



NEW PV TECHNOLOGIES, NEW DATA NEEDS: HOW MES SOFTWARE TRENDS CAN OPTIMISE PV MANUFACTURING

SECURE QUALITY. IMPROVE PROCESSES. SAVE COSTS.



Robin Schubert

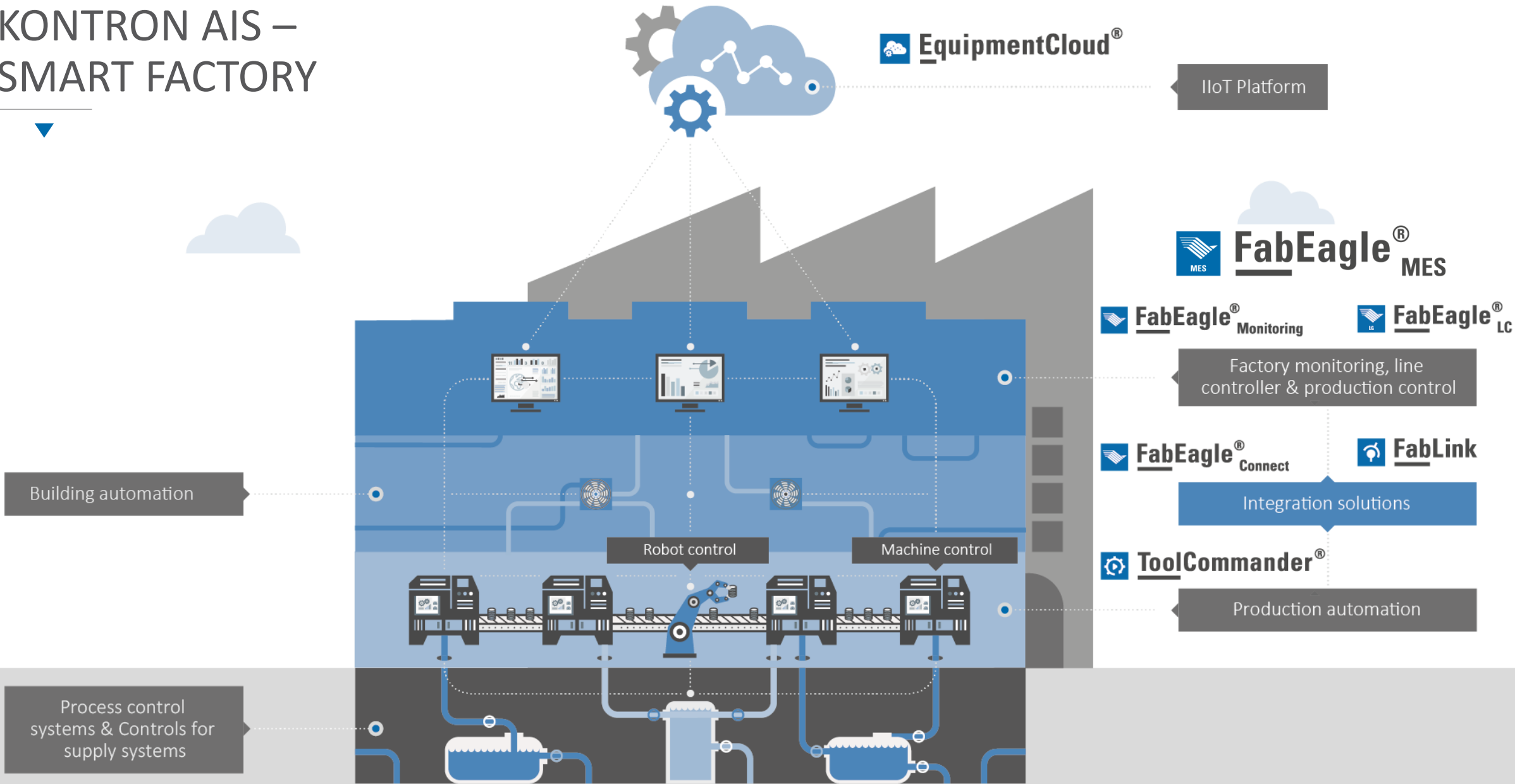
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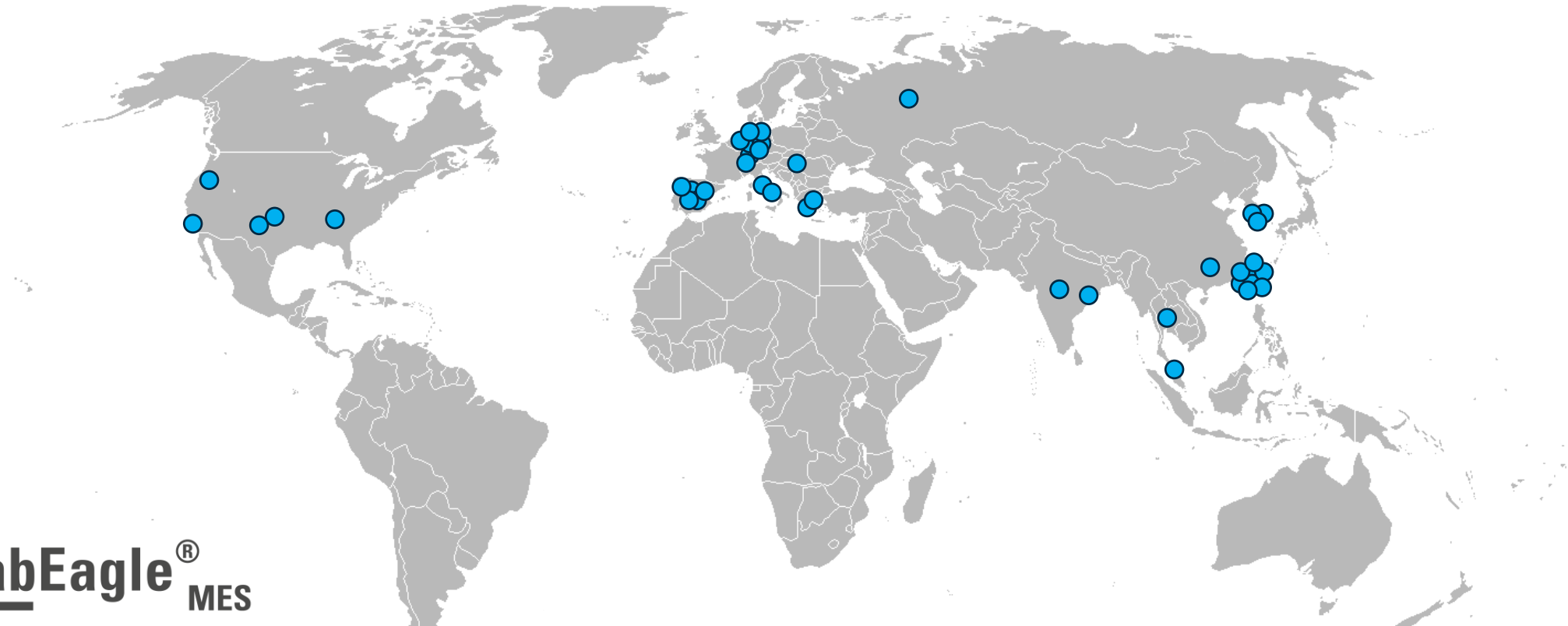
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KONTRON AIS – SMART FACTORY



