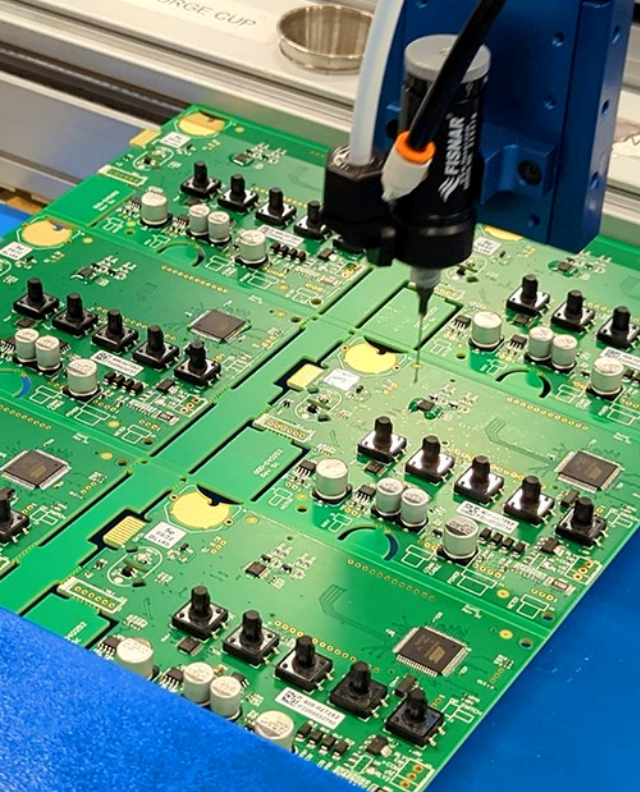


# The Power of Automation and Value Stream Mapping





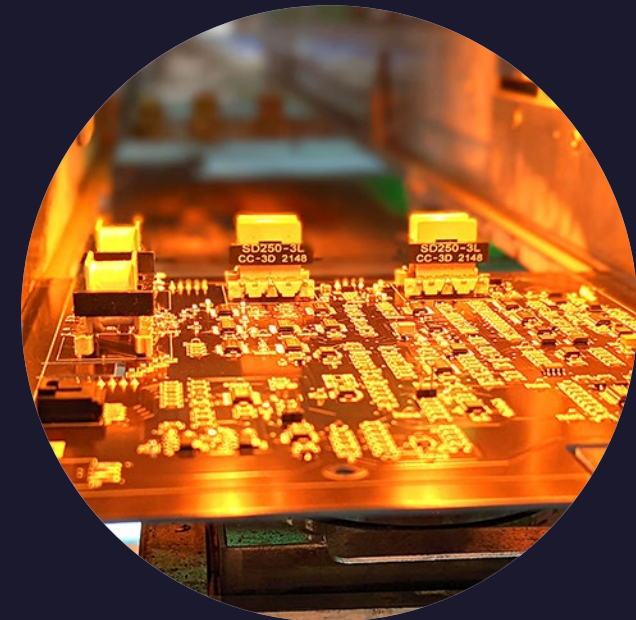
# Introduction

- Paul Schwanbeck, Vice President
- Pro-Active Engineering LLC
  - Custom Electronics Design and Manufacturing
  - Emphasis on Quality and service
- Pro-Active Evolution – How has Automation Evolved over the years
- Video



# Agenda

- Process Improvement & Lean Manufacturing
- Automation
- Value Stream Mapping (VSM)



# Process Improvement & Lean Manufacturing Thinking

# Value-Added Activities

1. Customer Impact
2. Transformation
3. Revenue Generation

Examples of value-added activities include assembling components, customizing a product to meet a customer's specifications, and performing quality checks that prevent defects from reaching the customer.

# Non-Value Added Activities

1. Customer Indifference
2. Time and Resource Drain
3. Elimination Potential

Examples of non-value-added activities, or types of waste, include excessive waiting, overproduction, unnecessary transportation, unnecessary inventory, defects, and excessive motion (e.g., excessive walking or searching for tools).

# Process Improvement & Lean Framework Goal

- Identify and eliminate as much non-value-added activity as possible to streamline processes, reduce costs, improve quality, and increase efficiency.
- Optimize value-to-waste ratio leading to a more customer-focused, competitive, and sustainable operation.



# Automation

Advancement in robotics, AI, and machine learning are enabling machines to match or outperform humans in a range of work activities

## **3 fundamental perspectives when considering automation:**

- What automation is *making possible* with current technology and *likely to make possible* as the technology continues to evolve
- What *factors besides technical feasibility* to consider when making decisions about automation
- Where—and how much—to automate in order to best *capture value from automation over the long term*.

## **Other factors to consider:**

The benefits beyond labor substitution and the cost of developing and deploying both the hardware and the software for automation

# Automation

**Evaluate maturity of operations to determine the best approach to capture full long-term value impact.**

- Biggest "bang for the buck"
- Largest reduction in lead time or inventory
- Biggest impact to the customer
- Highest probability for success
- Most visible to stakeholders
- New product or service line
- Volume or quantity

# Automation

## 4 Stages of Automation Maturity

### *Low maturity*

There is limited infrastructure for employing automation

### *Mid-maturity*

There is significant automation infrastructure in place, but it uses only a fraction of the potential

### *High maturity*

There is full utilization of traditional automation infrastructure on the manufacturing floor, but not employment of cutting-edge automation technology and realization of potential of automating managerial, support-function, and back-office tasks.

