## **EPSON**



## Why Automate?

Manufacturing Considerations in Today's "New Normal"

Scott Marsic
Group Product Manager, Epson Robots

### **Prior Automation Webinar Series**

#### **AUTOMATION 101**

#### The Starting Point for Automation

- What is driving decision to automate?
- Define & document your current process
- Identify your requirements
- Identify needed automation components
- Who will do the work?

#### **AUTOMATION 201**

#### Clarifying Your Requirements

- Speed
- **Precision**



## Today's Webinar

#### WHY AUTOMATE?

#### Manufacturing Considerations in Today's "New Normal"

- Accelerating of today's manufacturing paradigm
- The evolution of "WHY" and "HOW" to automate
- 3 Top considerations for project success
- 4 Takeaways for your business



## Today's Accelerating Manufacturing Paradigm

#### A Return to Automation Growth

#### **North America Industrial Robotic Sales**

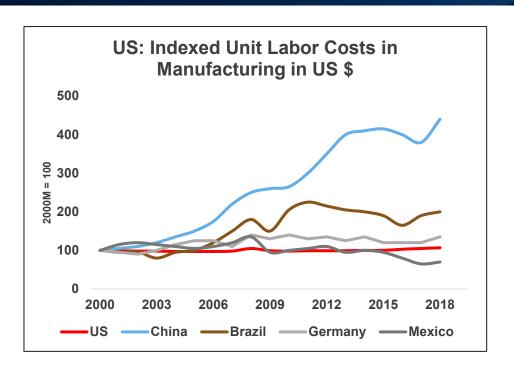
SCARA & Small 6-Axis (sub 20 Kg)



Source: Fuji Keizai 2023



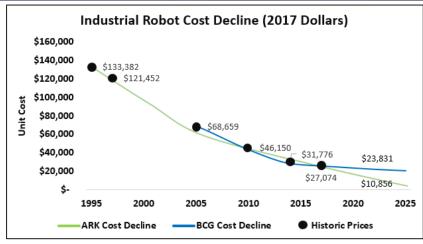
## Driven by Increased Labor Costs + Decreased Automation Costs

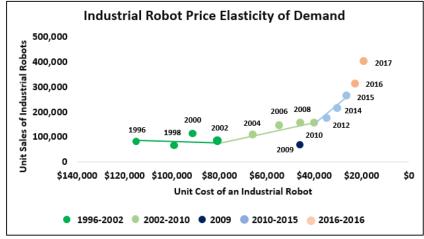


#### Sources:

Reshorenow.org / Oxford Economics / Haver Analytics ARK Investment Management / UN Economic Commission for Europe







# A New Generation of Automation Companies & Professionals



## New Users Are Leading a Drive Toward "Simplicity"







Simple Applications



Ease-of-Use + Speed

## **New Companies Are Automating**







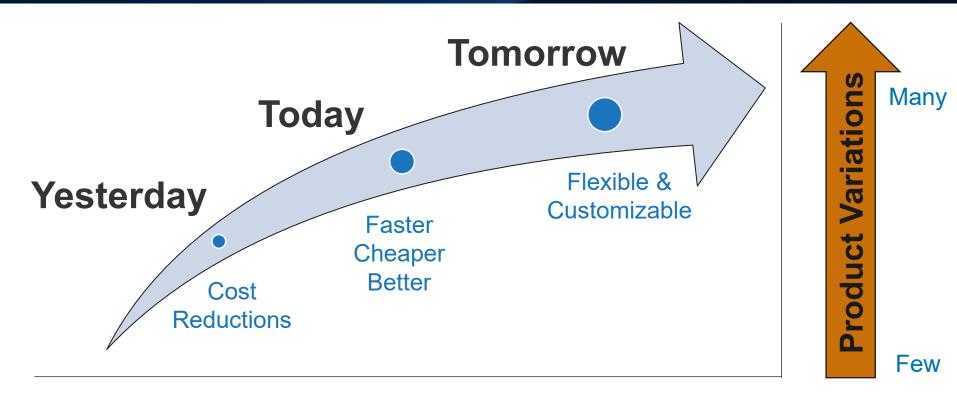


Ease-of-Use

**Affordability** 

Small & Medium Companies Now Participating

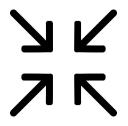
## Product Variations Are Driving a Need for "Flexibility"



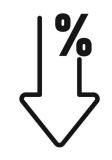
**Manufacturing Requirements** 

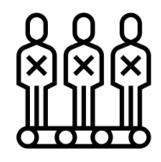


## Competitiveness Is Being Put To The Test









Smaller Tasks
Higher Precision
Higher Speed

Build More For Less

Razor Thin Margins

Global Labor Challenges







# The Evolution of "WHY" and "HOW" to Automate

## The WHY of Automation

#### **YESTERDAY** - Core Reasons For Automation



Cost





**Technology** 



**Quality** 

#### **TODAY - Additional Reasons for Automation**



**Availability** 



**Supply Chain** 



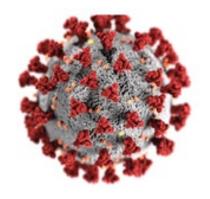
Time-to-Market



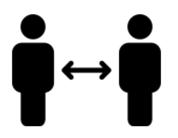
**Flexibility** 



## **COVID: Exasperating Prior Trends**



COVID-19



Space Considerations



**Supply Chain Constraints** 



Re-shoring / Near-shoring

## The HOW of Automation

## **Experienced User**



#### **New User**



- Reduce cost further?
- Improve throughput?
- New technologies
- Reduced product size?

