

Automating Food and Beverage Production in 2024: What, Why and How?

aptean Ready for What's Next, Now™

60% of North America food and beverage processors, manufacturers and distributors are using technology to automate more tasks, and 34% plan to increase automation in 2024.

But what do their plans look like?

Using exclusive research data, Aptean can break down the “what,” “why” and “how” of digital transformation in the food and beverage industry, to shape your automation strategy for the next 12 months.



What Will Food Companies Automate in 2024?

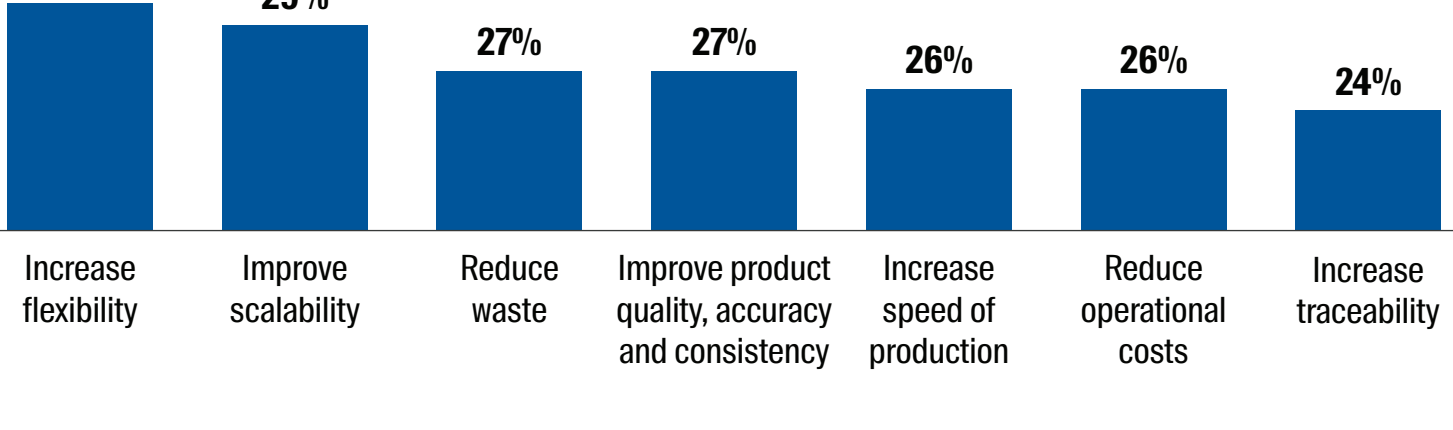
56% of companies plan to invest in technology to overcome supply chain disruption **»» 36%** have identified supply chain visibility as a priority goal

54% want to align production schedules with available inventory **»» 46%** want to get better at maintaining inventory levels

48% want to increase traceability **»» 56%** of companies still partly or completely rely on manual processes to trace products

What's Driving Food and Beverage Organizations to Automate?

Aptean's survey of North America food processors, manufacturers and distributors found that **increasing flexibility was the No. 1 driver for automation**, followed by improving scalability and reducing waste.



Our research also found that automation can:

