



# MetaphorixMetaMan

## The powerful Dynamics NAV solution for Manufacturers

MetaMan, designed specifically for the UK SME market, is built around the power of Microsoft's Dynamics NAV package. It has the strategy, planning and deployment functionality that manufacturers need to help streamline their operations and to respond quickly to changing market conditions.

MetaMan provides a quick, responsive and adaptable way to plan manufacturing, assess capacity available, offer projections of delivery date, put plans into action, track, progress, cost and analyse performance of all aspects of the manufacturing process.

### Introducing MetaMan

Manufacturing is extremely process-centric. A variety of pre-established steps go into the creation of each product, while other sets of defined processes support materials procurement, scheduling, and shipping arrangements.

To succeed in today's challenging market, manufacturers need to optimise the whole process to get maximum efficiency.

This means that you need a system that controls every aspect of the cycle, shortening manufacturing times and eliminating excess cost.

MetaMan offers a modern, easy to use, cost-effective solution that delivers a real return on investment to a range of different types of manufacturing organisation.

- Discrete or batch process
- Make to stock or make to order
- Contract or project-based manufacturing

MetaMan provides a robust set of tools to manage and analyse every aspect of your business.

### Discrete

Discrete manufacturing is characterised by unit production. Units can be produced in low volume with very high complexity or high volumes of low complexity.

Low volume, high complexity production needs an extremely flexible manufacturing system that improves quality and time-to-market speed, while cutting costs.

High volume, low complexity production puts the emphasis on inventory control, lead times and reducing or limiting materials costs and waste.

MetaMan offers the tools to deliver both these environments to suit your particular style of manufacturing.

### Batch Process

Process manufacturing involves the automation of the product lifecycle for recipe-based manufacturers.

From new product development, recipe management and production, to cost, quality, and regulatory management – MetaMan handles it all.

It enables you to formulate products to individual customer specifications, manage variability, optimise capacity and drive continuous process improvement.

### Make to Stock

Control over inventory management is key when making to stock. Managing material availability and stock levels is all important.

Inventory Optimisation, Master Production Scheduling (MPS) and Material Requirements Planning (MRP) in MetaMan work together to provide accurate planning and control of materials and products.

### Make to Order

Powerful quotation facilities are important to companies that produce items to order.

Using the bill-of-materials and routings in the system, you can quickly build a new product or variation on an old one.

Users can easily derive the costs and timescales involved for the new variant, allowing you to quickly arrive at a firm price to quote to the customer and then to offer them an accurate delivery date.

If you need to configure to order, the tools in MetaMan allow you to build a sales order and convert it to works order to seamlessly link the sale with the production of the item.

### Contract/Project Manufacturing

JOBS is the module in MetaMan that allows you to control this type of process.

It provides a powerful system for defining a contract or project structure, recording time and expenses, creating action lists and matching progress to payments.

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## Totally Flexible

The parameter-driven software base provided by Microsoft's Dynamics NAV means that MetaMan can be configured to match the processes of a wide range of industry sectors.

In addition, we have added functionality specifically designed to meet the needs of our target vertical markets. MetaMan is configured for the following industry sectors.

- Engineering
- Consumer goods
- IT & hi-tech equipment

With workflow, MetaMan can adapt to your business, allowing you to operate in the way your users do now – making the solution easy to accept and quick to install, delivering a rapid return on your investment.

In addition, the solution's integration with MS Office means that the user interface looks and works like a familiar desktop. This also helps to speed up the implementation, reducing the time and cost involved.

Finally, with the powerful web services enablement, the system can be opened up to customers, suppliers and users in the field through a simple set of interfaces.

## Key Functionality

MetaMan offers a range of granules that can be combined to suit your own specific manufacturing environment.

### Production Management

Production Management provides interactive entry and maintenance of production routes and works order details, with associated input of production data at each defined work centre operation.

Extensive and easy-to-use enquiry and reporting facilities are provided to view the progress of any job.

Quality control data and batch traceability are incorporated at every stage from the raw material to the finished product.

Works orders can be automatically generated from sales order information or manually planned from base route data. Amendments can be easily performed for any job.

### Bills of Material (BOM)

Production routes can contain operations with associated labour rates, materials, special items (e.g. tooling and outwork) and comments or instructions. Recipes can be built using percentages for the allocation of ingredients to the mix.

Users can create routes for products with any number of alternative routes, where required. Copying of existing routes makes creation of new routes for similar products easy.

Standard instruction comments can be held and updated centrally on routes. A global raw material substitution makes for easier maintenance when materials change.

### Graphical Scheduling

With the graphical scheduler, users can access an overview of production schedules displayed in Gantt charts and use drag-and-drop functionality to reschedule operations.

All changes made are verified, then reflected in the relevant production order.

### Advanced Finite Scheduling

The advanced Finite Scheduling System (FCS) is a more comprehensive, totally graphical planning tool that helps you to efficiently plan the production activities and distribute the workload among the available resources.

