

Do you work in Fabricated Metals? There's a solution for managing assets easier

How manufacturers can leverage data for compliance and maintenance



Unique industries, unique challenges

Fabricated metal manufacturers operate in a dynamic landscape where facility challenges abound, starting with a whole lot of big outdoor and specialized equipment.

From minimizing costly downtime caused by equipment failures to navigating complex maintenance requirements, you're tasked with ensuring compliance with tough regulations and managing assets effectively. If that weren't enough, you probably have addressing workforce skill and labor gaps on your list.

Now only there was an easy button to centralize all your asset data and help maximize uptime...

For manufacturers, successful operational practices directly impact the business, and a Brightly asset management solution can help you centralize and turn all your facilities' data into actionable insights and provide comprehensive strategies to streamline operations, enhance efficiency, and conquer the intricate challenges that affect your day-to-day.

In this guide, we'll explore how we partner with manufacturers like you to assist with:



Maximizing uptime while
minimizing downtime



Bringing multiple large
departments together
under one app



An optimized future,
starting on day one



I.

Maximizing uptime while minimizing downtime

If downtime had a sound effect, it would be an old-timey cash register dinging for each and every moment your machines are inactive or offline during normal operational hours.

What's up with downtime?

For manufacturers, downtime is **expensive**. You have to pay for labor that might not be doing much at all, and rush rates for parts or someone to make the repairs—meanwhile, your lack of product means you're not making any money. The last thing any company wants is for workers to sit around while production is paused.

So what causes downtime? A few of the top contributors include:



Equipment failures and unplanned repairs:

When machinery breakdowns happen due to lack of maintenance or technical issues, it often results in unscheduled maintenance and repairs (aka extra expensive rush jobs and parts orders) and a pause in production.



Supply chain disruptions: Shortages of materials or parts due to various issues can mean paying a premium for parts or even stopping production while you wait for materials.



Human error: Whether it's a lack of documentation on correctly accomplishing tasks or fixing simple mistakes, your workforce can cause machinery breakdowns or quality problems (which can become an issue if you consider frequent checks and corrections for quality control).



Skilled worker shortage: Too much to do and not enough people to get the job done? Many manufacturers face hiring challenges, and this affects operations.



Regulatory compliance: Production pauses for meeting (and getting up to) standards can slow business to a screeching stop.

A spoonful of regularly scheduled maintenance goes a long way

Did you know you can minimize downtime by implementing [preventive maintenance](#) practices?

Preventive maintenance involves regularly scheduled inspections, upkeep, and repairs of machinery and equipment before they fail or experience significant deterioration. Sounds promising, but what is the best approach? In our experience—over two decades of experience—it boils down to the data.

Maximize availability while you minimize downtime

Implementing [preventive maintenance](#) is the key to minimizing downtime. Proactively maintaining equipment and machinery with the goal of preventing breakdowns helps promote reliable performance and shifts the focus from putting out fires to preventing them—and helps to ensure seamless operations by preventing lost productivity or emergency repairs.

Level up with IoT integration

A few [strategically placed sensors](#) can be a game-changer. Did you know the [Internet of Things \(IoT\)](#) can help you not only stay connected to your assets but can help get the most out of resources?

With [Brightly technology](#), you can:

- Track asset performance in real-time
- Automate work orders when necessary
- Minimize production defects by detecting anomalies early
- Monitor vibration, temperature, and more to ensure optimal performance and output

Work order systems that work (for multiple companies)

With Brightly, **manufacturing** organizations gain valuable visibility and flexibility. But don't just take our word for it:



Visibility and ease of use

When Aprilaire wanted to replace its outdated legacy system that was expensive to update and lacked easy integration of work orders and preventive maintenance activities, the indoor air products manufacturer turned to Brightly. Now, Aprilaire has better visibility across maintenance operations and benefits from ease of use and simple report generation resulting in significant time and labor savings that “save more time than with any other maintenance program.”

[Read more about Aprilaire →](#)



Time and labor savings

Pepsi Bottling Ventures (PBV) is North America's largest privately-held bottler for Pepsi-Cola products. Looking to replace its outdated, time-consuming paper-based system that made it difficult to be efficient when executing work orders, PBV turned to Brightly.

PBV decided to integrate Brightly into their facility as a permanent improvement to their maintenance strategy along with the use of tablets. The software-loaded tablets provide PBV with better visibility, flexible, user-friendly options, and increased completed work orders while eliminating lost work orders completely. Now, PBV has streamlined its 76,000 work orders and eliminated as much as 20 hours per week spent organizing and tracking work orders.

[Read more about Pepsi Bottling Ventures →](#)



The legacy software required submission of a work order request via an Excel spreadsheet. The lead had to fill out a document, email that document to me, and then I had to go into the system to create a work order based on the request. With Brightly, anyone in a lead position can submit a work order. Every piece of equipment needs to be maintained properly, and the best place we've found to document what needs to be done regularly is Brightly's [software]. Whether it's a daily, weekly, or monthly task, it is captured in the system. This program is invaluable in helping us track all our work.

Barry Dean
Maintenance Manager, Aprilaire



Brightly has helped us better maintain equipment by clearly demonstrating when a change in maintenance frequency is necessary, and the ability to add tasking is immediate.

Tom Wiza
Plant Manager and VP of Operations, Pepsi Bottling Ventures

II.

Bring multiple departments together under one app

The beauty of [Brightly Asset Essentials™](#) is that it isn't just for the stuff bolted to the floor. Manufacturers use our solutions to manage assets, including outdoor equipment, fleets, sanitation, landscaping, and more.