KONTRON AIS – PV CUSTOMERS

Kontron AIS GmbH



FabEagle[®]
MES

Crystallization
Growing
Wafering

10 x

Thin film
production

14 x

Silicon based cell
manufacturing

48 x

Module
manufacturing

18 x

Solar receiver
production

2 x

AGENDA

01

VALUE OF DATA AND
SOFTWARE TODAY

02

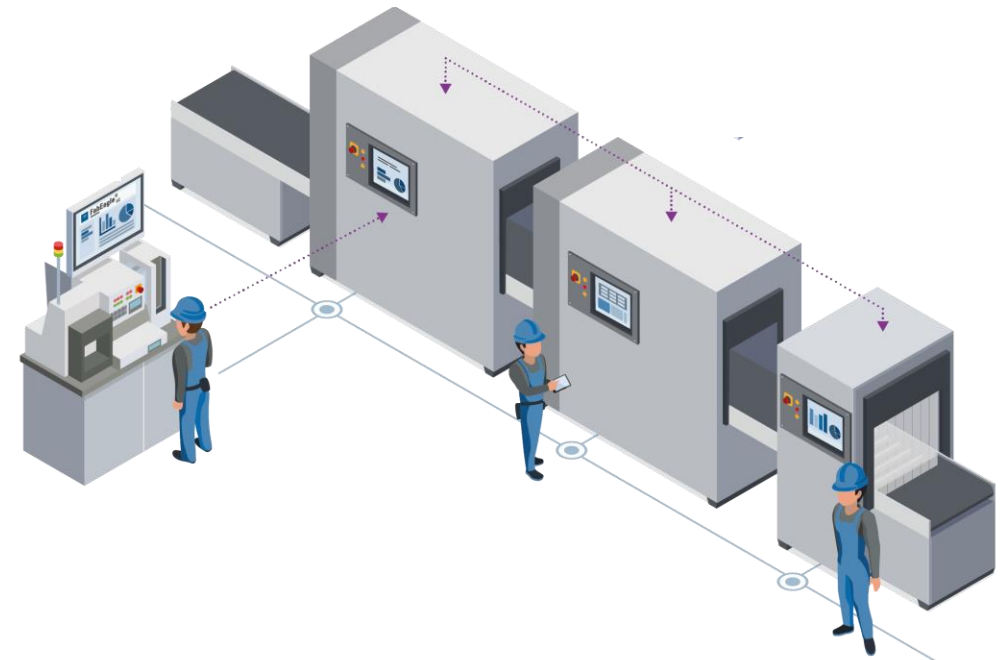
PV TRENDS AND THEIR
SIGNIFICANCE FOR
SOFTWARE

03

MES FUNCTIONS THAT
ARE NEEDED TODAY

04

A LOOK AT MES
PRACTICE



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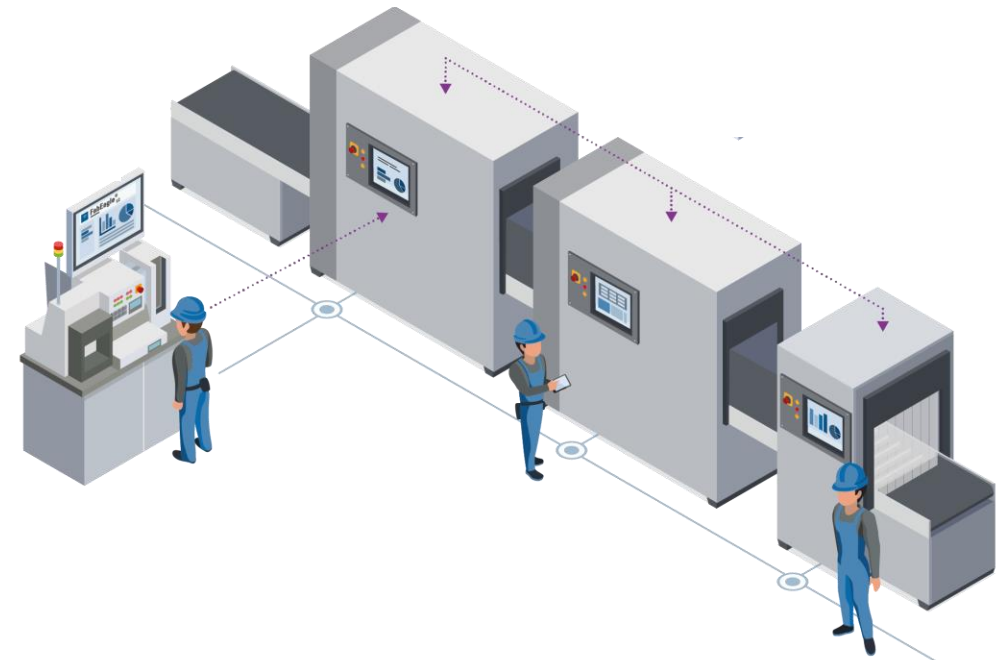
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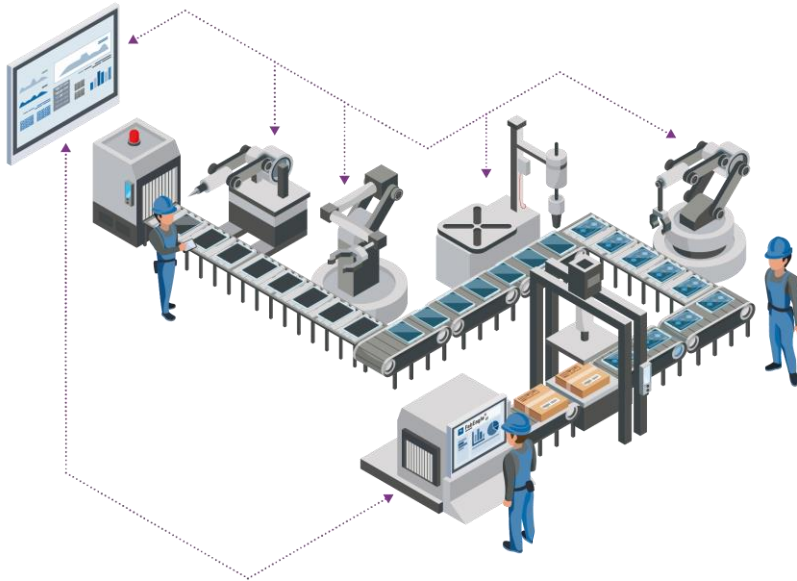
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VALUE OF DATA AND SOFTWARE TODAY



- ▶ Big data sets enable detecting small process dependencies
- ▶ Data analysis improve quality and throughput
- ▶ Identify maintenance needs early to avoid downtime
- ▶ Personalised visualization of equipment data for improved workflow