### *Best-in-class*

Full potential of automation is captured with latest technology across all spectrums of the operation.

# Value Stream Mapping

Optimize the flow of materials, information, and activities required to deliver a product or service to a customer

Provides a detailed representation of a current or future state of a process, allowing organizations to identify and eliminate waste, reduce lead times, improve efficiency, and enhance overall performance

## **Key components:**

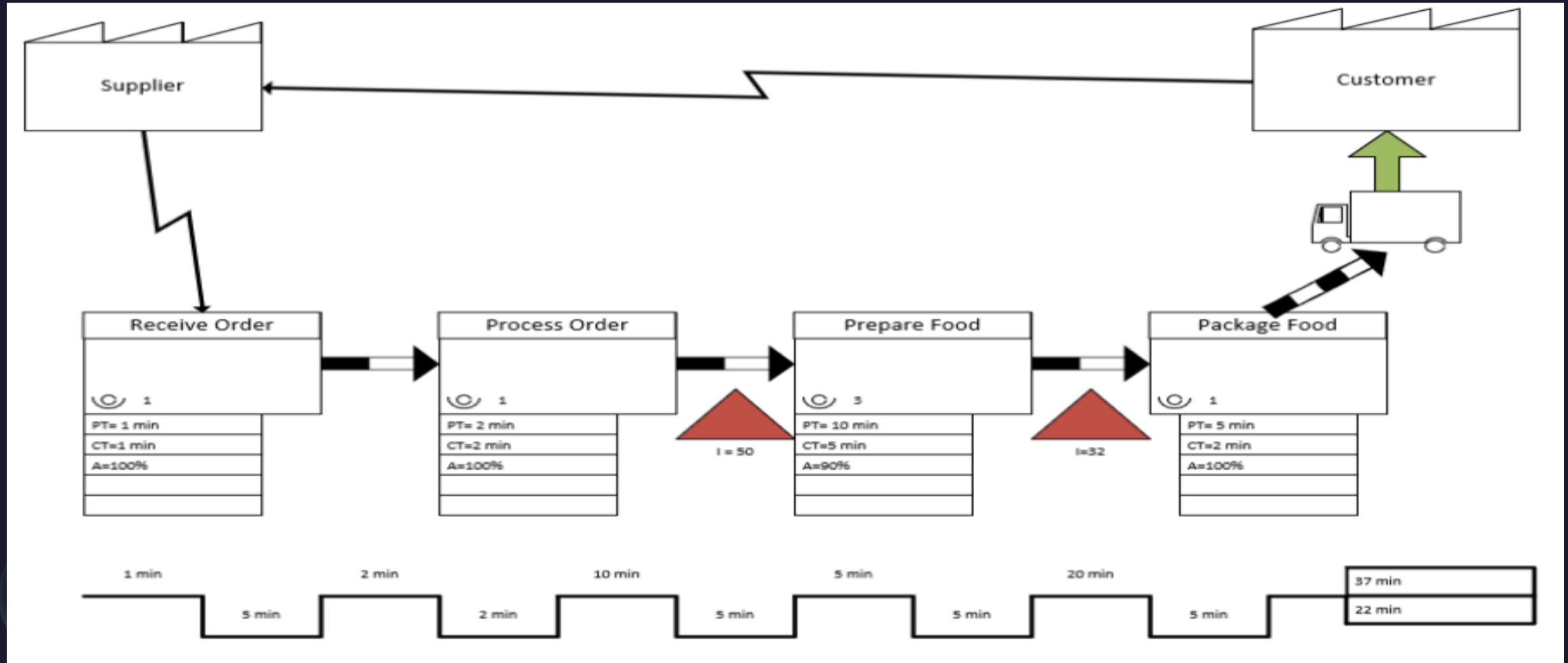
- Identifying Value Added & Non-Value Added Activities
- Process Mapping
- Current State vs Future State
- Data Collection
- Value Stream Analysis
- Improvement Planning
- Visual Management
- Customer Focus

# VSM Flow

- VSM provides clarity for us by charting the flow of work through the different steps involved in the development/delivery of a product or service.
- Flow is ‘good’ when work moves steadily and predictably in relation to customer demand and supplier capacity.
- Flow is ‘bad’ when work starts and stops erratically and frequently.
- By visualizing flow, VSM helps organizations move from bad to good through improvements in productivity and reduction in waste—leading to value creation for both you, as the supplier, and your customers.

# VSM Example

PT = Process time CT=Cycle time and A= availability or uptime  
stores=Triangles



# Value Stream Mapping & Automation

## How they work together:

- Identifying Inefficiencies
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Process Standardization
- Reducing Lead Times
- Enhancing Visibility
- Streamlining Handoffs
- Continuous Improvement
- Resource Allocation
- Employee Empowerment
- Risk Mitigation

# Summary

- Both Automation and Value Stream Mapping enhance operational efficiency and drive continuous process improvements.
- VSM provides insight and strategy for optimizing processes, while automation offers the means to execute efficiency
- Combining both can achieve higher levels of operational excellence, reduce costs, improve product and service quality, and stay competitive





# Thank You

Paul Schwanbeck

[paul.schwanbeck@proactivepcb.com](mailto:paul.schwanbeck@proactivepcb.com)

[www.proactivepcb.com](http://www.proactivepcb.com)

