

Know where to start — before you spend a dollar on technology

The CESMII Smart Manufacturing Acceleration Roadmap is a fast, vendor-neutral process that turns “we should probably do something digital” into a prioritized, funded, three-year plan your whole team believes in.

~\$10–15K

Typical facilitation cost for a small or mid-sized manufacturer

5–10 hours

Core-team commitment — far less for everyone else

160+ / 2,000+

Manufacturers and individuals in the benchmark set

100%

Remote-capable — you set the pace

THE PROBLEM THIS SOLVES

More than 70% of digital manufacturing efforts fail — not because the technology doesn't work, but because it got bought before anyone agreed on the business problem. A demo impresses someone, a pilot gets funded and never scales, and two years later you own another system nobody trusts.

Every department then solves its own problem its own way. One multibillion-dollar manufacturer was found running 56 different quality systems across seven plants — sprawl that is far cheaper to prevent at your size than to unwind at theirs.

WHAT THE PROCESS DOES

- **Surveys your whole organization**, not just the corner office — scored against six critical areas and benchmarked against 160+ manufacturers.
- **Shows the gap** between what leadership believes and what the floor lives. Usually the most-quoted page of the report-out.
- **Runs deep-dive interviews by function** — operations, quality, maintenance, supply chain, engineering, IT.
- **Has your team price each opportunity** — your numbers, in loss-area math your CFO can defend.
- **Sequences the work into Now / Next / Future** in a prioritization workshop your leaders run.



WHY IT FITS YOUR COMPANY SIZE

- **Nobody is selling you anything.** Solution-agnostic and vendor-neutral — it assesses business practices, not brand lists.
- **Light lift on your people.** A short survey, a handful of interviews, two workshops. Mostly remote.
- **Low cost, high leverage.** A fraction of a big-firm engagement — and of the wrong platform purchase.
- **It's yours, not ours.** Coached into one or two internal champions, so the capability stays.

FACILITATED WITH YOU — NOT DELIVERED TO YOU

A certified facilitator runs the process, brings the tools and the benchmark, asks the hard questions and keeps it moving. Your team supplies the answers, sizes the value and sets the priorities.

That takes longer than having a consultant hand you a deliverable — and it is the entire point. **A plan your people built is a plan they execute.**

Six deliverables you will receive

Built with your team during the process, not written for them afterward — and handed over in native, editable format.

1 Current state assessment

Your organization scored across the six critical areas and benchmarked against 160+ manufacturers and 2,000+ participants, plus a future-state survey capturing where your own people think you need to be.

Settles the “how are we doing?” argument with data.

3 Deep-dive interview summary

Themed findings from function-by-function sessions — quality, production, engineering, supply chain, operational excellence. Specific and unvarnished: what breaks, how often, and who works around it.

Names the problems everyone knew but nobody wrote down.

5 1–3 year prioritized roadmap

Sequenced by your leaders in a prioritization workshop, with owners, timing and expected impact. “Now” initiatives get extra execution detail so the first move is ready to start.

Your plan, your sequence, your next three budget cycles.

2 Insight & gap analysis

The same questions, split by role and department. Support roles almost always rate capability higher than the people running the machines — and that delta is where your quick wins live.

The page executives photograph and send around.

4 Valued opportunity list

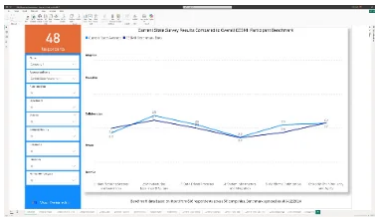
Sized in a working session by your team with the facilitator holding the pen: the loss area attacked, your assumptions, and the annual margin returned — in arithmetic your CFO can pressure-test.

A business case nobody can dismiss as an outsider’s guess.

6 Executive communication deck

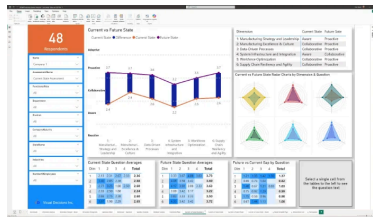
A report-out built to be delivered, not filed: current state, gaps, money, plan, call to action — including the “what does the change feel like” narrative that gets the floor on board.

The story your champions repeat when you’re not in the room.



Benchmarking data:

Compare your organization against the national benchmark



Assessment and gap analysis:

Your scores by role and department, visualized.



Prioritized roadmap:

Now / Next / Future initiatives with owners and impact.

THE PAYOFF

For a \$50–100M manufacturer, this process typically surfaces **\$1–2M in annual recoverable margin** — reduced labor cost, lower material spend, less cost of poor quality, and capacity freed up without buying a machine.

Industry studies cite 10–30% throughput and 15–30% labor productivity gains. The roadmap tells you which are sitting on your floor.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER

- The roadmap is yours to run — your own team, your existing integrators, or a vetted partner. Support is available only if you want it.
- Survey data is confidential; an NDA with your facilitator is standard practice.
- Most companies re-run the assessment annually to measure movement and re-prioritize.



Get started today

Start with a 30-minute conversation about what’s slowing your plant down. If a roadmap isn’t the right next move for you, we’ll say so.

ROADMAP SUCCESS STORIES


cesmii.org/education/roadmap-tools