planet together

Why Your ERP
System Can't Go Solo
Ultimate Guide

ERP + APS

Learn more →

First of all, why?

Why do we need an APS tool if we already have an ERP system?

Your facility is having difficulty adjusting to demand changes, and your sales team is always pushing for faster delivery dates. You're at the point where you need relief, and you're realizing that your ERP software alone is not the solution to these problems.
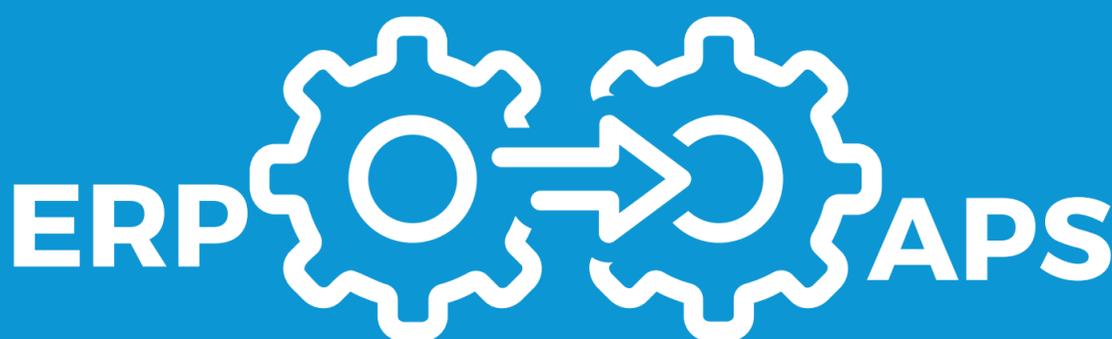
As an integrated information management system, ERP is effective at processing orders and producing financial reports, but it's not designed for capacity management and resource optimization. The transactional nature of ERP systems doesn't give you the flexible visual and scenariodriven tools to manage and overcome bottlenecks in your process. Below, we'll take a look at what any agile manufacturing company needs, and how an ERP system may not meet those needs as well as you think.

How is this achievable?

While ERP systems serve as the backbone for managing core business processes, they often require the added capabilities of APS to optimize production planning and scheduling Common methods for this data transfer include:

- **SQL Queries:** These are used to extract data from the ERP.
- **Web Services:** Used for programmatic real-time integration.
- **Text File Extracts:** Older systems might still use this method for data extraction.

ERP ⟶ APS

The flow of data back to the ERP usually includes scheduled dates and resources, such as:

- **Stored Procedures:** To update ERP tables directly.
- **ERP APIs and Web Services:** For seamless integration and updates.

Achieve Effortless Efficiency

The problems you face as a manufacturer aren't what they used to be. You're growing, and that's a good thing, but delivering what your customers want when they want it is getting harder. You don't have ready visibility into your capacity and order status.

You make production plans and customer commitments based on tribal knowledge and guesswork instead of numbers. Efficient production relies on accurate and timely data. For manufacturers, managing complex operations requires a holistic approach.
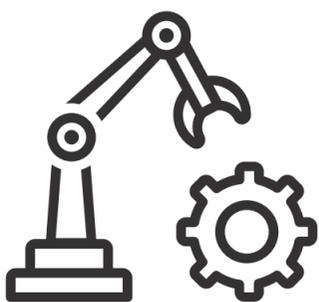
Bi-Directional Integration

Integration between APS (Advanced Planning and Scheduling) and ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) should be bi-directional.

