

TOP STORIES

JAN

Tata Steel's blast furnace closures

FEB

Industry contracts as Red Sea crisis hits supply chains

MAR

Manufacturers accelerate ESG strategies

APR

New UK Additive Manufacturing Centre of Excellence launched

MAY

Manufacturers among King's Awards winners

JUN

The Harrington Review on Foreign Direct Investment

JULY

Historic win for Labour – reaction and comment from the manufacturing sector

AUG

New £12m applied shipbuilding academy opens in Glasgow

SEP

Manufacturers open their doors for National Manufacturing Day 2024

OCT

Industry reacts to new government's first Budget

NOV

Made in Britain welcomes Babcock to its community

DEC

Industry set to increase investment in AI

INDUSTRY HEADLINES

£217BN

Contributed by Manufacturing in output to the economy in 2024

58%

of manufacturers started to reshore their supply chains in 2024

55%

of manufacturers have shifted their supply chain strategies as a result of geopolitical uncertainty

43%

of manufacturers will increase levels of automation to drive business productivity

95%

of manufacturers are either using or evaluating smart manufacturing technology

44%

of the data generated by manufacturers is being used effectively

11%

of manufacturers have informal policies but not an official stance on sustainability and ESG

83%

of manufacturers say that accelerating digital transformation is the biggest obstacle they face

85%

of manufacturers either plan to, or have already invested in AI/ML

33%

of European CEOs are confident in their supply chain resilience

INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHTS



Nissan accelerates switch to full electric with £1.1bn UK investment



Tata Steel's blast furnace closures: Who saw it coming? And is UK steelmaking in 'managed decline'?



Britvic shareholders approve £3.3bn Carlsberg takeover



Jaguar's massive rebrand explained: what's all the fuss about?

2024 MANUFACTURING WRAPPED

THE MANUFACTURER

RESEARCH REPORTS FINDINGS



UNLOCKING MANUFACTURING GROWTH

in partnership with 

- Just 10% of manufacturers are 'very confident' in their ability to accurately forecast sales
- 77% of manufacturers are still using basic spreadsheets for their sales forecasting



2024 MANUFACTURING AGILITY

in partnership with 

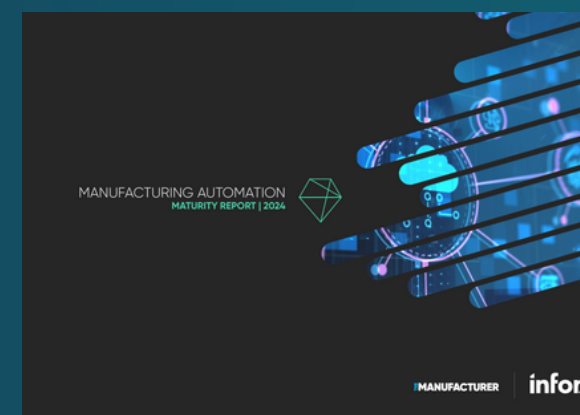
- 71% of manufacturers are focusing on improving their production planning and scheduling capabilities (a 27% increase on 2023)
- Environmental sustainability (65%) is number one business goal for the next 12-24 months



NOW HIRING: SKILLS SHORTAGE IN UK MANUFACTURING

in partnership with 

- 97% of manufacturers agree that hiring and retaining skilled labour presents a challenge to the growth of their business
- Skills shortages (75%), Recruitment (36%) and Talent retention (32%) are manufacturers' top barriers to growth



2024 MANUFACTURING AUTOMATION MATURITY

in partnership with 

- Asset management/maintenance (71%) is the area manufacturers believe AI can benefit the most
- Quality trends (88%) is the area manufacturers want to discover more about from their data

For more insights 

2025 EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

THE MANUFACTURER



Nomination deadline: Submit your 2025 nominations to recognise the next generation of industry icons in UK manufacturing. Shine a light on inspiring manufacturers— whether it's yourself, a colleague, or an industry advocate.

10
FEB



UK's digitally-minded manufacturers gather to discuss technology's role in improving competitiveness, profitability, and sustainability.

4-5
JUNE



Source new solutions, discuss key challenges, and discover how to embrace the smart revolution in manufacturing and engineering.

4-5
JUNE



Exclusive group of senior executives from The Manufacturer's community, meeting for confidential Round Tables, networking, and sharing insights.

MONTHLY

EVENTS & AWARDS CALENDAR



Annual gathering of industry visionaries, executives, and thought leaders for 2 days of discussions, knowledge sharing, and addressing challenges.

11-12
NOV



Join over 500 industry movers and shakers, delivered in partnership with IMechE, for this gold standard in industry awards, (silver winner for Awards Event of the Year). To the manufacturing industry, it's our Oscars night.

12
NOV



Sharing input from the industry's best manufacturers and technology providers to map the technical areas, skills and behaviours that define modern industry.

MONTHLY

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THE MANUFACTURER



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