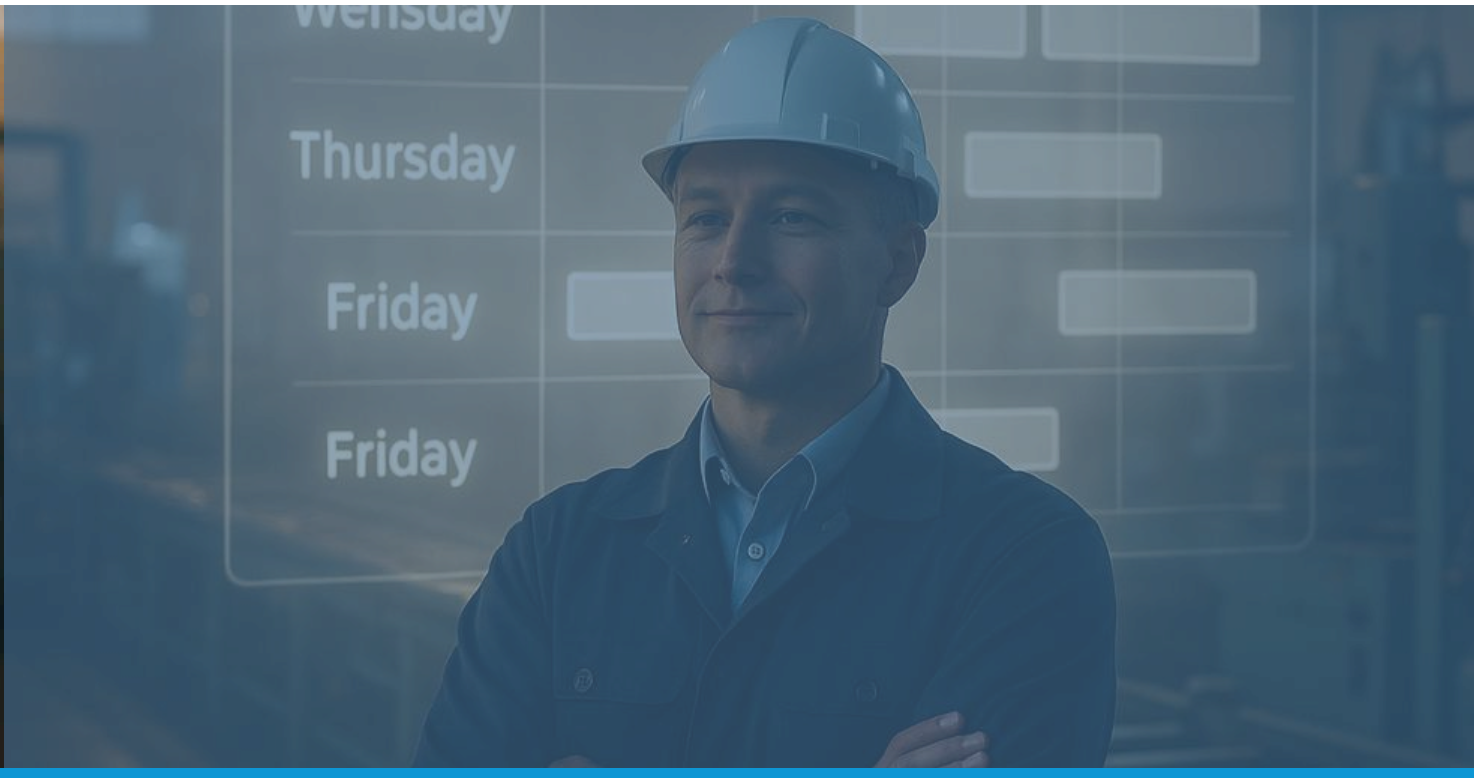
planet together



The Bold Manufacturer's Guide to Smarter Scheduling

COMMAND YOUR FLOOR

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It’s 7:00 AM and you’re already off schedule

You walk in, coffee in hand, ready to start the day. Production should be moving, machines running, orders on track, but then, your supervisor flags a change in the order queue. Maintenance just called in, and when you glance at the production schedule, it’s already out of date. Within the first hour, your carefully built plan has unraveled.