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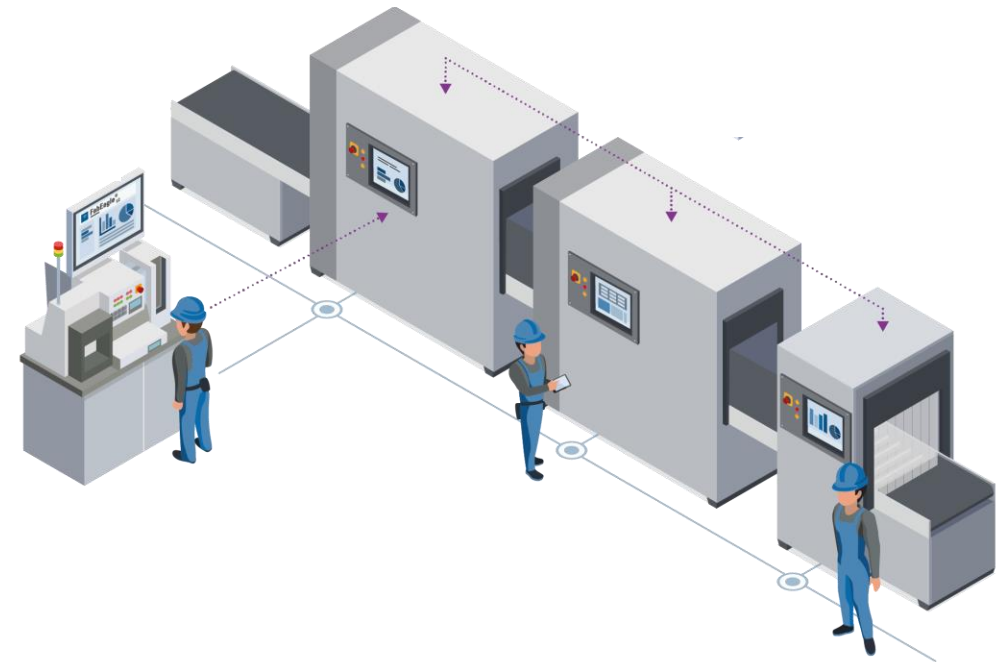
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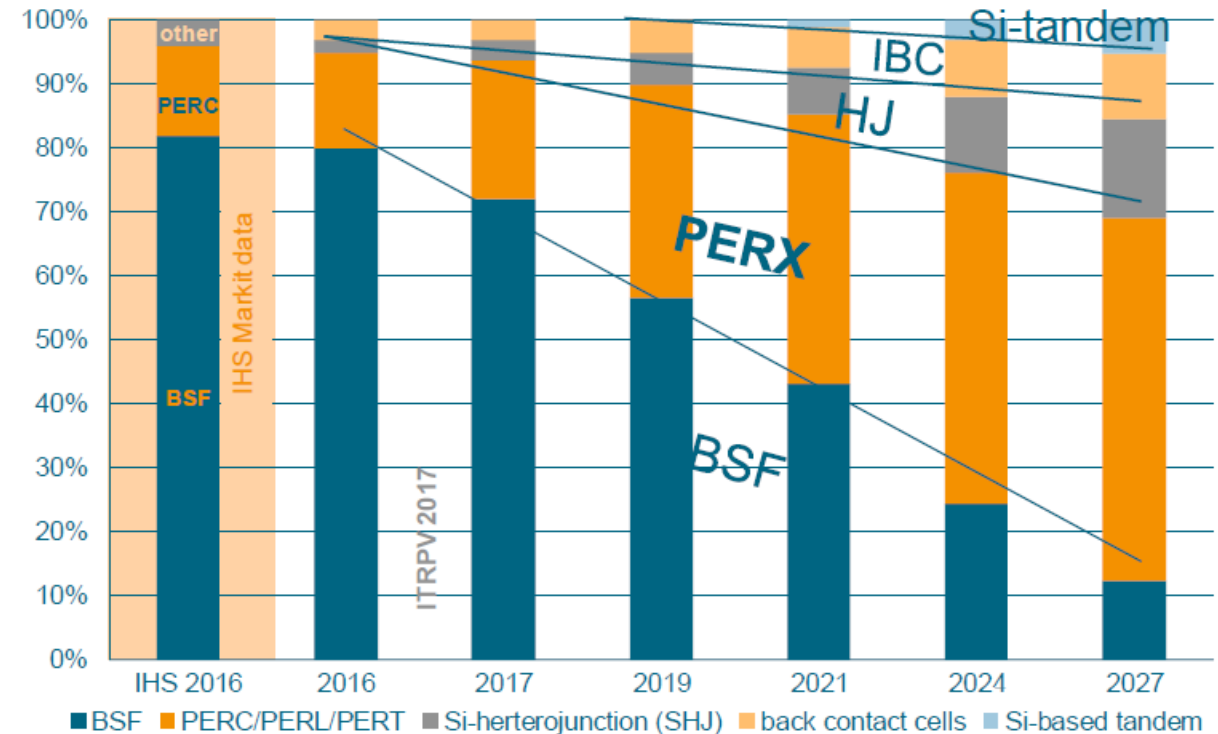


1. Factor production complexity

- ▶ Increasing complexity causes extensive data sets which need to be analysed
- ▶ More inline equipment is used to test quality
- ▶ New advanced equipment provides high data output with high resolution

Cell products: cell technologies

(Source: VDMA, ITRPV)



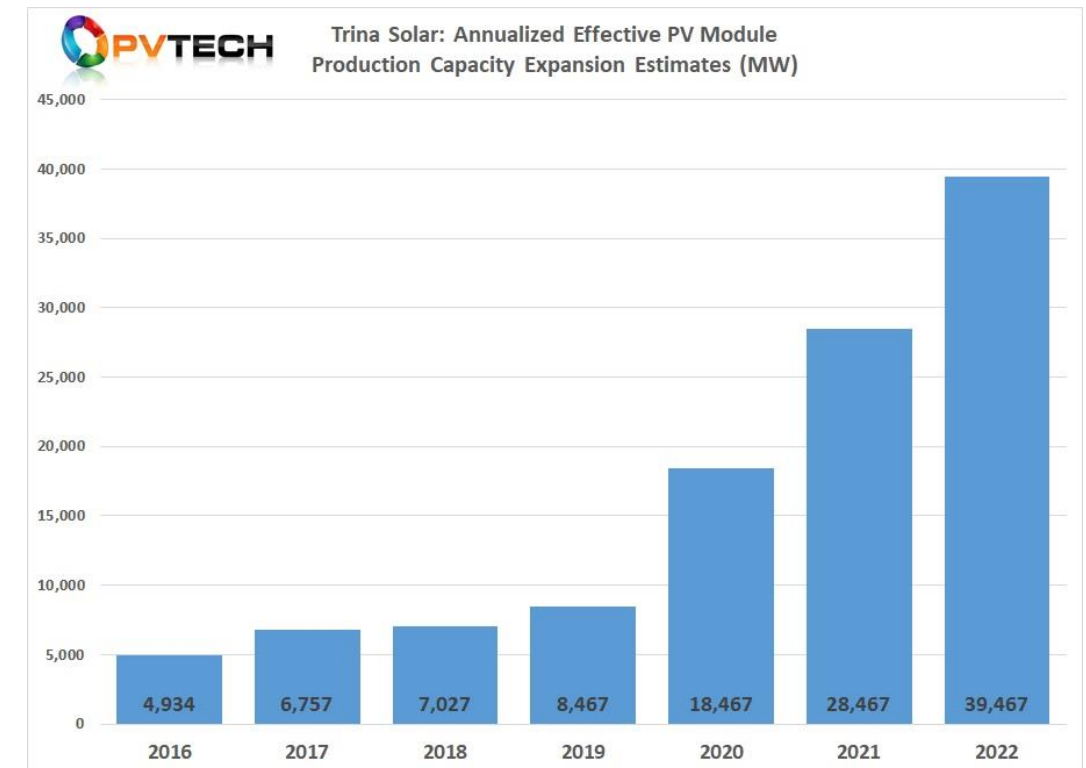
PV TRENDS AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE FOR SOFTWARE



2. Factor production capacity

- ▶ Data volumes increase proportionally to production volumes
- ▶ With higher throughput per factory, the risks increase (e.g., cost of downtime)
- ▶ Requirement for comparability between several company locations

Trina Solar: Annualized effective PV module (Source: pv-tech.org)