Plans optimized in the APS system flow back to the ERP, making them visible to ERP users such as customer service and purchasing. Transactional ERP data can be pulled into your APS on-demand by planners or on an automated basis for faster re-planning.
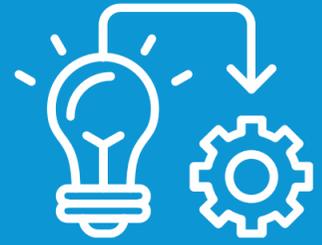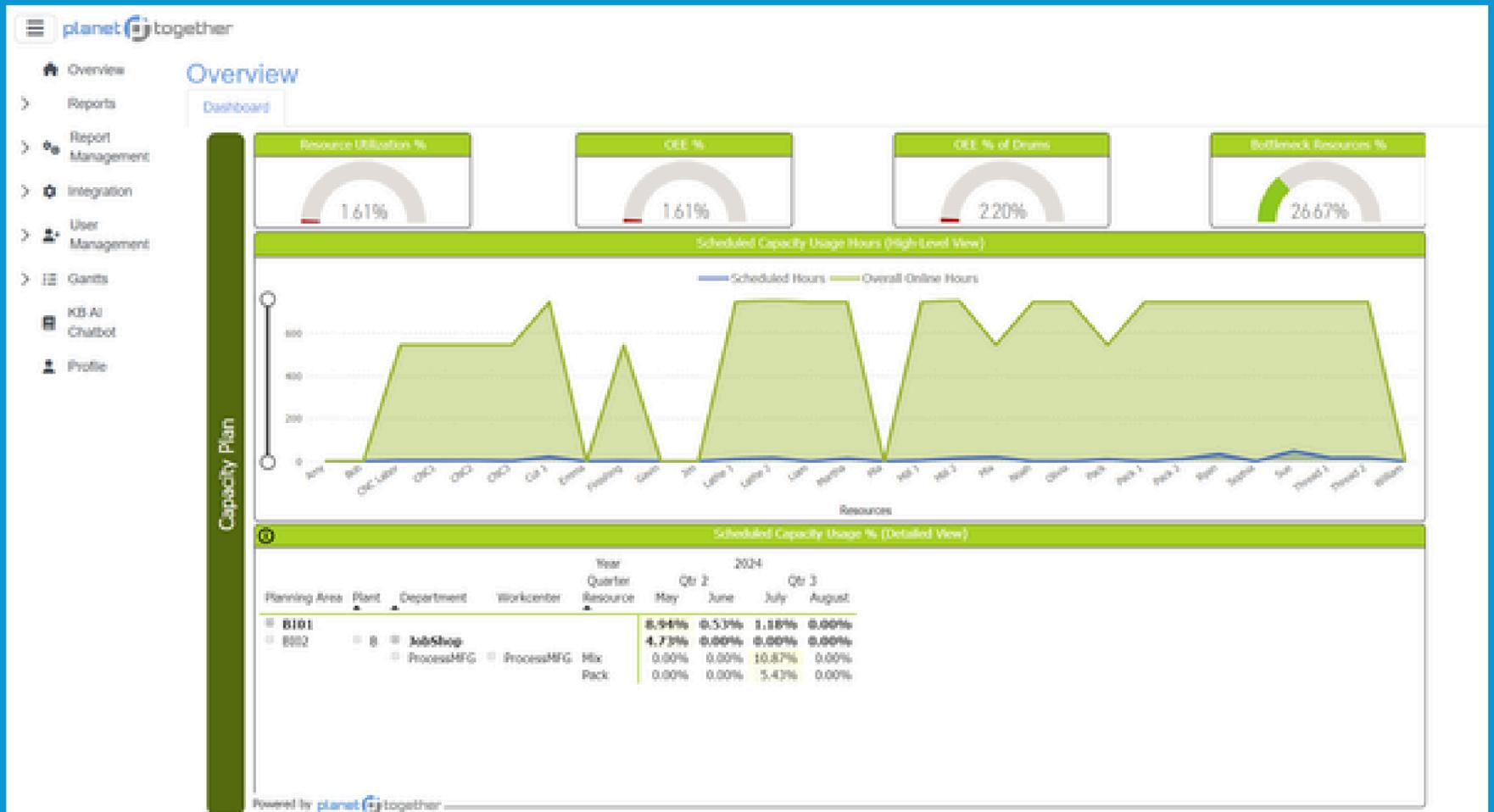
Boost efficiency by up to 30%

Capacity increase by up to 10%

Source: PlanetTogether, Inc. 2024

Master Capacity Planning and Visual Scheduling with Gantt

Capacity Planning: Optimize Resource Utilization

With PlanetTogether's Capacity Planning feature, **manufacturers gain the ability to forecast demand, identify resource bottlenecks, and optimize their production schedules.** The system provides a real-time view of resource availability, helping you balance workloads across work centers and avoid overburdening. This intelligent approach to capacity planning ensures that you're not just filling orders, but doing so efficiently, with the **right resources available at the right time.** By aligning production capacity with demand, you can minimize idle time, reduce overtime costs, and ultimately **improve overall production efficiency.**