Cross-department teamwork makes the dream work

Ever wish you had a centralized system for communicating, tracking, scheduling, and all the things? With Brightly, that dream can be a reality with unified data for coordinated maintenance and operations across your entire organization.

Huzzah, there's an app for that

With Brightly Asset Essential's [mobile app](#), your teams can operate more effectively. In manufacturing, most departments rarely work in a silo, but often it ends up feeling like it. But when multiple departments use one solution, communication via the app means problem-solving can be simple.

Aligning your manufacturing organization via a centralized system can also help:

- Ease daily transitions between teams and increases overall efficiencies
- Notify people of daily inspections
- Keep equipment working at its best
- Track electronic signatures to aid in compliance issues
- Increase supervisor-level control and offers audit logs

Add efficiency to your inspections

Inspections are critical in ensuring product quality, process consistency, [compliance, and risk mitigation](#). They are an essential component of a robust quality control and assurance strategy that ultimately benefits both the manufacturer and the end consumer. But...they can be time-consuming and contribute to downtime. Luckily, an asset management solution with mobile app functionality can provide technicians with the data they need on the spot while guiding them step-by-step through the inspection.

Brightly apps illuminate more efficient operations

Manufacturing is equated with many machines, so what happens when one goes down or malfunctions? With a mobile app, operators can get help faster.

Our app also eases that transition and increases overall efficiencies, notifying people of daily inspections, keeping equipment working at its best, and can help with electronic signatures in-app to aid in compliance issues or increase supervisor-level control with offers audit logs.



Shining a light: Optimized inspections

Want to gain built-in inspection instructions with prompts and next steps? With Brightly asset management solutions and mobile functionality, you can.



Technicians have everything they need to manage inspections on the go.



The mobile app automatically prompts documentation via photos and notes of issues or observations.



Data is captured and recorded for future reference and decision-making.

It all comes together in one app

Expanding operations by acquiring new facilities is a challenge in manufacturing, but it can be a breeze with Brightly.

TEKNIPILEX®

Consolidation and configuration

Tekniplex is a global leader in the healthcare and consumer product markets. When the company needed a configurable system to meet the needs of each newly acquired plant and get them quickly consolidated into one company-wide solution for managing workflow and other manufacturing engineering activities, they turned to Brightly.

With the Asset Essentials documents library, Tekniplex can upload and archive digital manuals for every new piece of equipment. As a result, the correct info is always available to techs whenever it's needed, and techs can easily access documents using the AE mobile app on tablets. Additionally, the company uses Asset Essentials to manage all company assets and administrative functions such as programs and audits.

[Read more about Tekniplex →](#)



We had a bunch of plants with different systems, and we needed to consolidate...[We selected Brightly] to consolidate legacy systems into a singular system to better support our maintenance activities. We like it because we can take it to a plant and easily configure it for that plant. [Now,] we don't have to change how they do maintenance; we can configure the solution for each plant in the way they already operate. I can get trending information on asset health, and we've been able to detect some potential failures ahead of time that would have been catastrophic.

Jim Welsh

Manager of Manufacturing Engineering,
Tekniplex



III.

An optimized future, starting at day one

If you're investing in asset management, it can be challenging to know what will work best for your organization. You know you don't want to feel nickel and dimed every step of the way, but you might not know exactly what bells and whistles will deliver the best impact for your business.

Implementation that works for manufacturing

At Brightly, we're proud of our decades of industry experience. Our comprehensive solutions come with out-of-the-box implementation, and we'll never lock you into a multi-year (aka incredibly expensive) implementation journey.

We also understand our end users. That's why Brightly makes [implementation](#) easy, whether you're transitioning from your own system or spreadsheets, and our solutions have mobility and ease of use baked in, not to mention robust support.

A tool teams want to use

Our solution contains the robustness you need to take your operations to the next level. With its intuitive mobile app, Brightly is easy to adopt—and because it makes their job easier—your team will want to use it.

Out-of-the-box, [Asset Essentials offers analytics](#) and reporting. You won't spend months setting it up and tweaking it to provide that level of information you're looking for. Brightly works with a manufacturers to dial in the [data you need](#) to start your preventive maintenance journey. Need something more custom? We have that covered as well. We'll work together to ensure your system delivers the data you need from day one.

Support in your corner when you need it most

And when you need help, there are real, experienced people just a phone call away. Brightly offers [24/7 solution support](#).



Kickstart a modern maintenance routine with Brightly

As your equipment produces products and finished goods, use data and insight from our software to help create a predictive maintenance routine. By utilizing Brightly's asset management solutions, we help manufacturers like you streamline the implementation of preventive maintenance schedules, enhance data-driven decision-making, and maximize the efficiency and reliability of their equipment and assets.



13,000+
clients



4.6+ million
users



400 million
work orders
addressed



49 million
assets logged



\$321 billion
in asset value



97%
client satisfaction
rating

Ready to learn more?

[Schedule a call with a Brightly expert today](#)

About Brightly Software

Brightly, a Siemens company, enables organizations to transform the performance of their assets. Brightly is the global leader in intelligent asset management solutions. Brightly's sophisticated cloud-based platform leverages more than 20 years of data to deliver predictive insights that help users through the key phases of the entire asset lifecycle. More than 12,000 customers of every size worldwide depend on Brightly's complete suite of intuitive software—including CMMS, EAM, Strategic Asset Management, IoT Remote Monitoring, Sustainability and Community Engagement. Paired with award-winning training, support and consulting services, Brightly helps light the way to a bright future with smarter assets and sustainable communities. For more information, visit www.brightlysoftware.com.