PV TRENDS AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE FOR SOFTWARE

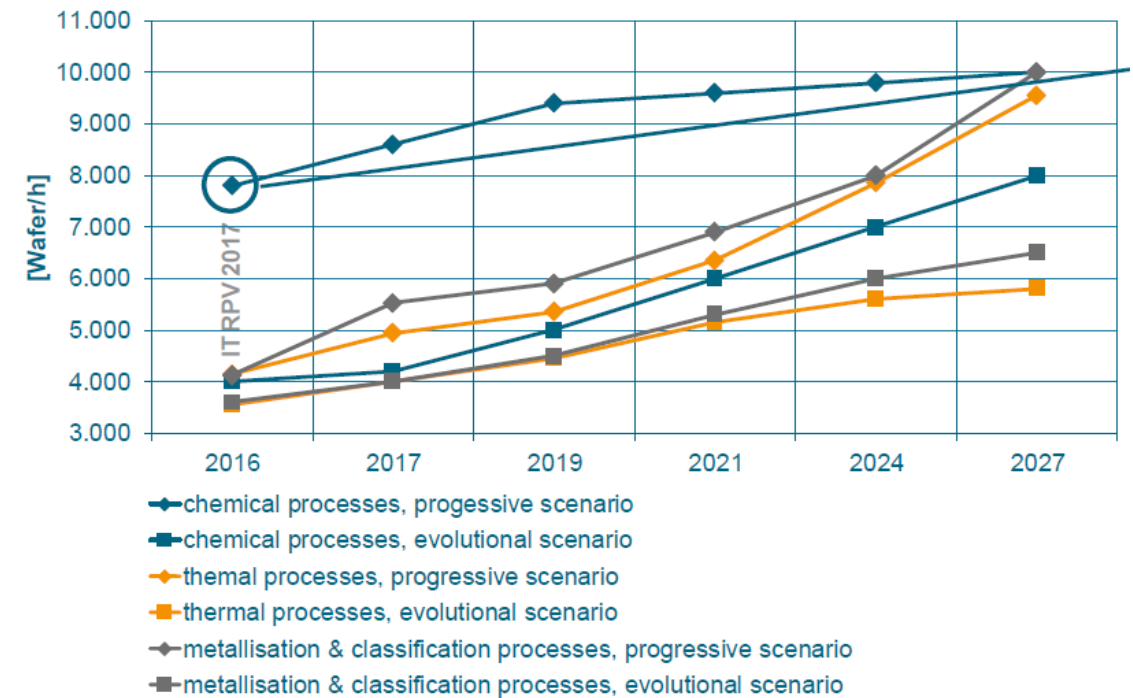


3. Factor maintenance and uptime

- ▶ High-cost pressure requires preparation of planned and unplanned downtime
- ▶ Information on handling complex equipment must be available immediately
- ▶ Support through digital documentation of equipment data and maintenance to optimize service calls

Cell products: cell production tool throughputs

(Source: VDMA, ITRPV)



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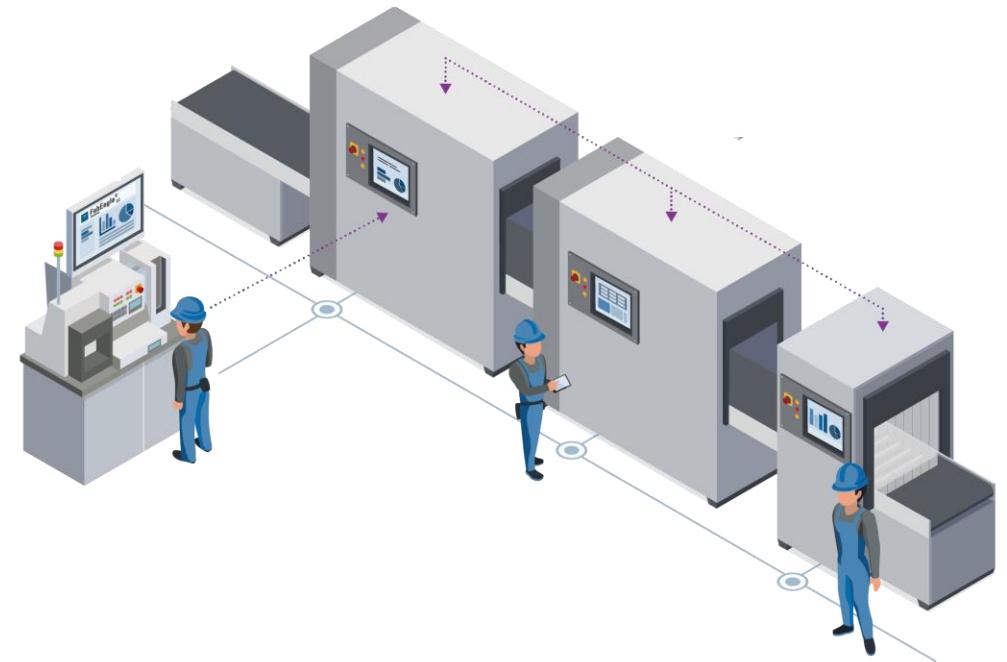
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MES FUNCTIONS THAT ARE NEEDED TODAY



INCREASED TRANSPARENCY

- ▶ Online Process Visualization
- ▶ Manufacturing Visualization
- ▶ Trends / Reporting
- ▶ Logbook / Machine Log



TRACEABILITY

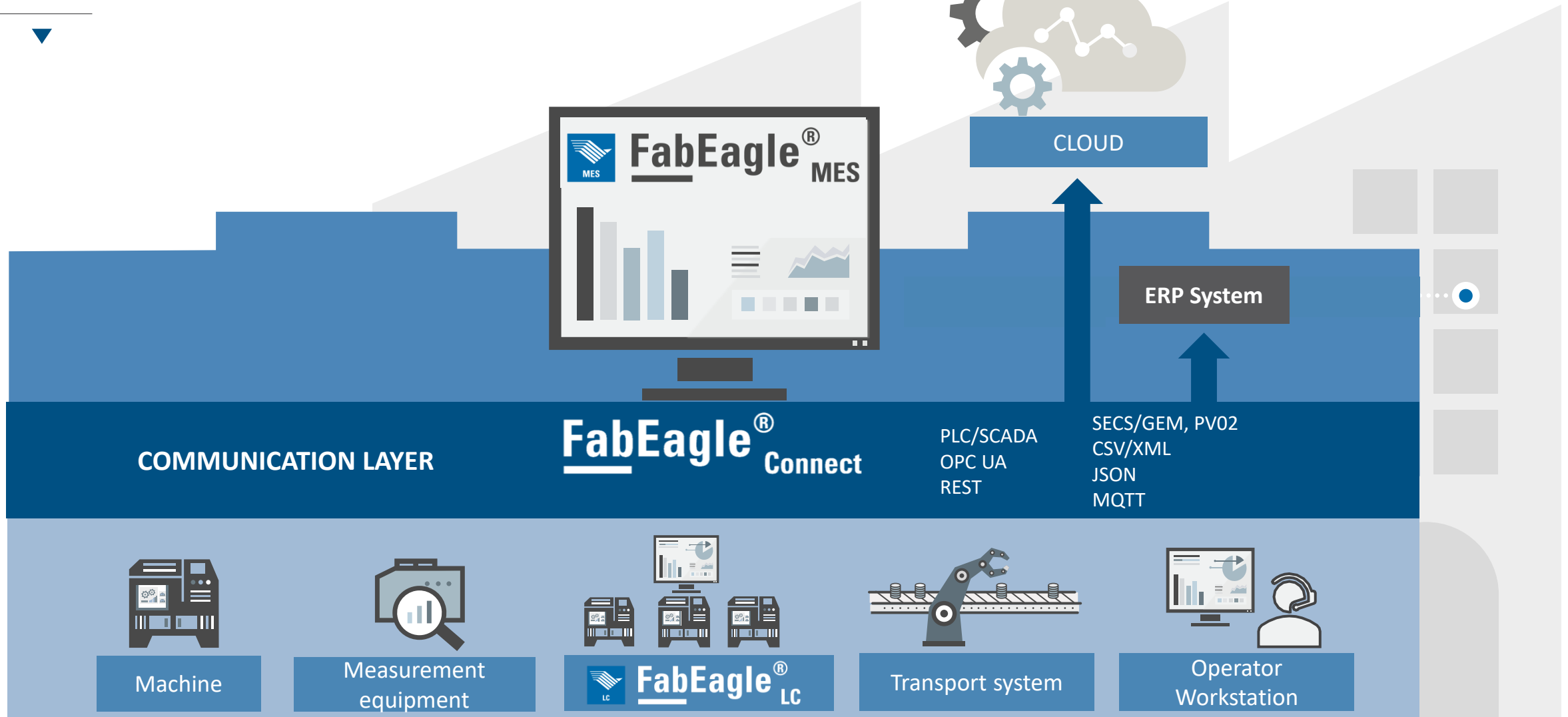
- ▶ Material and Carrier Tracking & Interlock
- ▶ Equipment Data Acquisition
- ▶ Process Data Acquisition
- ▶ Long-term Archiving



PRODUCTION CONTROL

- ▶ Order Management
- ▶ Workflow Management
- ▶ Maintenance Management
- ▶ Online-SPC
- ▶ Event Manager