Forecast Demand

Balance Workloads

Maximize Efficiency

Gantt Chart: Visualize and Control Your Production Schedule

PlanetTogether's Gantt Chart provides a dynamic, visual representation of your production schedule, **making it easier to track progress and adjust plans on the fly.** With **drag-and-drop functionality**, you can quickly reschedule tasks, reallocate resources, and ensure that your operations are running smoothly. The Gantt chart allows you to visualize dependencies, overlaps, and critical paths, so you can avoid delays and ensure timely delivery. Whether you're optimizing for short-term adjustments or long-term planning, the Gantt chart **provides the clarity and flexibility needed to stay in control of your production timeline.**
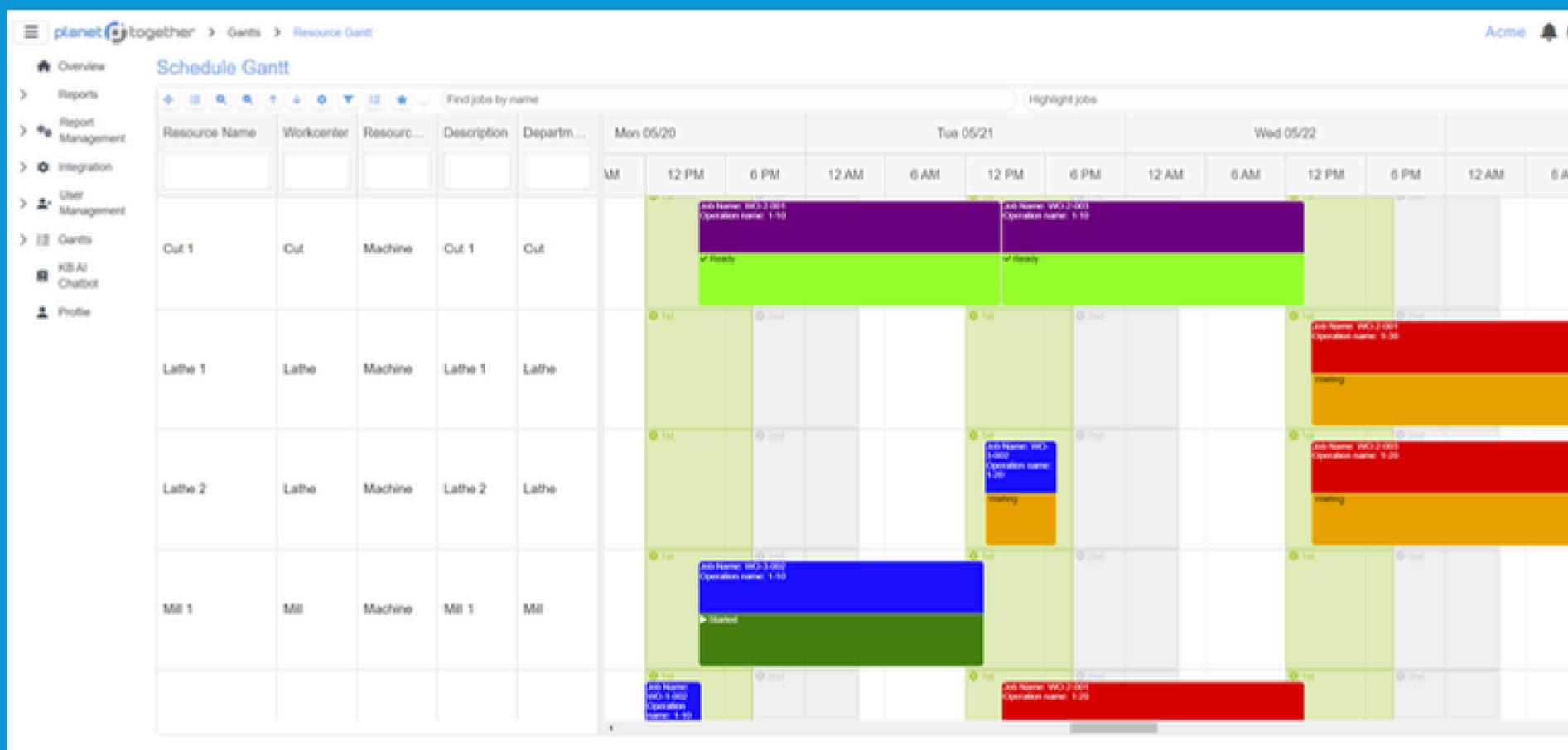
Clear View

Easy Adjustments

No Delays

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Start today by streamlining your processes, reducing errors, and improving overall efficiency.

REQUEST DEMO

Benefits of Integration

By connecting your ERP data with production scheduling, PlanetTogether ensures that everyone is working with the same, up-to-date information. Sales orders are automatically transformed into production plans, optimizing resource allocation and minimizing delays. Real-time data and analytics provide valuable insights into your operations, enabling you to make informed decisions and identify areas for improvement.

1.1. Comparison of Capacity Tools

Capacity Tools	APS	ERP	Excel (most common)
Automation	★★★★★	★★★	★
Optimization	★★★★★	★★	★
Software Cost	★★★★	★	★★★★★
Integration	★★★★	★★★★★	★
Accuracy / Predictability	★★★★★	★★	★★
What-If Scenario/ Analytics	★★★★★	★★	★★★
Error Proofing/ Standardizing	★★★★★	★★★	★

WHICH ONE DO YOU CHOOSE?

Start today by streamlining your processes, reducing errors, and improving overall efficiency.

LEARN MORE

Ready to take your business performance to the next level?

Request your **free demo** today!

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