## Speed Meets Strategy: Supplier Consolidation Powered by Digital Factories

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**aPriori**Manufacturing
Insights **2025** 

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## Presenter



**Chris Platz** 

**Supply Chain Leader** 

- 1 Woodward Overview
- 2 Today's Sourcing Challenge(s)
- 3 Strategic Supplier Alignment: The 4 "Cs"
- 4 Case Study 1 (Sourcing Selection)
- 5 Case Study 2 (Value Engineering)

## Agenda

## Woodward Overview



#### Woodward at a Glance



~9000 Employees Globally



11 Years
Average Employee
Tenure



155 Years of Innovation (Founded 1870)



\$3.3 Billion FY24 Sales



**Market Segments** 

Aerospace Sales \$2.0 Billion

Industrial Sales \$1.3 Billion



Worldwide 38 Locations

17 Countries





Number of Patents 850 in Force 350 U.S. 500 Non-U.S.

## Business Segments Aerospace





Commercial





**BGA** 

#### Business Segments Industrial





Power Transportation Generation



Oil & Gas

## Partnering with Industry Leaders

AIRBUS BOEING GE RAYTHEON SAFRAN

CATERPILLAR
CUMMINS
GE
MTU
WÄRTSILÄ



We Design and Manufacture Control

**System Solutions and Components** 

for the Aerospace and Industrial Markets



Our Customers are Leading Original Equipment Manufacturers and End Users of Their Products



#### **Our Purpose:**

To Design and Deliver Energy Control Solutions Our Partners Count On to Power a Clean Future



#### FY24 Sales

























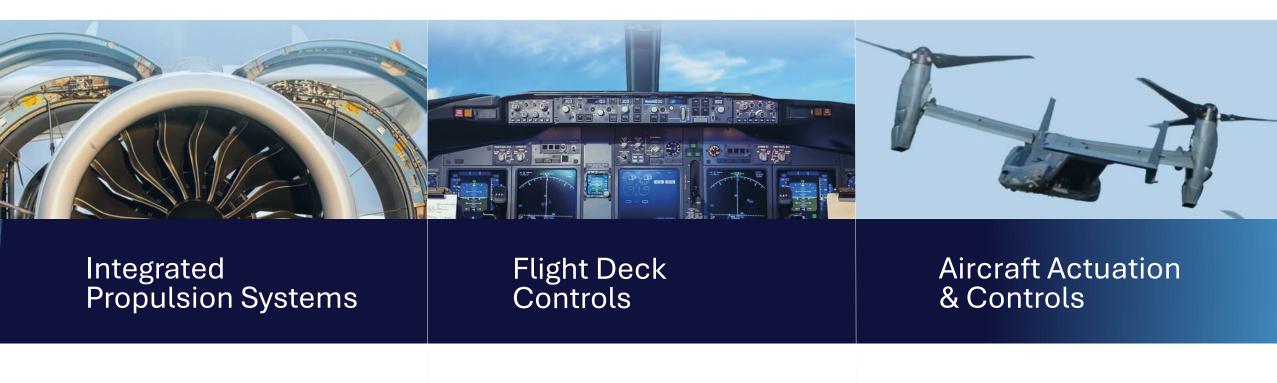








#### World Class Controls: Our Core



- → Fuel Systems
- → Engine Actuation
- → Thrust Reverser Actuation
- → Fuel Injection & Ignition
- → Oil & Air Management

- → Side Sticks
- → Throttles
- → Pedals
- → Flap Levers

- → Electromechanical Actuation
- → Hydraulic Actuation
- → Precision Motors
- → Servo Controls
- → Sensors



## Today's Sourcing Challenge

## Sourcing Challenges



**Supply Chain Disruptions** 

- Tariffs & Geopolitical



**Technological Demands** 



Component Obsolescence & Long Lead Times

- Lead times exceeding a year!



**Cybersecurity Threats** 



**Regulatory Compliance** 



**Financial Constraints** 



Talent/Labor Shortages



....and a Long Tail of Low Spend Suppliers

## The Long Tail

#### **Challenges**

Operational Complexity - Hundreds of low spend suppliers

- Administrative Burden
- Supplier Record Maintenance, audits, etc
- Contracts
- Risk Tracking
- Maverick Spend
- Strategic Dilution
- Limited Supplier Collaboration

#### **Opportunity**

Supplier Rationalization/Consolidation

# Strategic Supplier Alignment: The 4 "Cs"

## The Four "Cs"

#### **Category**

- All part numbers are categorized (via Al OCR) based on key critical definition
  - Raw Material
  - Part size
  - Special Processes (Plating, etc)
  - Tolerances

