

SOLUTION OVERVIEW



Discrete

Accelerating Customizable MES Solutions

In late 2019, Flexware Innovation collaborated with a Swedish-based worldwide leader in automotive technology to solve major pain points from an outdated Manufacturing Execution System (MES) within one of its subsidiaries, who delivers brake assembly solutions via 9 manufacturing sites. With Spark MES, a scalable and fully customizable MES solution developed by Flexware and powered by Ignition, this customer greatly improved overall equipment effectiveness (OEE).

The Challenge | Limited by Current MES

The brake assembly subsidiary was not reaching its full manufacturing potential due to constraints of an outdated MES with limited features and scalability. Their existing MES came with expensive yearly services fees with no power to customize or internally add lines or pieces of equipment. Additionally, the user interface (UI) design was cumbersome and complicated. Altogether, negatively effecting visibility into key metrics and OEE.

The Solution | Spark MES

Flexware's custom-developed Spark MES, built in Inductive Automation's Ignition platform, with its scalable and modular functionality, was the cure-all solution for the subsidiary. From a modern look and feel, designed with the end user in mind, to rapid application development, Spark MES was the exact next-level MES solution needed to improve OEE and answer each of the customer's pain points. Spark's ability to match their processes and feature requirements, while improving user interface, all within budget, made it the perfect custom integration solution and set it above all other solutions reviewed.

The Outcome | Scalable, Modular with Configuration Ease

Within a six-month timeframe, Flexware was able to kick-off the project, perform a proof of concept, and completely implement the Spark MES solution for two of the nine plants, with a third implementation started, and more deployments planned in the coming years.

Project Outcomes:

- **Modern MES:** Robust platform with rapid application development, modernized UI
- **Configurable:** Power to customize internally, including adding lines or equipment
- **Scalable:** Greater agility for change, no longer tied to a developer
- **Reduced Annual Budget:** Cost savings through solution ownership and reduced annual maintenance fees

