

A close-up photograph of a welder's hands and a welding torch. The welder is wearing a blue protective jacket. Bright orange sparks are flying from the point where the torch meets the metal, illuminating the dark background. The overall scene is industrial and focused on the craft of welding.

**ULTRA**  
CONSULTANTS

# The Manufacturer's Guide to Business Process Improvement

# Introduction

## Your Guide to Business Process Improvement

When manufacturing and distribution project teams consider an enterprise technology project, they expect that the journey will be costly, complex and fraught with risk.

The resources offered in this eBook provide guidance to help you transform your business systems to modern technology. The information presented here will help drive significant improvements to your business performance.

## For Manufacturers and Distributors

The resources curated in this eBook are based upon Ultra's decades of expert methodologies, vendor research and intimate knowledge of manufacturing and distribution.

A technology project is a platform for continuous improvement, helping you achieve key business outcomes such as improved customer service, reduced lead time, improved quality, reduced asset turns, higher productivity and improved, more timely decision-making.

This guide is designed to keep the focus on business process improvement, helping teams increase the chance for success and reduce risks.



# Business Process Improvement

## Getting Organized



### Planning for ERP

**WHITE PAPER >>** When planning for an ERP project, get educated. Read an in-depth white paper based on Ultra's deep expertise guiding project teams planning an ERP project.



### Tips to Start an ERP Project

**PODCAST >>** Starting an ERP project? Then think business process transformations. Hear Ultra's Founder and CEO Jeff Carr host an informative podcast that jump starts your efforts with business process improvement.



### What Resources Do We Need for Our Project?

**PODCAST >>** Listen as Ultra Founder and CEO Jeff Carr answers a common question from teams considering modern ERP systems: "what resources are needed for this project?"



### First Ask Why - Business Process Improvement

**BLOG POST >>** Don't limit your thinking. Explore the top pressures impacting a manufacturing or distribution organization that is launching an ERP project.



# Business Process Improvement

## Planning the Approach



### Business Process Improvement Overview

**WEBSITE >>** Understanding business requirements and improving business processes are essential parts of any successful enterprise system initiative. Our Business Process Improvement (BPI) services create the foundation for a successful transformation of business processes and information systems.



### Strategic Planning and ERP

**BLOG POST >>** When it comes to strategic planning and ERP, what's the connection? See what a well-conceived and communicated strategic plan looks like in this educational article.



### How to Approach an ERP Project

**VIDEO >>** Watch Ultra's Founder and CEO Jeff Carr present the steps to approach an ERP project. This concise presentation outlines how to structure your project for the best outcome.



### 8 Steps to Get Ready for ERP

**BLOG POST >>** Winning teams understand that business process transformation is the goal of an ERP project. Read about an 8-step process to help your team get ready for ERP.



# Business Process Improvement

## Realizing Value



### ERP Lessons Learned

**BLOG POST** >> An enterprise technology project is often a once-in-a-career endeavor. See the lessons learned from a past ERP project that ended up with a successful outcome. Key to success was a focus on business process improvement.



### Effective ERP Project Organization

**BLOG POST** >> What makes for a successful technology project? It's all about organizing the effort to drive business process improvement.



### Real World Examples of BPI

**VIDEO** >> Watch an excerpted highlight from an educational webinar session putting the focus on Business Process Improvement. Ultra's Chief Operating Officer, Rich Sides, walks you through several recent examples of successful transformation at mid-market manufacturing enterprises.



### Business Process Reengineering Overview

**WEBSITE** >> Business process reengineering is the development of the future state of business processes. It is important to go through business process reengineering to define the future state and to drive transformation.



# Next Steps

## Contact Ultra

In our work as trusted advisors, we've seen that a strategic approach to business process improvement and technology helps teams manage risk as they embark on a technology project journey. Putting into place proven methodologies for true business process improvement and change management helps teams avoid time delays and cost overruns that can be common with enterprise technology projects.



Ultra's multi-step evaluation, selection and implementation process has helped more than 300 manufacturing and distribution companies optimize their business processes. Learn more about how an independent consulting team dedicated to manufacturing and distribution can drive value, reduce risk and achieve a more significant ROI for your ERP project.

## Contact Us



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Take a moment to explore how Ultra as a trusted advisor with exclusive industry expertise can guide your organization to sustained business process improvement.