



# Symptom Checklist

## Do You Need Custom Production Planning Software?

Use this to assess whether your current setup has outgrown off-the-shelf tools.

### DATA & INTEGRATION SYMPTOMS

- Planners copy-paste data between systems daily (ERP → spreadsheet → email → floor)
- Production reports are 24–72 hours old by the time they reach decision-makers
- You have more than 3 systems involved in a single order's lifecycle
- Inventory figures in your ERP don't match what's physically on the floor

### SCHEDULING & CAPACITY SYMPTOMS

- Schedules are built on theoretical cycle times, not actual machine data
- A single machine breakdown or late material delivery makes the whole schedule obsolete
- Planners spend more time firefighting and expediting than planning
- You can't reliably promise a delivery date without calling the floor first

### QUALITY & COST SYMPTOMS

- Scrap rate has been above 5% for more than two quarters
- Emergency expedites happen at least once a week
- You regularly run unplanned overtime to hit delivery commitments
- Month-end inventory reconciliation takes more than one day

### GROWTH & COMPLEXITY SYMPTOMS

- SKU count, sites, or customer-special configurations have grown significantly in the last 3 years
- Your ERP has been heavily customized and upgrades are now risky or frozen
- A new market, compliance requirement, or product line is straining your current setup

### SCORING GUIDE

- 0–4** Your current setup likely covers you. Targeted process fixes may be enough.
- 5–9** You're absorbing hidden costs. A planning audit would clarify where the biggest leaks are.
- 10+** The manual glue holding your systems together costs more than a custom build. A scoped discovery makes sense.