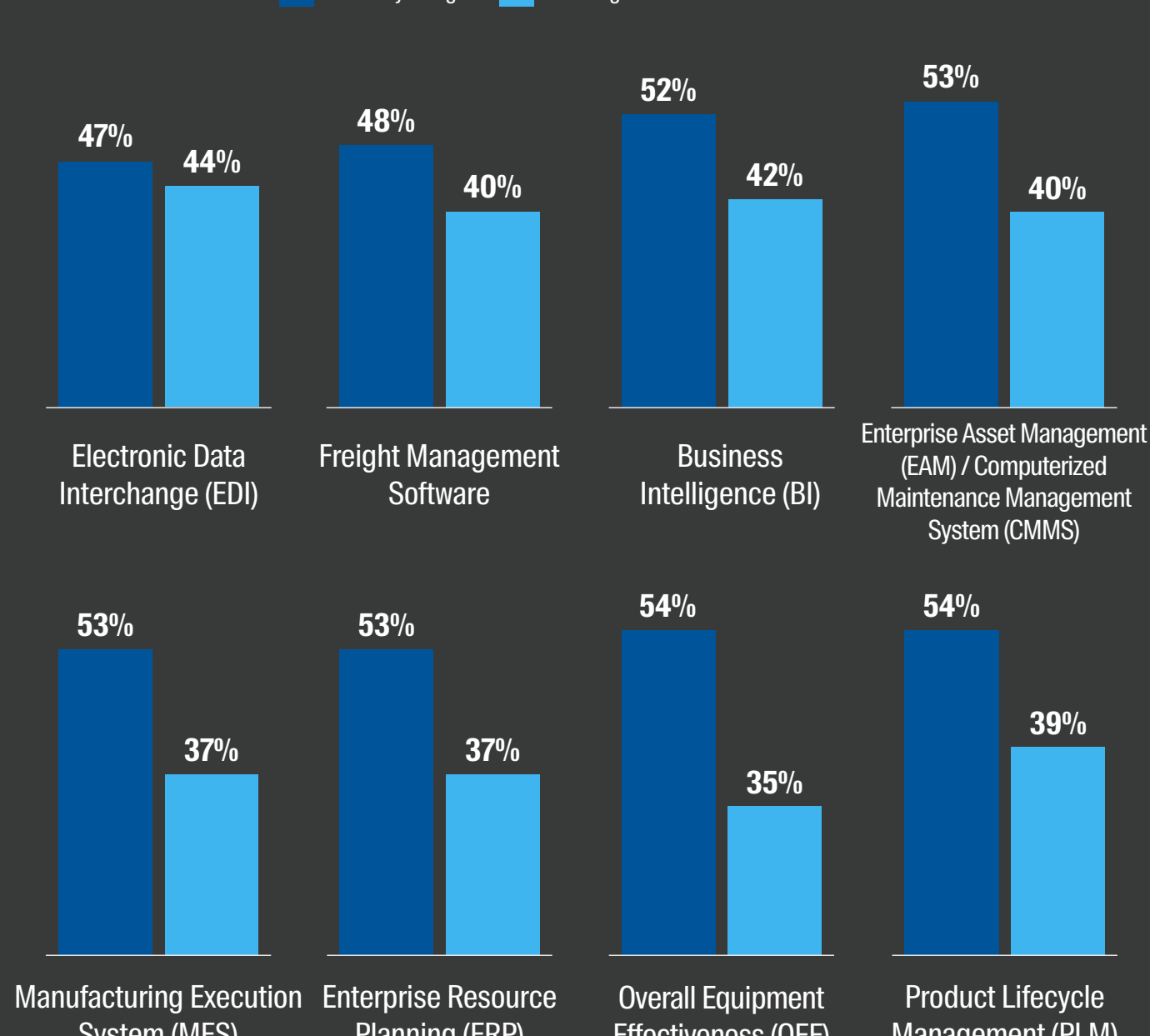
Increase efficiency by up to **40%**

Lower operational costs by up to **12%**

How Will Food Companies Automate Core Processes?

EAM, freight management software and shipping software are among top technologies that food and beverage companies plan to invest in over the next 12 to 24 months to automate more of their operational processes.

They're also keen to make better use of data through investment in EDI and BI software.



What's Your Automation Toolkit for 2024?

With one in four companies citing difficulty finding the right technology as their biggest barrier to growth, vendor selection will be critical to your 2024 automation plans.

Look for technology partners that:

- »» Have a proven track record in the food and beverage sector
- »» Offer industry-specific features within their software
- »» Can identify how their solution can specifically add value to your business
- »» Support your organization through implementation and training
- »» Can replace your current infrastructure with a single-vendor solution
- »» Have built-in analytics and reporting capabilities to prove the value of your investment
- »» Update solutions continually so you're benefitting from the latest features



Useful Resources on Automation in the Food Industry

If you've got 3 minutes... Read our blog post on [starting your digital transformation](#).

If you've got 8 minutes... Download our eBook to [learn how other food and beverage companies are enabling automations and driving efficiency](#).

If you've got 15 minutes... [Schedule a free consultation](#) with an Aptean technology expert.