#### **Capability (Supplier)**

- With each DF
   Supplier we know
   their manufacturing
   capabilities match
   our part
   requirements
- Machining Technology
- Raw Material Experience

#### **Capacity**

- More importantly "Open" capacity
  - Each DF Supplier provides a monthly update on open capacity plan for at least the next 6 months
  - New parts/programs with known ramp rates are overlayed against the DF Supplier's estimates

#### Cost

All parts are run through the Supplier's DF in aPriori to provide a "self-quote" based on pre-negotiated Labor, OH, SG&A & Margins

We get the Right Part, to the Right Supplier, at the Right Time and with a full Transparent understanding of Costs **Each** and **Every time**. No Exceptions. - Chris Platz

## Supplier Digital Factories and Self-Quoting



WOODWARD AND
KEY SUPPLIERS HAVE
EMBRACED A SUPPLIER
DIGITAL FACTORY AND
SELF-QUOTING INITIATIVE

#### DIGITAL FACTORY INPUTS

#### **Supplier Equipment List**

Types of equipment, quantities, machine models

Supplier Labor Rates per Operation (2 axis, 5 axis, deburr, etc.)

Supplier Direct Overhead Rates (This is usually a % of labor)

Supplier Indirect Overhead Rates (This is usually a % of labor)

SGA & Margin %



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## Why Categorize

- Categorization allows us to put parts with similar attributes together to aggregate machine hours using similar materials, similar tool packages run on similar machines
- Packages of similar parts allow suppliers to:





Improved Quality



Improved yield



Reduced build quantities/inventory



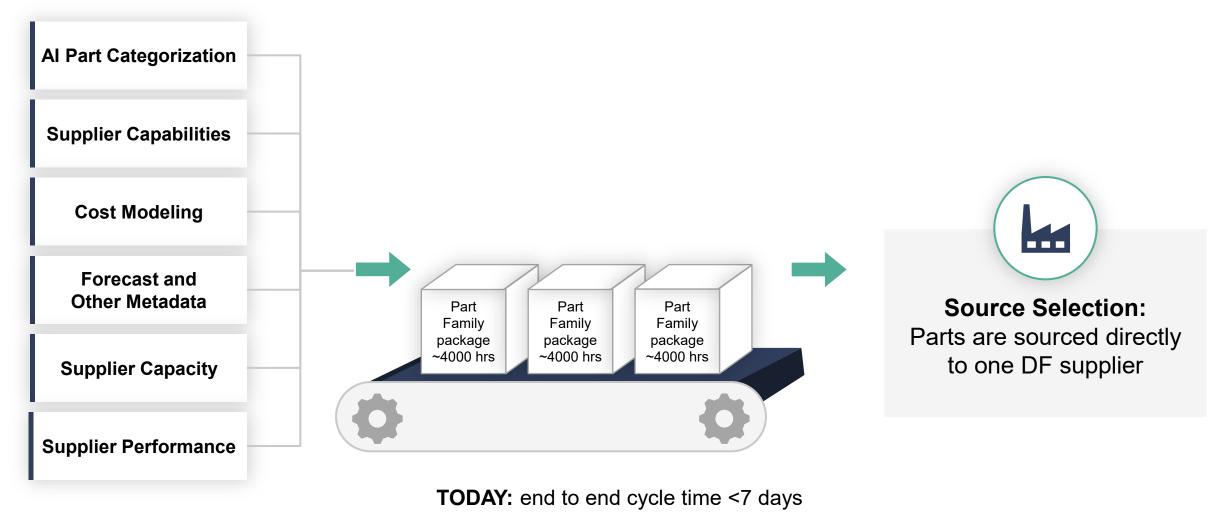
Efficient Mixed Model Schedules



Optimized Changeover



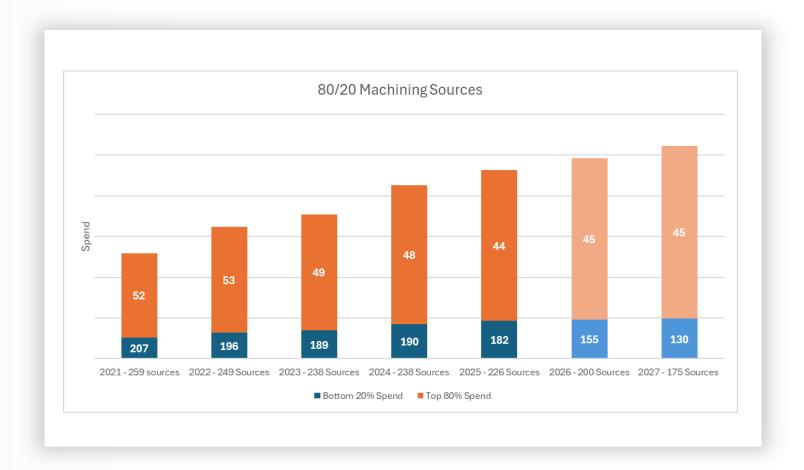
## Woodward's Sourcing Process



THREE YEARS AGO: traditional solicit/source process ~75 days

## **Metrics**

- Focused effort to consolidate the supply base over the past 5 years.
- Reduction of the bottom 20% of spend from 207 to 182 sources over the same period, with goals to continue & accelerate this trend.
- Key "Grow" Digital Factory suppliers are adding to their revenue at a 10x+ rate compared to non-DF suppliers.