The granule's flexible drag-and-drop functionality has been designed to enable manual changes to the plan using easy graphical tools whilst maintaining the consistency of the plan.

Taking a machine as an example of a resource centre, the order of sequence of that machine centre can be changed.

In addition, an operation from it can be moved to another one, if it is a valid alternative.

Using colour coded graphics, the user can see the alternative machines to which an operation can be transferred.

Where the move is not possible, an exception message is displayed.

This makes planning production a dynamic and flexible on-screen process that supports the planner at every stage.

### Order Promising

This helps users to promise order delivery dates more accurately with the built-in available-to-promise (ATP) and capable-to-promise (CTP) processing.

### Exceptions Handling

Action messaging, tracking and multiple planning options enable you to quickly make exceptions and last-minute changes to meet customer needs.

### Supply Planning

Users can plan from the sales order, production order or from a purchase requisition.

This is available in addition to the traditional master production schedule (MPS) or material requirements planning (MRP) methods.

The system lets you drive materials flow through the supply chain with MetaMan's multi-location planning capabilities.

Users are able to update and change all materials, costs and operations simultaneously.

### Demand Forecasting

Using MetaMan, you can increase collaborative planning.

Users analyse sales patterns from multiple perspectives by comparing forecasted demand with actual sales, then consolidate these into a single plan for review by everyone involved in the planning process.

### Manual Planning

An alternative to printed production schedules for smaller businesses, the Manual Planning tool eliminates the complexity of a full MRP system.

It offers a simple supply planning tool that enables your production manager to make planning decisions on an order-by-order basis.



## **Guthrie Douglas**

*Guthrie Douglas is a manufacturer and distributor of motors for industrial doors and shutters. They developed the world's first single roller Tensioned Shading System (Tess), which is an automated shade for operating fabric sun screens on large glazed areas, popular on commercial buildings.*

## **Wrap Film Systems**

*Wrap Film Systems is Europe's leading cling film and foil converter for the catering and hospitality industry. With 30 years' experience, they have created an exciting range of new products for dispensing film and foil in their award-winning Wrapmaster refillable and Benedetti disposable dispensers.*

## **Charlton and Jenrick**

*Specialising in the design and manufacture of quality fires and fireplaces, Charlton & Jenrick's products are carefully crafted to deliver high quality at competitive prices. The complete fireplace solution for any home, their fires and fireplaces offer exceptional performance and stunning design to complement your lifestyle.*

## **GUHRING**

*Guhring manufactures and supplies high quality, advanced design cutting tools for all kinds of manufacturing businesses. With over 30,000 standard products, including drills, taps, end mills and tool holders, Guhring is recognised worldwide for excellent quality, precision manufacturing and outstanding tool performance.*



*Harold Moore manufactures manual handling solutions for food hygiene, janitorial, equestrian, building and safety industries for their own brand and for other major suppliers. Based in Sheffield, their top quality, British-made products are in demand throughout the world.*

## **WILO**

*Worldwide, the name Wilo is synonymous with the tradition of first class German engineering. Their pumps and systems for heating, air-conditioning, cooling, water supply and sewage disposal are used in commercial buildings, municipal facilities, industry as well as in private homes.*

## **Inventory Optimisation**

The Inventory Optimiser increases profits by eliminating unnecessary costs from the supply chain.

The Optimiser is specially designed for businesses in the retail, wholesale, distribution and manufacturing sectors.

It uses data from Dynamics NAV and automatically selects the best fitting forecasting method to estimate future demand.

The main functions offered include the following.

- Order proposals that minimise inventory costs are generated and uploaded back into Dynamics NAV.
- Users get a graphical view of historical sales, inventory levels and shortages.
- The system generates user-defined exception reports listing items that need special attention.

## **Capacity Planning**

Accurate production planning is key for successful manufacturing companies.

Customer delivery requirements and timescales are becoming ever tighter.

Companies must meet customer demands and, at the same time, ensure a high quality service is provided by offering accurate delivery time estimates.

The MetaMan Capacity Planning module enables accurate scheduling of work with the ability to provide estimates of production times throughout the year.

Capacity Planning highlights late jobs and any associated "bottlenecks" in the process.

## **Warehousing & Inventory**

The system tightly integrates the warehouse and manufacturing functions to help you optimise warehouse layout and space utilisation and also to help maintain up-to-date inventory information.

## **MRP**

Material Requirements Planning (MRP) is an essential element of every manufacturing process where an important factor in the planning of production is accurately projecting, then acquiring the materials required to meet the production plan.

The MetaMan MRP module can produce a time-phased purchasing or manufacturing schedule for every raw material, sub-assembly or finished good.

## **Manufacturing Costing**

Understand item costs throughout the production process – including inventory, WIP and the cost of goods sold (COGS) – to help manage sales and purchase efficiently with customers and suppliers.

The Production Costing module provides reporting of actual costs associated with either completed jobs or work in progress. It also enables the set-up and display of estimates for the cost of new production items, as well as alternative routes and latest cost estimates for existing or historic production items.

