

E-book

MANUFACTURING TRENDS 2026

How the power of Sage X3 ERP is helping
manufacturers meet today's challenges

Sage



Summary

You've probably read our summary of what all the pundits are predicting to be manufacturing's key trends in 2026.

It comes down to eight main points of consensus between the key global commentators—ranging across digitalisation, AI, additive manufacturing, supply chains and sustainability, pricing and people.

On the next page, we've put together a useful, interactive PDF where you can browse the ways in which Sage X3 ERP helps manufacturers meet the key trends and challenges of 2026 and beyond.

Just hover over each section and you'll get a brief description. Hover over each country for a real-life quote!

If you want to explore your own ERP transformation, get in touch today on



Interactive e-book

Simply hover over the icons inside to learn more

Manufacturing Trends 2026-30

1. Digital Enterprise Transformation

Digitising the manufacturing environment—production, supply chain, finance, sales—to provide high quality data flows for better, more agile, company management.

2. AI as Core Growth Driver

Automating what can be automated. Then using the power of machine learning to automatically optimise workstreams and processes.

3. Digital Twins & Smart Factories

Developing products, workflows, production systems in the virtual world, speeding up innovation and efficiencies without interrupting core processes.

Manufacturing Trends 2026-30

4. Sustainability and Decarbonisation

Pursuing sustainability goals, whether or not mandated locally, to improve international competitiveness. Align these activities to cost-savings wherever possible.

5. Supply Chain Agility

Managing change, volatility, pressure and restructuring requirements across suppliers, sources, geographies and more.

6. Pricing, Risk Management and Scenario Planning

Margin optimisation while managing customer, credit, geopolitical and regulatory risks. Incentivising channels and customers where the growth potential is strongest. Forecasting and planning with scenarios.

Manufacturing Trends 2026-30

7. Additive Manufacturing Expansion

Scale up use of Additive Manufacturing (AM) from prototyping to full-production to introduce supply chain resilience, localisation and cost-efficiency - low volume/high customisation.

8. Workforce Enablement Redesign

Enabling the workforce to upskill into the new digitised world. Using AI to manage workflows, targets and permissions – in production, sales and customer service. Augmenting the human output.





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