## Case Study 1

## Supplier "XYZ" Goes out of Business



Aerospace Machining Supplier in Western Europe



In business over 30 years



Supplier to multiple top Aerospace Companies



~50 employees



~\$25M year revenue



## Situation

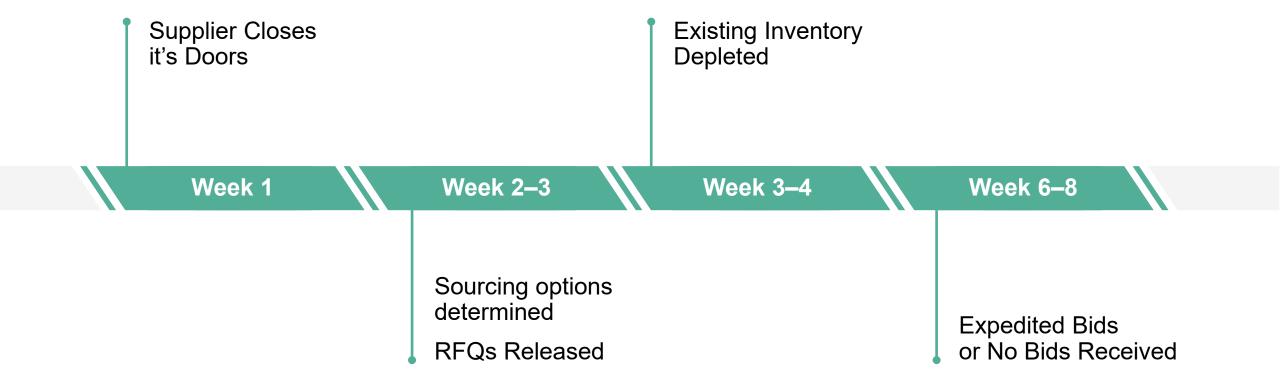


**Private Company** – Limited ability to track their risk profile

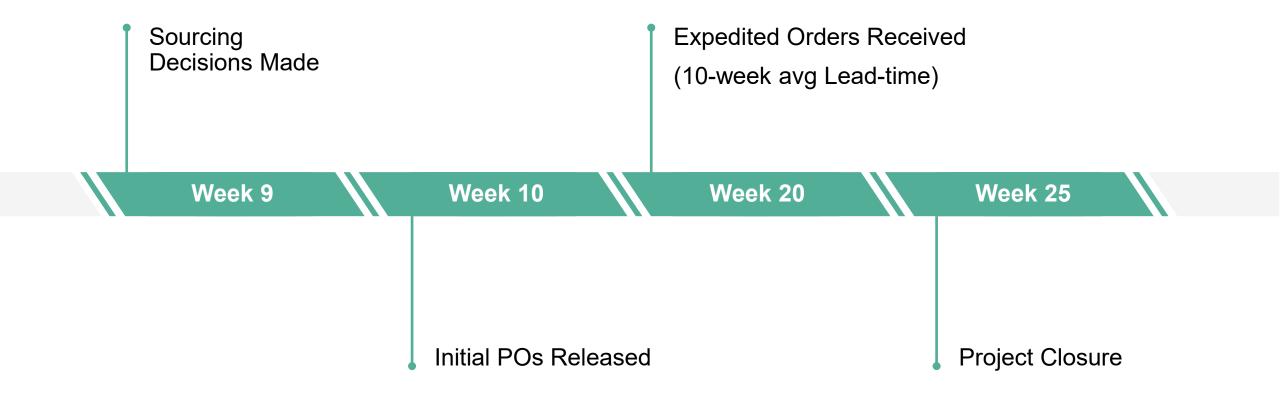
#### **TIMELINE**

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Morning phone call to our Buyer, they are shutting their doors on Friday PM.	On site representation	Last orders shipped & remaining POs cancelled
Ship <b>EVERYTHING</b> that you have!		
Internal "War Room" set up		