What follows is ten hours of reaction, you’re adjusting orders, negotiating shifts, re-routing tasks, chasing updates from multiple departments trying to keep everything afloat. Everyone’s working hard, but it feels like no one is really in control, not you, not the floor, not the plan. And unless something changes, tomorrow won’t be any different.

The chaos we’re leaving behind

The truth is, most manufacturers are still trying to run complex operations using disconnected spreadsheets, outdated tools, and tribal knowledge passed around informally. These teams aren’t empowered to plan proactively they’re stuck in survival mode. It’s no wonder that improvement takes a back seat. Instead of refining strategy, teams are trapped in the daily scramble of reaction and recovery.

But some manufacturers have found a way forward, they’re done reacting. they’ve taken control. Here’s how it’s working across three very different industries.

Industry snapshots: Real impact, real stories

Real-World Wins: 3 Industries, 1 Breakthrough

Printing and Packaging

Challenges Frequent changeovers, setup loss, short runs
APS Wins Intelligent sequencing, minimized changeovers

Impact
+3 hours/day saved on planning
+20% increase in machine utilization
+15% improvement in delivery reliability

Life Sciences

Challenges FDA compliance, batch integrity, shift constraints
APS Wins Multi-constraint scheduling, alert automation.

Impact
+100% compliance traceability
-25% overtime reduction
+10% plan adherence

CPG

Challenges High SKU mix, demand shifts, tank optimization
APS Wins Real-time rescheduling, constraint-based batch logic.

Impact
+12% throughput
+18% better tank/line usage
-30% less time building schedules

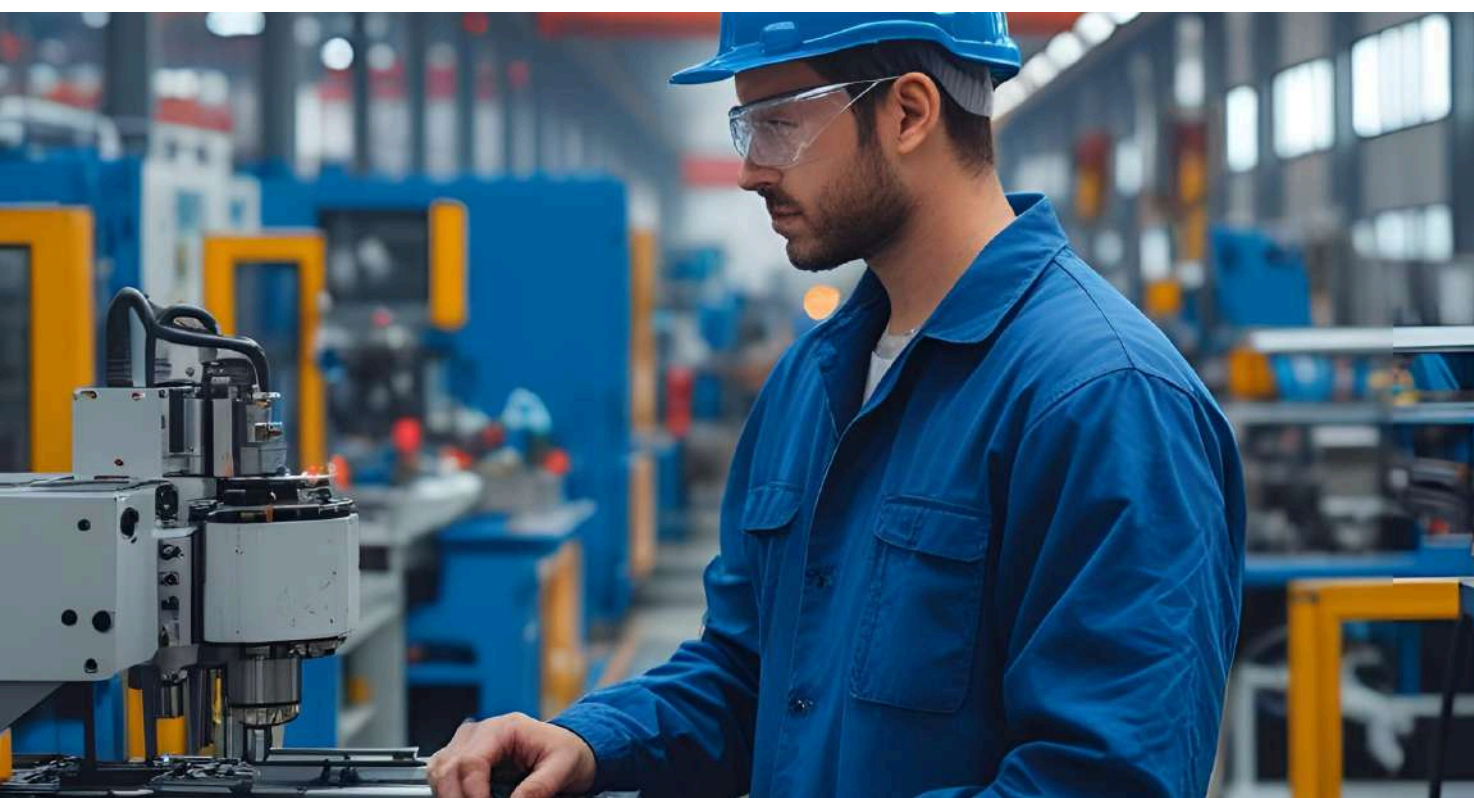
How do you know if you're ready for APS?