MES FUNCTIONS THAT ARE NEEDED TODAY



MES FUNCTIONS THAT ARE NEEDED TODAY



Production
visualization



Order manager



Work plans



Recipe management



Production
control



Material tracking



Machine and production
data acquisition



Product data
acquisition



Reporting &
Online SPC



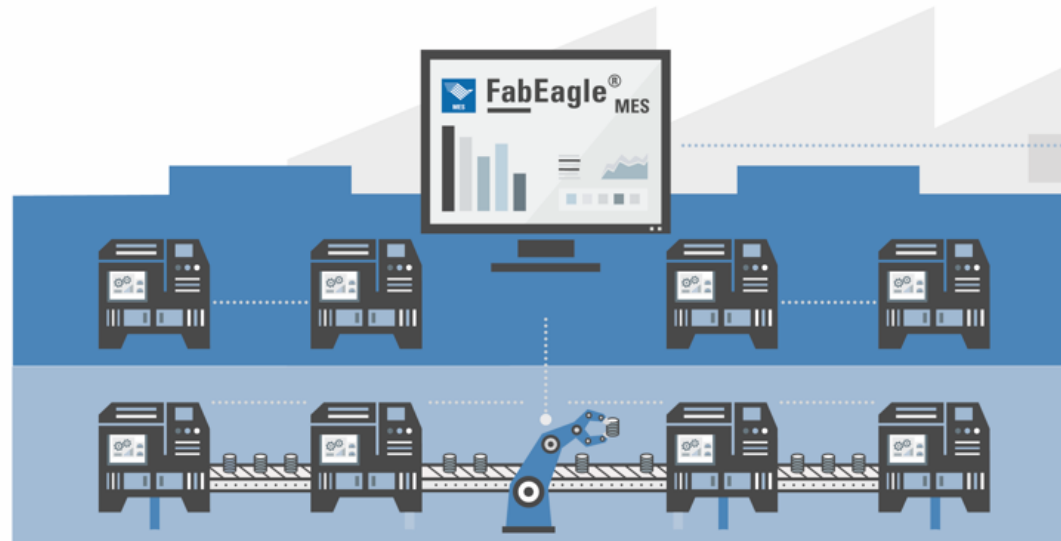
Archiving



Operator
Workstation



User management

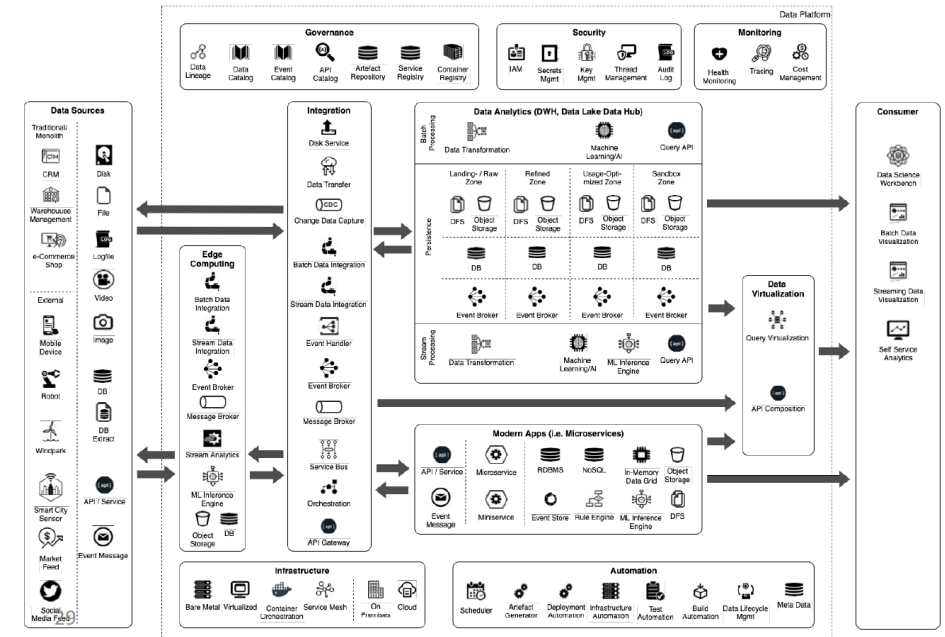
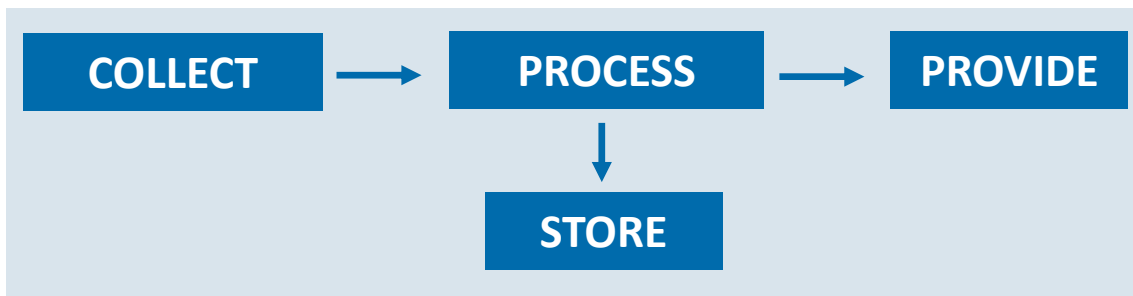


FabEagle[®]
MES

BLUEPRINT FOR MODERN DATA ARCHITECTURE

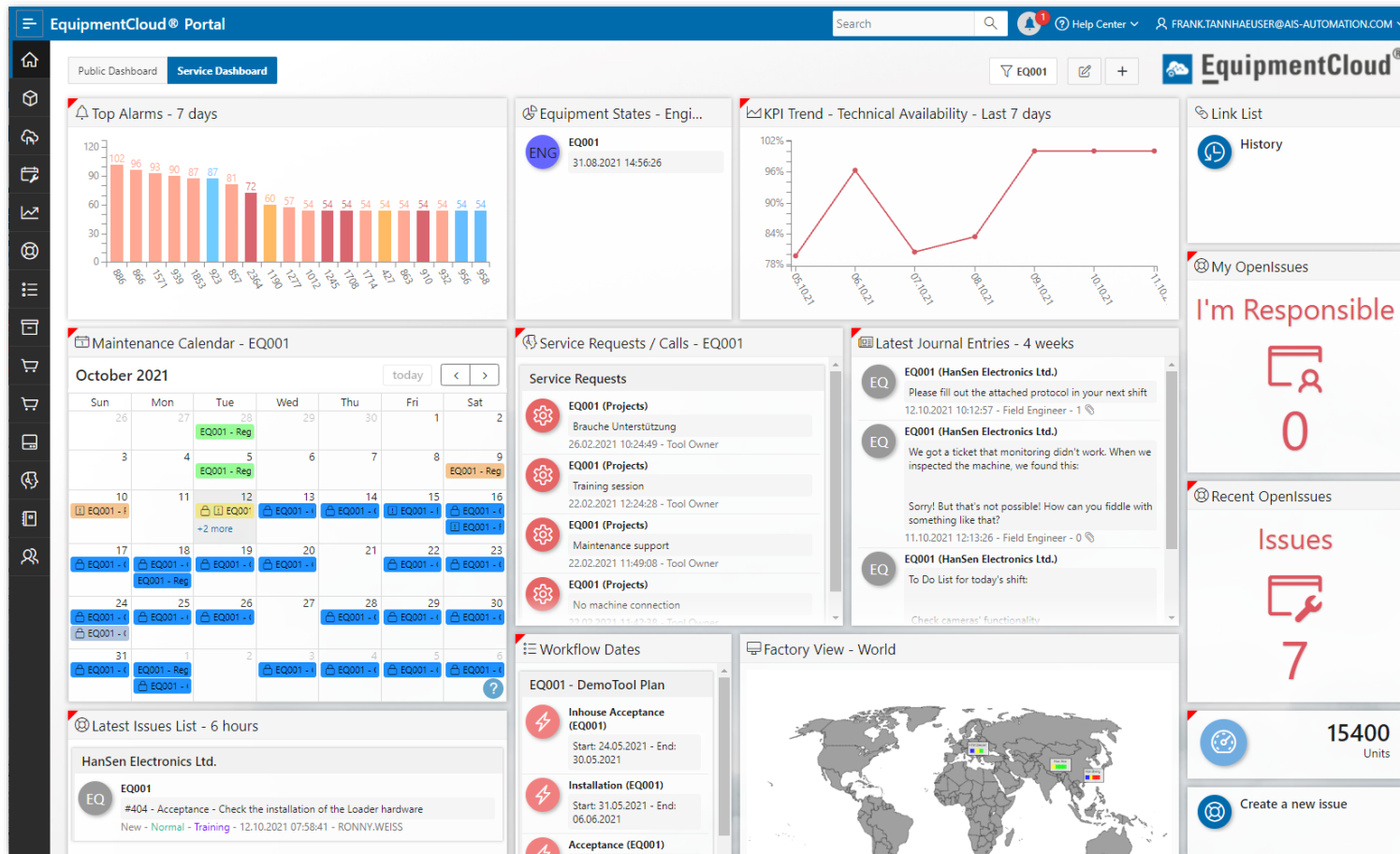
- ▶ Event based
- ▶ Separation of storage and compute
- ▶ Automation over manual coding and processes
- ▶ Keep raw data in central place with potential storage tiering

