The Challenges

When it comes to managing and upholding quality, today's automated manufacturers face many challenges, some of which include:

Documenting Quality, from Raw Material to Retail

For any product, quality comes down to the integrity of each and every individual subcomponent and step in the manufacturing process. And yet, in many manufacturing operations, quality control is limited to certain factory processes. Managing quality from end-to-end requires that businesses build a record of quality for every product produced—from raw material, to work in process, finished good, and beyond.

Upholding Quality Across Suppliers & Partners

Even when a producer has comprehensive quality control systems in place within its own factory doors, other suppliers and partners can introduce quality pitfalls. Decentralized manufacturing models add to this challenge, as manufacturers struggle to institute quality controls in the facilities of other suppliers and sub-manufacturers. Addressing quality holistically requires cross-stakeholder traceability, with no blind spots.

Tracking Quality Individually & In Aggregate

Quality is critical for each product, but it is equally critical for all products. A key challenge for today's companies is ensuring consistent quality practices are upheld across myriad facilities, production lines, product lines, and shifts. This requires scalable quality management solutions that go beyond random sampling to implement homogenized quality controls for every product across the entire supply chain, and notify key stakeholders of quality pitfalls in real time.

Extending Existing Quality Management Systems

While many manufacturing operations have a standard Quality Management System (QMS) in place, the majority of these systems are solely focused on upholding compliance standards—thus overlooking the critical focus on product quality that is required to satisfy today's consumers. In order to transform quality into a true differentiator, companies must commit to extending the QMS with product-level traceability that goes above and beyond compliance.

Involving End Users in the Quality Equation

In today's customer-centered world, it's not enough to uphold a quality commitment internally. Manufacturers must communicate their systematic commitment to quality to the end user, whose appetite for transparency demands answers. In order to do so, today's companies must extend traceability to the end user, serving up relevant data that verifies the integrity and quality of every product.

QUALITY CONTROL

Making Quality Standard Practice

The Situation

Today's consumers have given new importance to product quality and consistency. With rigorous expectations and digital forums to voice their complaints, consumers have forced automated manufacturers to make quality a primary operational focus. And yet, with highly distributed supply chains and a greater volume and selection of products than ever before, managing quality has never been so complex.

Ashton Potter
EVERY PRODUCT, SECURED.

The Solution

For nearly a century, Ashton Potter has served complex and compliance-driven businesses around the world. Today, we own the entire product supply chain security process—ranging from the tamper-proof label, to the forensic traceability technology, to the data management system—and leverage partnership with our Gold Integration Partners to cost-effectively augment and extend existing enterprise systems and processes.

Forensic Traceability for Comprehensive Quality

At Ashton Potter, we support comprehensive quality control through the use of tamper-proof labeling solutions and ProLinc™ forensic traceability technology, which together enable high-volume manufacturers to uphold quality standards throughout every stage of the production process— whether in a supplier facility, on the factory floor, in the warehouse, or on store shelves. Highly scalable to billions of records, Ashton Potter empowers global companies to transform quality into a strategic differentiator by providing granular traceability on a global scale.

Upholding Quality, One Product at a Time

ProLinc™ builds a unique record of quality for every product produced, housing it in a secure, Blockchain-enabled database. With a single scan, approved stakeholders can access highly detailed records that verify item quality and consistency. In aggregate, these valuable insights lay the groundwork for continual quality improvement initiatives while also radically simplifying the task of documenting compliance with applicable manufacturing standards and regulations.

Integration Services & Process Optimization

As a proven partner serving companies of all sizes and sectors, Ashton Potter augments its technology and labeling solutions with a suite of services that streamline implementation, optimize operational processes, and accelerate time-to-ROI. Working with its network of skilled partners, Ashton Potter provides end-to-end project management, process design, on-site and remote training services, and technology integration to its automated manufacturing customers.

By working seamlessly with existing enterprise resource planning and quality control systems, factory equipment, and business intelligence tools, ProLinc contextualizes product insights with other data sources and makes insights actionable throughout the enterprise.

ProLinc
by Ashton Potter ™

The Results

By implementing the global traceability needed to advance quality control efforts, ProLinc delivers measurable value, including:

More comprehensive quality management through forensic traceability that monitors quality practices throughout the product lifecycle, from raw material to retail.

Better control over quality throughout the supply chain, supported by cross-stakeholder traceability that can be extended to other suppliers and partners.

High quality data records for individual products and in aggregate, providing a foundation for data-driven quality improvement initiatives.

Lower costs of quality and compliance through automated documentation and seamless integration with existing quality management and ERP systems.

Higher customer satisfaction, achieved by enabling end users to affirm quality with a single scan.

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