Most manufacturers fall somewhere along this spectrum.
Where does your team land today and where could you be next quarter?

The APS Maturity Ladder

Where do you stand?

Level	Description	Symptoms	Action
Chaos (Reactive)	Firefighting mode, planning by instinct	Excel-heavy, late orders, high stress	Start measuring time lost & bottlenecks
Coordination (Semi-Structured)	Some control, lots of manual edits	Silos, overtimes, limited visibility	Pilot dynamic scheduling on one line
Command (APS Driven)	Integrated, proactive, adaptive	Shared visibility, simulation-ready	Scale constraint-based planning plant-wide



What changes when you embrace APS?

Once teams begin climbing the maturity ladder, the shift is dramatic. What used to be chaos becomes clarity. Here's what that evolution looks like:

Before

Schedules were **outdated** by 10 AM.

Every order **change** sparked chaos.

Quality, operations, and supply chain had **different** versions of the truth.

Managed Excel sheets more than people.

After

Dynamic scheduling **adjusts instantly**.

Everyone sees the **same** plan. *(Finally)*.

We stopped reacting and started **optimizing**.

Planning went from frustrating to **empowering**.

Control it's about agility

With PlanetTogether, operations teams move from reacting to predicting. They model disruptions, test solutions, and stay ahead before chaos ever hits.

Plan the Exception Before It Happens: What-If Simulation

Simulate production changes and constraints in a risk-free environment using PlanetTogether's What-If Scenarios.

From last-minute rush orders to machine failures, PlanetTogether gives you the power to evaluate outcomes, protect delivery performance, and optimize every move.

Top 3 What-If Scenarios Planners Can Simulate

Scenario	What You Can Model
New Rush Job with Tight Delivery Date	Use What-If scenarios to **simulate** the **impact** on current orders, KPIs, and capacity **before committing**.
Machine or Line Downtime	**Evaluate** ripple effects of a critical resource going offline and **determine** optimal rescheduling paths.
Multi-Plant Load Balancing	**Simulate distributing production across multiple facilities and compare KPIs like OEE, late jobs, or cost.**

Why scenario simulation matters?

Better Decisions with Fewer Surprises

✅ Measure the impact of changes on OTD, setup hours, and utilization before committing.
✅ Make fast, informed adjustments as conditions evolve.
✅ Provide planners, sales, and operations with a shared view of production risks and options.
Tip: Combine What-If simulations with Impact Analysis to quickly validate best paths forward.

From reactive to ready

Use the next checklist to assess where your team stands, and how much control you're really operating with.