Hybrid solution of MES and Cloud



 **EquipmentCloud®**

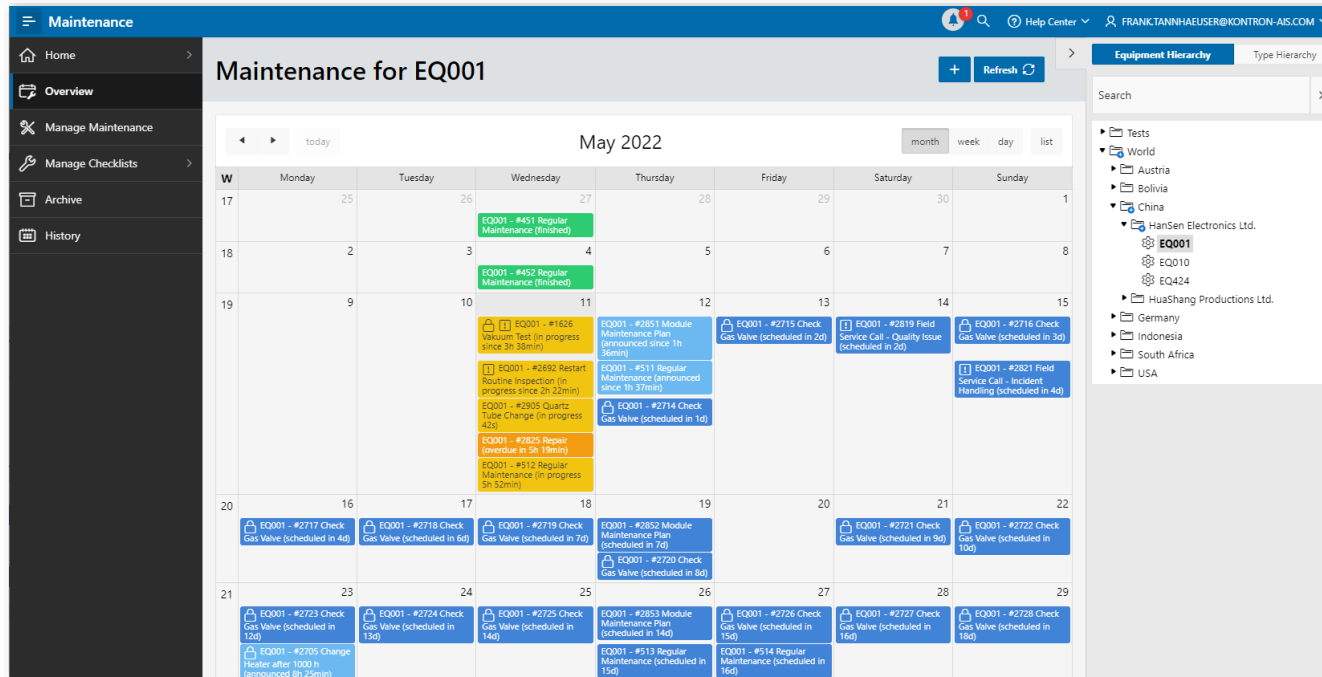
CLOUD-ENABLED MES EXTENSION



Apps to support production:

- ▶ Monitoring
- ▶ Maintenance
- ▶ Documents
- ▶ Open Issues
- ▶ Knowledge Base
- ▶ Spare Parts
- ▶ Remote Assistance

CLOUD-BASED MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT



The functions:

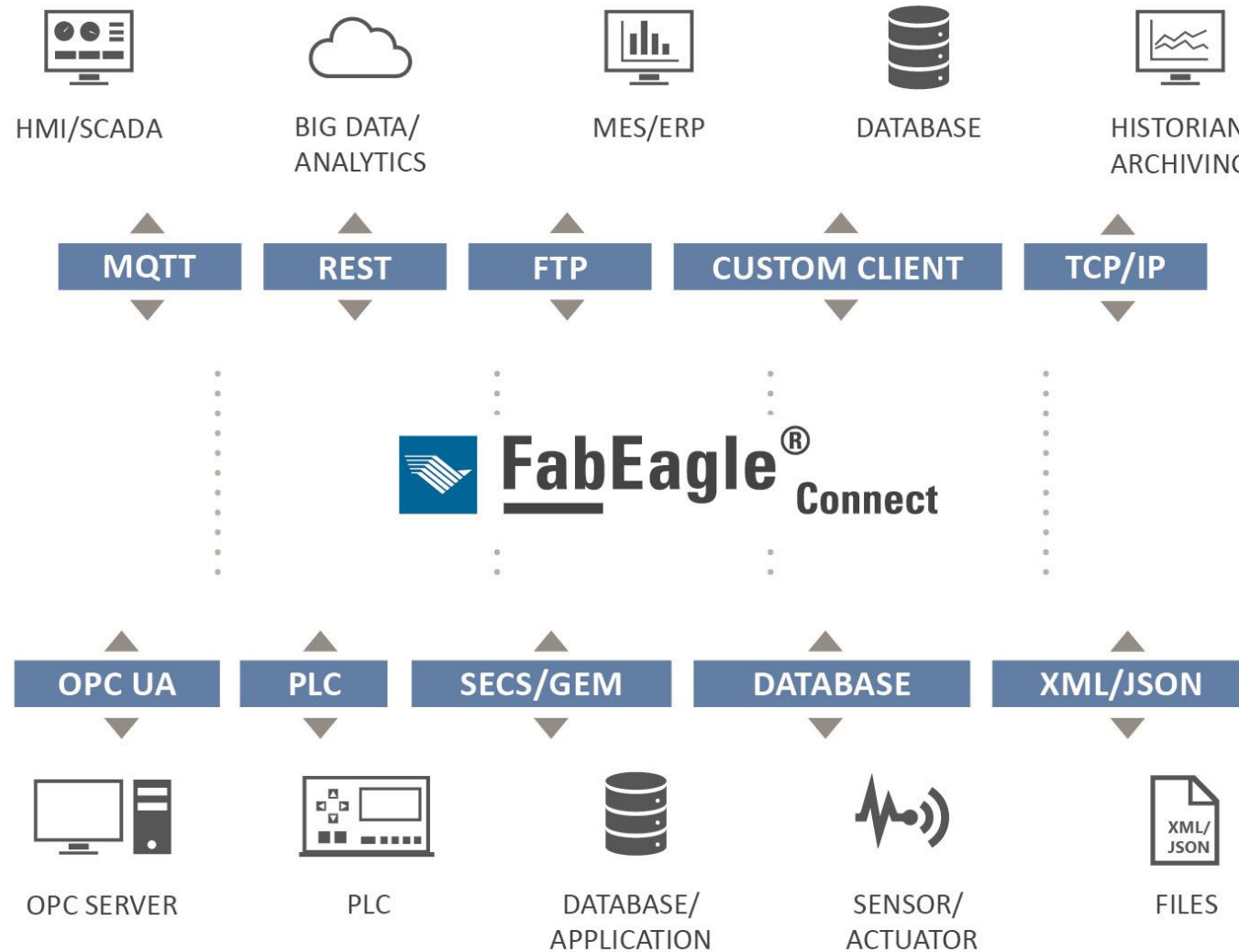
- ▶ Maintenance calendar
- ▶ Cyclic, alarm or condition-based, Process value-based
- ▶ Incremental counter maintenance
- ▶ Integrated workflows with variable parameters