- Can / should I automate?
- What will this cost?
- How do I build this?
- Where do I get training?

"How do I get to the next level?"

"Where do I begin?"

### The **HOW** of Automation

More companies today are re-thinking HOW to automate

Unfortunately, it's more than just re-shoring a process back to the USA



Who Will Do The Work?



What To Automate?



Quality Considerations?



Safety Considerations?

## **Evolving Offshoring Considerations**

#### YESTERDAY Drivers

## **TODAY**Considerations



**Ability to find workers** 



**Labor costs** 



**Material sourcing & costs** 



**Overseas labor costs** 



**National security** 



**Supply chain disruptions** 



**Patent security** 



**Delivery delays** 



**Time-to-market** 



**Tariffs** 



**Flexibility** 



## **Reshoring Trends & Impacts**

+1,000%

Earning & corporate presentation references to on/re/near shoring (vs pre-pandemic levels)

90%

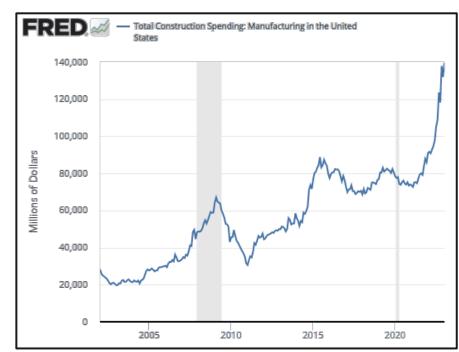
Companies in process / have plans to move out of China

80%

Companies considering bringing some manufacturing back to US (or MX)

+53%

YoY increase in US construction spending (manufacturing) (vs. +6% YoY for all US construction spending)



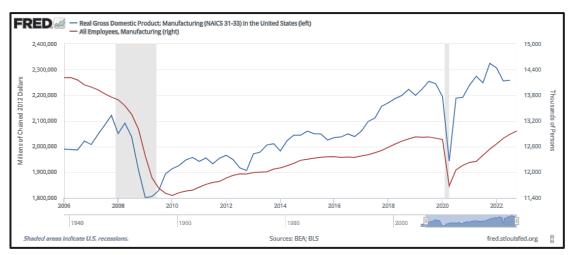


Sources:

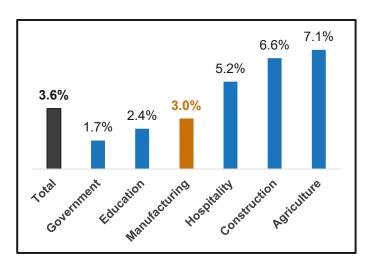
### **Reshoring Trends & Impacts**

#### **U.S. Manufacturing Trends**

GDP All employees (manufacturing industry)



### **U.S. Unemployment** February 2023



- US manufacturing activity is at generational highs
- Unfortunately, our manufacturing labor gap continues to increase; forecast to exceed 2M+ jobs by 2030
- Unemployment continues to be historically low, particularly in manufacturing







## Top Considerations for Automation Success

## What is Driving You to Automate?



A top reason for not automating is an inability to gain internal support and funding

- Align on your priorities
- Do the legwork up-front to justify your project
- Decisions downstream will depend on this

Build consensus on a focused project objective

### Take a 360° View of Risk

If it isn't broken, don't fix it. True?

If so, you might be falling behind your competitors

- Evaluate short and long-term risks & benefits
- What is the cost of change in 3 yrs? 5 yrs?
- What are you risking by not automating?



Be positioned for future growth & to stay ahead of the game

## Automate the "Right Way"



## Going "thin" on manufacturing resources can slow down your operation

- Automation is a big investment
- Don't skimp on things that matter
- Make sure you are "future proof"

#### Don't be short-sighted on how you automate

## Be Cognizant of Product Changes

## Today's products will likely not be the products you build in 5 years

- Do you know what those products will be?
- Most do not.



## Don't Make Things Too Complicated



It's easy to lose track of your initial reason for automating

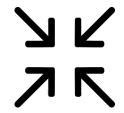
- Keep your development simple
- Easy to add more technology & features
- Be clear on tradeoffs and limits
- Listen to experienced automation professionals

#### Stay focused on your defined project goals



## Takeaways For Your Business

## Stay Competitive: Automation is the Great Equalizer



Smaller Parts
Higher Precision
Greater Production



High Mix / Low Volume



Razor Thin Margins



**New Normal Impacts** 

- Social Distancing
- Supply Chain
- Re-Shoring
- Labor Challenges



## **Evaluate Today's WHY and HOW**

#### **WHY AUTOMATE?**



#### **HOW TO AUTOMATE?**







**Yesterday** 











Yesterday













**Today** 



## Considerations For Your Next Project

- Align on your reasons for automating
- Take a 360° view of "risk"
- Make sure to invest in the right places
- Be cognizant of future changes in your product
- 5 Start <u>simple</u> to improve your potential for success

## Simple Ink Packaging Example



Product Placement



Labeling



**Packaging** 



**Simple Applications Are Everywhere!** 

## **EPSON**



**ROAD TO THE LPGA** 



## Thank you!

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