## "Normal Expedited" Timeline

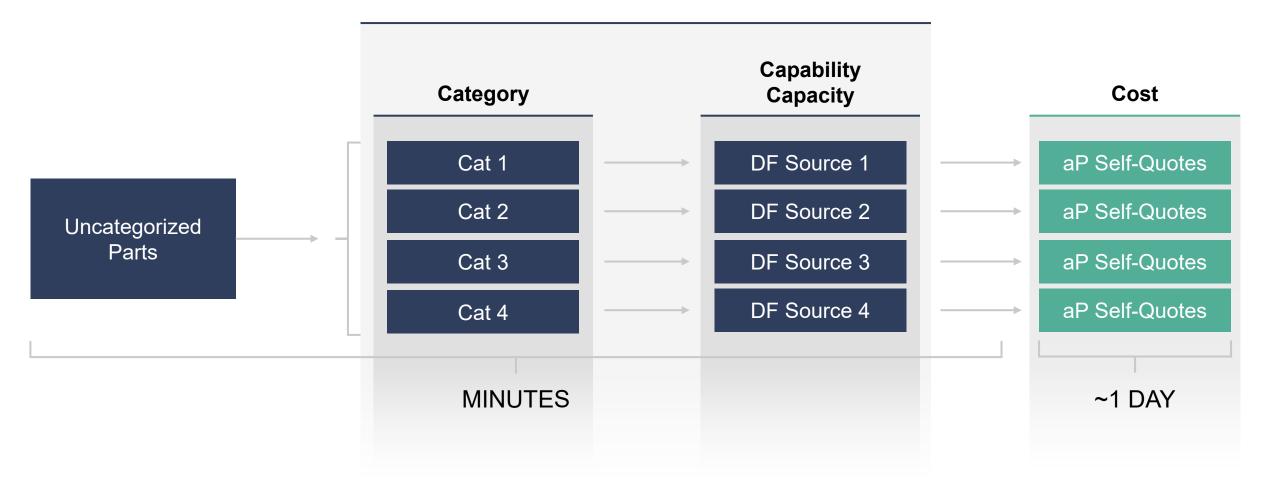


## "Normal Expedited" Timeline



## "New Expedited" Process

#### AI PART CATEGORIZATION



## "New Expedited" Timeline

Supplier Closes it's Doors

DF "Self-Quotes" validated (avg 3-Day Response), and POs Issued

WEEK 1 WEEK 3–4

Items Categorized (AI), DF Sources Selected, DF "Self-Quotes" completed and sent to DF Suppliers

Existing Inventory Depleted

## "New Expedited" Timeline

Expedited Orders Received (~7 wks)

Open Capacity, RM & is Known

WEEK 8

**WEEK 13** 

Project Closure

#### **RESULT:**

**8 week turn** with AI and aPriori / DF Suppliers vs. ~20 weeks with the "traditional" expedited efforts



Overall, 60%-time reduction



100% first past award rate



Close connection with key Grow Digital Factory Suppliers



Shared alignment to supporting Woodward's sourcing needs



Reduction of possible stock outs by 12 weeks

## **Digital Factory Stats**



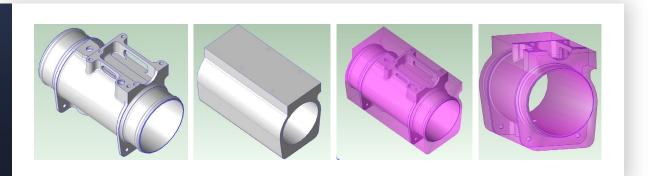
Mechanical sourced parts (spend) that are run through the DF Selection/ Self-Quote process (Commercial items) First pass award rate (we are getting the right parts to the right supplier at the right time)

DF "Self-Quote" supplier satisfaction

## Case Study 2

## Value Engineering & "What If" Reviews

With our cost modeling software, we can quickly review and make decisions on improvement opportunities



#### **Aerospace Air Valve**

- AMS6061-T6
- Cost model virtual simulation review indicates
  - 65% reduction in starting RM weight (w/extrusion)
  - 75% reduction in machining time

Drawing updates are approved, the project has been awarded (DF) and production starts in 2026

AMS6061-T6	BAR STOCK	EXTRUSION
Starting LBS	26.7	9.5
Finished LBS	2.47	2.47
Material Utilization	9%	26%
LB savings Per Part	-	16.2
Cycle Time Reduction	_	75%



## Summary

## Summary

- Sourcing Challenges and the Long Tail of Low Spend Suppliers
- Getting the Right Parts, to the Right Supplier, at the Right Time via aPriori Digital Factories and AI
- Part Categories, Supplier Capability, Open Capacity, and Cost
  - -Part Packages of 4-5k hours
- Improving the Customer / Supplier relationship
  - -Eliminating Waste in the Process

## Thank You!

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