Your benefit:

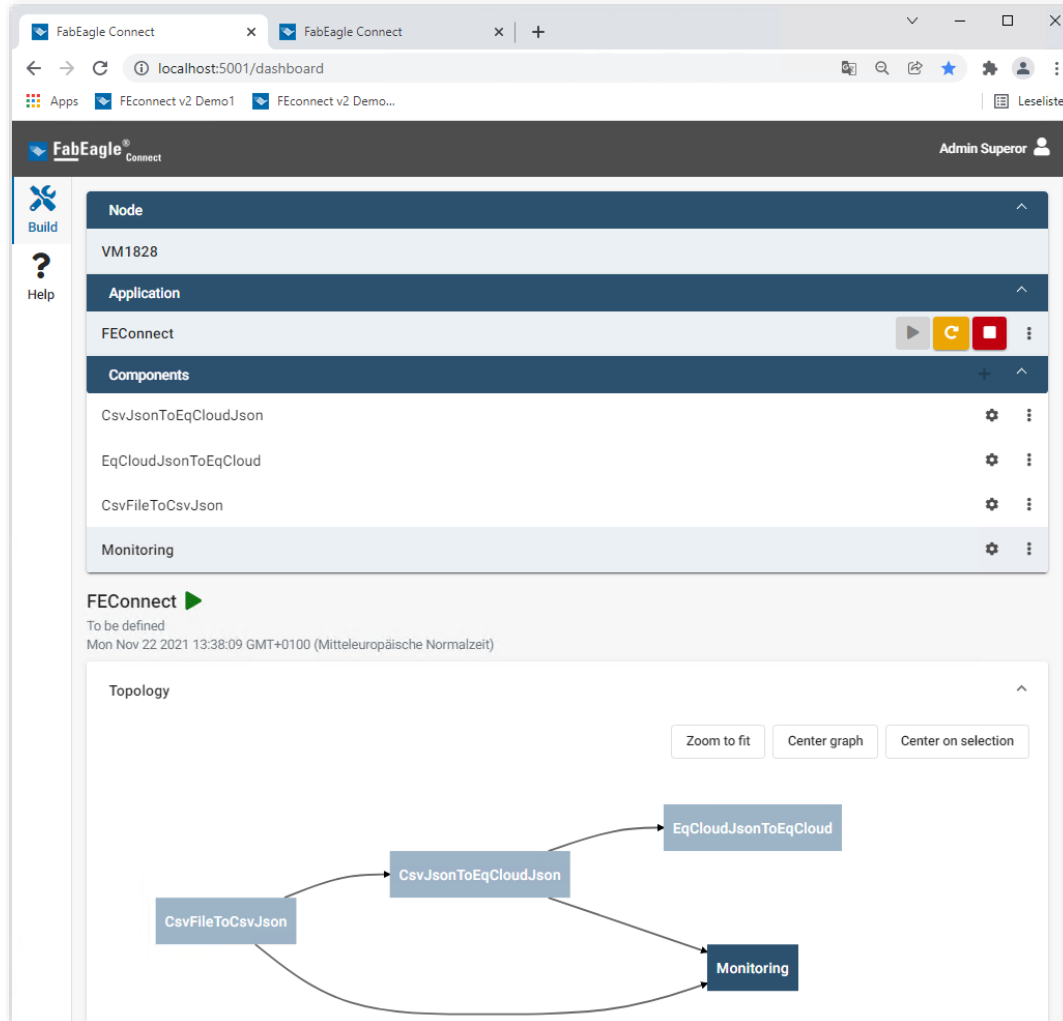
- ▶ Planning, documentation (link to workflows) and reminder in one tool



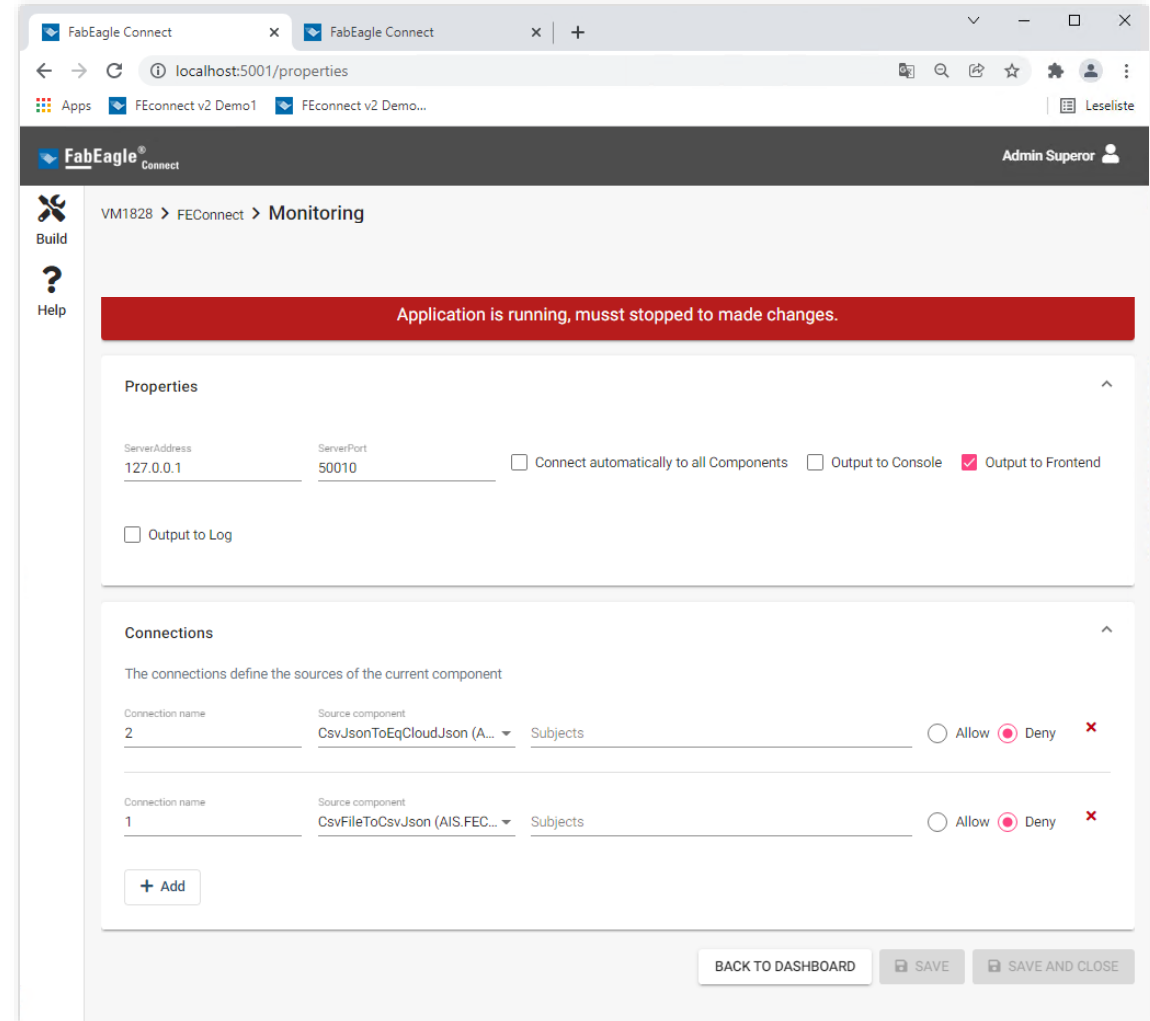
EQUIPMENT INTEGRATION



USER INTERFACE FOR CONFIGURATION AND ADMINISTRATION



The screenshot shows the FabEagle Connect dashboard at localhost:5001/dashboard. The interface includes a sidebar with 'Build' and 'Help' icons, and a main content area. The 'Node' section is expanded, showing 'VM1828' as the node, 'FEConnect' as the application, and a list of components: 'CsvJsonToEqCloudJson', 'EqCloudJsonToEqCloud', 'CsvFileToCsvJson', and 'Monitoring'. Below this, the 'FEConnect' status is shown as 'To be defined' with a timestamp. The 'Topology' section displays a flow diagram with nodes 'CsvFileToCsvJson', 'CsvJsonToEqCloudJson', 'EqCloudJsonToEqCloud', and 'Monitoring', connected by arrows. Controls for 'Zoom to fit', 'Center graph', and 'Center on selection' are visible.



