

INFOGRAPHIC









Technologies to Optimize / Scale-Up Production



Can emerging technologies, such as integrated digital twin solutions, actually help manufacturers respond in an emergency scenario, such as a future pandemic?

This CARES Act funded project set out to evaluate this premise, and also implement such a technology, with a leading medical diagnostics manufacturer.

For regulated manufacturers, such as pharmaceutical manufacturers, digital twins, and the insights they offer, can lead to better and more affordable medicines, medical devices, and medical equipment.

A skilled workforce can leverage data using models and modeling tools to gain insights, including insights through emerging technologies such as digital twins.



insights into emergency scenarios, such as capacity predictions in times of product demand surge.

optimization, but can also enable

The research conducted under this project confirmed that the top three emergency scenarios faced by organizations during the COVID-19 disruption were:



Project Design



Task 1 Identify Stakeholders and Define/Refine Digital Assessment Framework

Task 2

Identify Tools and Software to Fill the Gaps

Task 3

Implement and Test Tools / Software at Pilot Manufacturers

Task 4

Implement a Digital Twin at Pilot Manufacturer and Test Emergency Scenario Planning

Project context

Illustrating the project connections for regulated pharmaceutical manufacturers

Funding	Project	Participants		
CARES Act (2021-2022)	DEPLOY TO C MxD Project 20-18-01	MxD & MIT & IAAE & HCG + 7 in-depth company surveys + 23 other company surveys + 1 pilot manufacturer		
FDA OCET (2021)	LEVERAGE FOR B MxD Project 20-19-01	MxD & IAAE + 9 companies of various sizes and maturity		
NIST (2019)	LEARN FROM A NIIMBL + Industry + FDA	NIIMBL + FDA CDER, OCS, CBER + 11 large pharma companies		

Example Project Insights on Emergency Scenarios

What are some of the emergency scenarios your organization faced during COVID-19 disruption? (Please select all that apply)





Capacity reduction (Declines in manufacturing quality) Capacity reduction (Natural and man-made disasters) Capacity reduction (Lean inventory management) Capacity reduction (Inability to ramp up production) Demand surge (Natural and man-made disaster) Demand surge (Behavioral reactions to supply disruption) Demand surge (Pandemics and other public health emergencies)



Insights on enabling technologies

Manufacturers see digital twins as promising technology to optimize and scale production in response to emergency scenarios.

respondents in our second survey cited real-time digital twins and simulations, used to model entire systems, as an enabling technology they believe could be used to optimize and scale production in response to emergency scenarios. Respondents indicated there were many emergency scenarios faced by organizations during the pandemic. Surprisingly, only 35% of respondents are aware of any digital twin maturity or assessment frameworks that their organization uses or could benefit from.

Demand surge: a kev scenario

in view under the pilot implementation project.



What does our research suggest may have changed since 2021?

Optimism about digital transformation appears to be significantly increasing.



of survey respondents in our second survey say they are **optimistic or very optimistic** about digital transformation in their organization during the next twelve months. In a prior 2021 FDA OCET funded study, less than half were optimistic while the others were neutral.

For this pilot manufacturer project notice the data flow from the physical twin through the integrated digital twin solution and back to the physical twin via the production planner and ERP system.



Is this integrated digital twin solution able to predict future bottlenecks in capacity for both days and equipment?

Yes, and it can accurately inform investment decisions for new equipment, a new type of valuable insight to the manufacturer.

				4 Increase machine		
Product Order	Start Day	Order Quantity		capacity of machine		
PO_255_1	Monday	1800		aroup 3 by 50%		
PO_255_2	Tuesday	1800		to eliminate the		
PO_255_3	Wednesday	1800		bottleneck		
PO_255_4	Thursday	1800		Dottieneett		
PO_255_5	Friday	1800				
Enter Produ from Wee	1 uct Orders kly Plan	→ Upda D	2 te Max Available aily Machine Capacities	Machi Overcapa	3 ine No acity?	5 Make educated decisions on scaling up equipment



The integrated digital twin makes specific bottleneck predictions relating to products. Predicted daily machine hours more than available machine capacity by machine groups (%)

-					
Machine	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
MC_G1					
MC_G2					
MC_G3	40%	40 %	44%	44%	37%
MC_G4					
MC_G5					

Key recommendations to manufacturers and practitioners

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Advanced technologies require businesses to develop strategic software capabilities, even for manufacturers whose core competencies lie in hardware.



Manufacturers will also need data readiness and data management maturity to make the most of digital twins. Although manufacturers need both technical and data readiness to successfully implement a digital twin, the decision to implement a digital twin should be made for business reasons

rather than technical ones.

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"If we had to, all of a sudden, build 50% more than we are right now, I can plug that into the tool and I would be able to see specifically where we would have issues... It does have quite an impact because you know where the bottleneck is. I would be using the digital twin to do a lot of scenario planning."

- A senior production planner at the pilot manufacturer

Access the full set of conclusions and recommendations in the project report or view the Executive Summary slides.

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