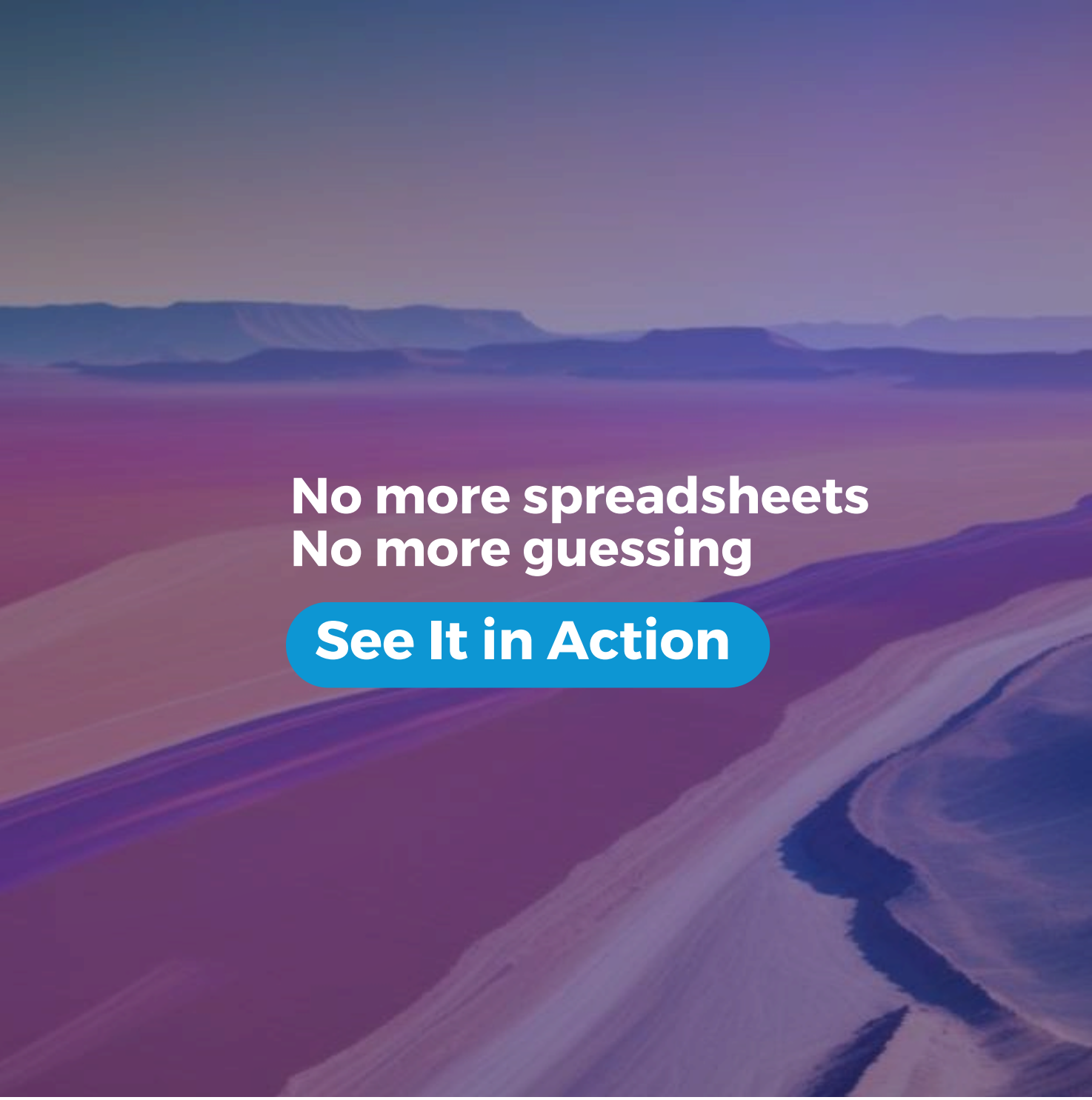
APS Readiness Score

CHECKLIST

- [ ] **Planning takes longer than 1 hour a day**
- [ ] **Production plan changes often throw everything off**
- [ ] **You rely heavily on Excel or offline toolsack**
- [ ] **Different departments use different schedules**
- [ ] **Rescheduling often causes more disruption than improvement**
- [ ] **You're unable to simulate "what-if" changes instantly**

If you checked 3 or more, it's time to command your floor.

You're not alone. Most manufacturers feel overwhelmed by the complexity of modern production especially when planning tools can't keep up.



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