## **Automated Data Collection**

The Automated Data Collection System (ADCS) offers the ability to speed up the throughput of transactions and to get faster feedback from events happening in the business.

This, our shopfloor barcoding solution, offers rapid feedback of information to the business.

It allows you to collect and use accurate inventory data, real time, increasing the visibility of accurate inventory data throughout your business to improve shop floor and warehouse efficiency.

## **Integration**

Manufacturing fully integrates with Sales Order Processing and Stock Control to allow users to plan production in line with required delivery dates or to provide dates for sales personnel to use in customer situations.

## **Traceability**

Full traceability of material usage from purchase orders through intermediate products to finished batches and sales orders is standard.

A single batch of raw material may be associated with a range of works orders and multiple batches of material with a single works order.

## **Subcontract Processing**

Where goods are sent out for third party processing by a sub-contractor – for sorting, packing, treatment or outwork – our subcontract processing records all the details of outgoing items, receives incoming items and amends the costs so that the true cost of the reworked goods is reflected in inventory.

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## Workflow

agilesWorkflow manages, simplifies and automates routine processes and tasks throughout your business.

It keeps track of the status of tasks to be completed on a daily basis. It ensures the auctioning of all important tasks, exactly when they need doing, and even automates the completion of tasks, where possible.

When a certain scenario occurs in your business, agilesWorkflow can automatically create a workflow with all the required 'to-dos' for that particular scenario.

Each individual to-do is forwarded to the appropriate employee or team of employees, along with the detail of what needs to be completed and when.

The solution improves the efficiency, quality and transparency of all your processes - and all within your Dynamics NAV solution.

## Benefits

### Boost operational efficiency

With MetaMan, you can respond quickly to last-minute requests for changes and take advantage of new business opportunities to help your business stay ahead of the competition.

### Simplify your processes

Streamline your processes by offering users rapid visibility of work-in-progress (WIP), support for order-by-order workflow and the ability to implement additional functionality as business needs become more complex.

### Improve business performance

Streamline your operations by automating manufacturing processes and gain greater visibility into all aspects of your operations from order entry to production, from warehouse management to delivery.

### Information you can count on

With MetaMan, you can provide customers, suppliers and your own staff with more accurate information that allows them to make better decisions for the benefit of your organisation.

- Offer better customer service by providing highly accurate promises on delivery.
- Let suppliers see key information they need to help meet your deadlines.
- Give your users confidence in the system by delivering accurate information that is available instantly, anywhere they may be working and in any format needed.



*Macron Safety designs and manufactures fire suppression products for customers around the world. Macron delivers high quality, effective fire protection solutions that protect people, places and processes. Macron Safety is part of the Tyco Fire Suppression & Building Products Group.*



*Millers Oils manufactures high-quality lubricants, fuel treatments and other high performance formulations for use in automotive, commercial vehicle and industrial applications. Respected world-wide for product innovation and award winning formulations, they were the first to develop commercial engine oils capable of long drain intervals.*



*The Rimstock Group is a worldwide organisation supplying high-quality ultra-lightweight, cast heat-treated and forged aluminium wheels. Its manufacturing facilities operate from four purpose-built production installations, all located in the industrial West Midlands area of the UK.*



*Tecan uses Photo Chemical Machining (PCM) and Photo Electro Forming (PEF) to produce customised precision parts as part of a highly accurate, burr and stress-free production process. Their factory in Dorset is now Europe's largest plant entirely devoted to PCM and PEF manufacturing.*



*Whiston Industries is the UK's top press tool manufacturer, supplying the worldwide automotive, aerospace, medical, energy and marine industries. The company's utilisation of advanced technology has helped it grow its presence in the world's automotive tooling marketplace.*

## METAPHORIX – CHANGING THE WAY YOU DO BUSINESS

Metaphorix helps small and medium-sized companies change the way they do business with their customers and with their suppliers.

Using the Dynamics NAV suite of ERP and CRM software from Microsoft, together with our high quality professional services, we evolve your business processes to deliver a faster, more accurate, more productive and more efficient business model to the benefit of everyone that interacts with it.

Metaphorix is one of the premier partners for Microsoft Dynamics in the UK and a consistent top performer in terms of new customer installs and customer service.

Today, the company has a strong customer portfolio in our chosen vertical markets across the SME and Corporate sectors. As a Microsoft Partner, we provide extensive Microsoft product support to our growing customer base.

Our unique approach to delivering projects, offering fixed price contracts, means that our customers know exactly what they are getting for their money. That's why we are the partner of choice for over 100 companies, from construction and manufacturing to retail and distribution.

For more information about our products and services, please call: **01675 432400**, email us at: [sales@metaphorix.co.uk](mailto:sales@metaphorix.co.uk) or visit our website: [www.metaphorix.co.uk](http://www.metaphorix.co.uk)

# Metaphorix

  
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