

How Apparel Companies Reduce Workforce Costs through Efficient Automation

Apparel Manufacturers Are Concerned About Workforce Issues

42% »

of North American apparel manufacturers identified staffing and labor shortages as a major challenge last year.ⁱ

97% »

of fashion and apparel executives think their cost of goods sold and administrative expenses will increase this year.ⁱⁱ

Amid these economic headwinds, many leading brands have announced workforce reductions.ⁱⁱⁱ

Thriving in the current environment means finding ways to exceed customer expectations and meet production schedules without expanding the workforce.

Deep Dive: Are You Getting the Best from Your Workforce? »

Boost Efficiency to Reduce Staffing Pressures

Automation can help apparel companies gain efficiencies, so they can reallocate their employees to higher value roles and tasks.

53% of apparel companies are pursuing technology to automate more tasks.^{iv}

Digitally-enabled value chain solutions could help companies **reduce time-to-market by as much as 50% and reduce manufacturing costs up to 20%.**^v

4 Apparel-Specific Solutions that Automate Processes and Help Increase Efficiency

Aptean has identified four apparel-specific solutions that can automate your processes to help improve efficiency, enabling better utilization of the workforce.

Tip #1

Increase Organization-wide Productivity with Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)

ERP is the core business management solution that centralizes business data, standardizes processes and increases productivity. Apparel-specific ERP can help fashion companies:

- » Manage items at the design level vs. item level
- » Create prepacks for any combination of styles, colors, sizes, dimensions and quantities
- » Kit multiple products in one pack
- » Use the same SKU to earmark quantities of the same product for multiple retailers

With Aptean Apparel ERP, **Trend Marketing** streamlined its warehouse operations with hand-held devices to capture location information, enabling growth without proportionately increasing headcount.

Go from Concept to Consumer with Apparel ERP »

Tip #2

Get to Market Faster with Product Lifecycle Management (PLM)

PLM accelerates the concept-to-product lifecycle by eliminating data entry and automating key tasks during design and development. PLM can help:

- » Centralize all designs and vendor information for better internal collaboration
- » Automate advanced tech pack development
- » Strengthen vendor collaboration

ADPL managed an 189% surge in order volume with a 40% smaller design team after implementing Aptean Apparel PLM.

Building Your Business Case for a PLM System: 7 Key Benefits »

Tip #3

Streamline Communications with Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

EDI enables seamless exchange of transactional information between apparel companies and their vendors and customers in a secure, standardized format. EDI can help apparel companies:

- » Save time establishing secure connections with retail partners
- » Improve order accuracy and speed order processing
- » Reduce chargebacks

EDI capabilities in Aptean Apparel ERP helped **MindsInSync** process 10X greater transactions while reallocating 94% of the staff required for this to more valuable tasks.

What to Consider When Choosing an Apparel ERP System »

Tip #4

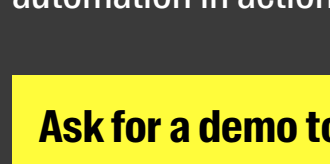
Accelerate Production Processes with Shop Floor Control (SFC)

SFC automation streamlines tracking, scheduling and reporting on labor productivity and production. It provides workers with instant feedback about personal productivity and provides managers with real-time visibility and control over production. SFC can help apparel companies:

- » Replace manual production tracking with real-time data collection on handheld devices
- » Support individual and team incentive pay
- » Identify and mitigate quality issues quickly
- » Remediate production bottlenecks

With Aptean Apparel Shop Floor Control **Grand Forest** reduced managerial and administrative time by roughly 80%.

Shop Floor Control ROI Calculator »



Optimize Workforce Efficiency with Aptean Fashion and Apparel Solutions

Aptean's integrated apparel-specific ERP with built-in EDI, PLM and SFC automation solutions can help your organization increase workforce efficiency, so you can meet objectives while limiting costs.

Request a personalized demo to see apparel automation in action.

Ask for a demo today! »

i | Aptean, [2023 Fashion and Apparel Manufacturing Report for North America](#), 2023.

ii | McKinsey & Company, [The State of Fashion 2023: Holding onto growth as global clouds gather](#), November 29, 2022.

iii | Vogue Business, ["Fashion braces for more layoffs as brands rightsize teams"](#), Erren Benissan, January 18, 2023.

iv | Aptean, [2023 Fashion and Apparel Manufacturing Report for North America](#), 2023.

v | McKinsey & Company, [State of Fashion Technology Report 2022](#), May 2, 2022.