The screenshot shows the FabEagle Connect dashboard at localhost:5001/properties, specifically the 'Monitoring' configuration page for 'VM1828 > FEConnect > Monitoring'. A red banner at the top states 'Application is running, must be stopped to make changes.' The 'Properties' section includes fields for 'ServerAddress' (127.0.0.1) and 'ServerPort' (50010), and checkboxes for 'Connect automatically to all Components', 'Output to Console', 'Output to Frontend' (checked), and 'Output to Log'. The 'Connections' section lists two connections: '2' with source component 'CsvJsonToEqCloudJson (A...)' and '1' with source component 'CsvFileToCsvJson (AIS.FEC...)'. Both connections have 'Allow' and 'Deny' radio buttons, with 'Deny' selected for both. An '+ Add' button is at the bottom. At the very bottom, there are buttons for 'BACK TO DASHBOARD', 'SAVE', and 'SAVE AND CLOSE'.

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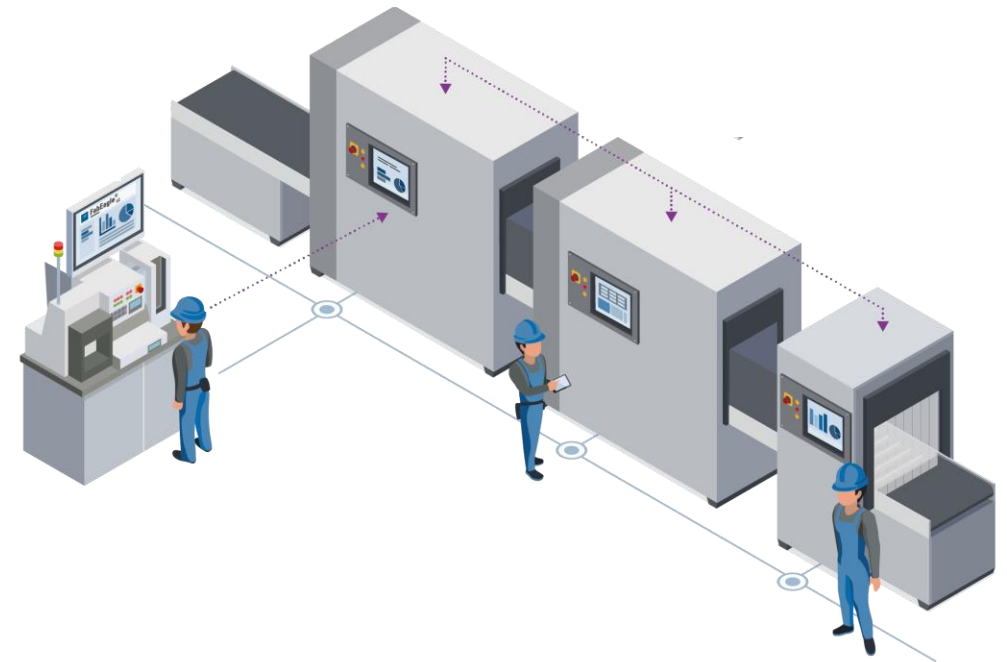
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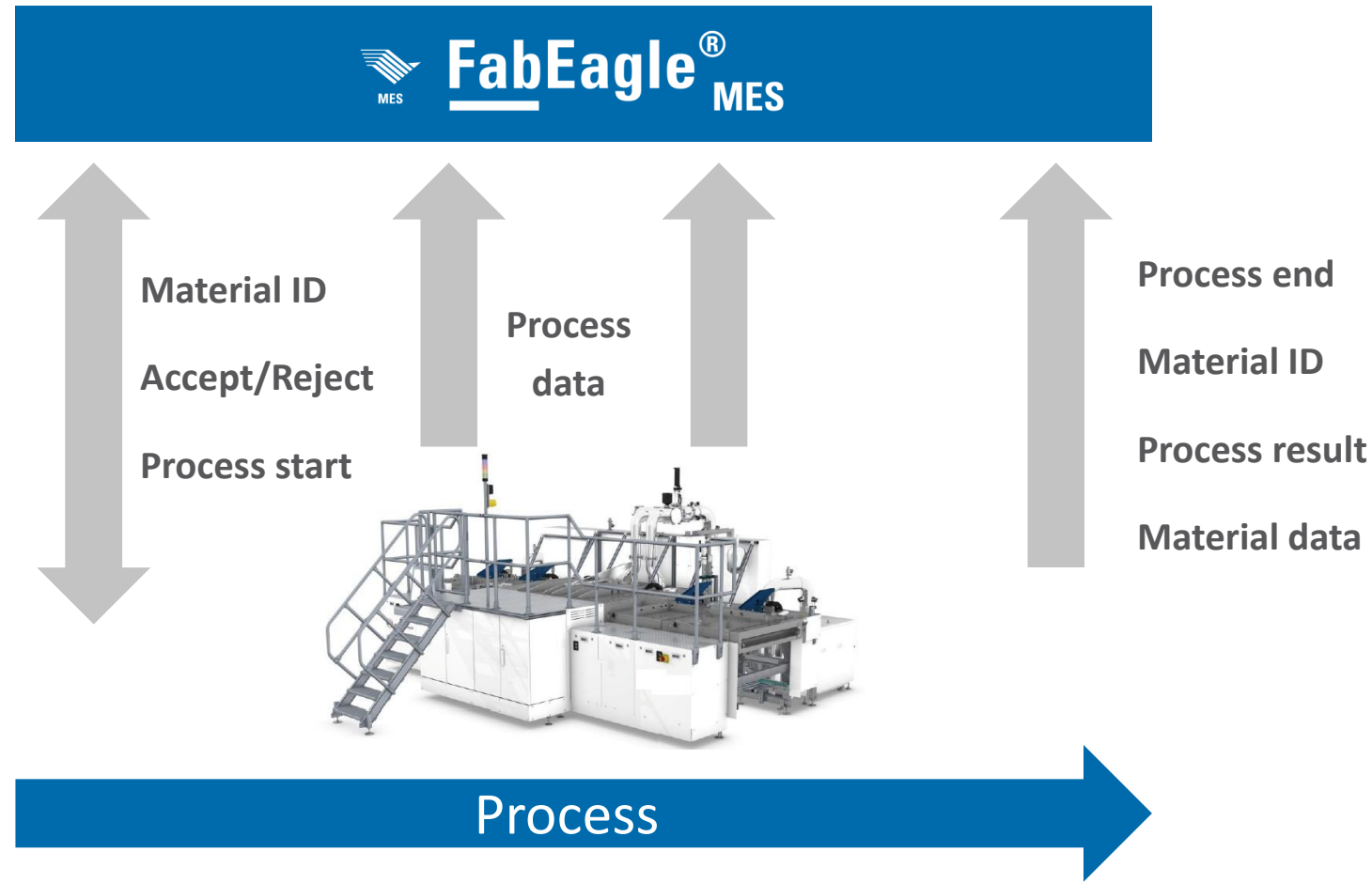
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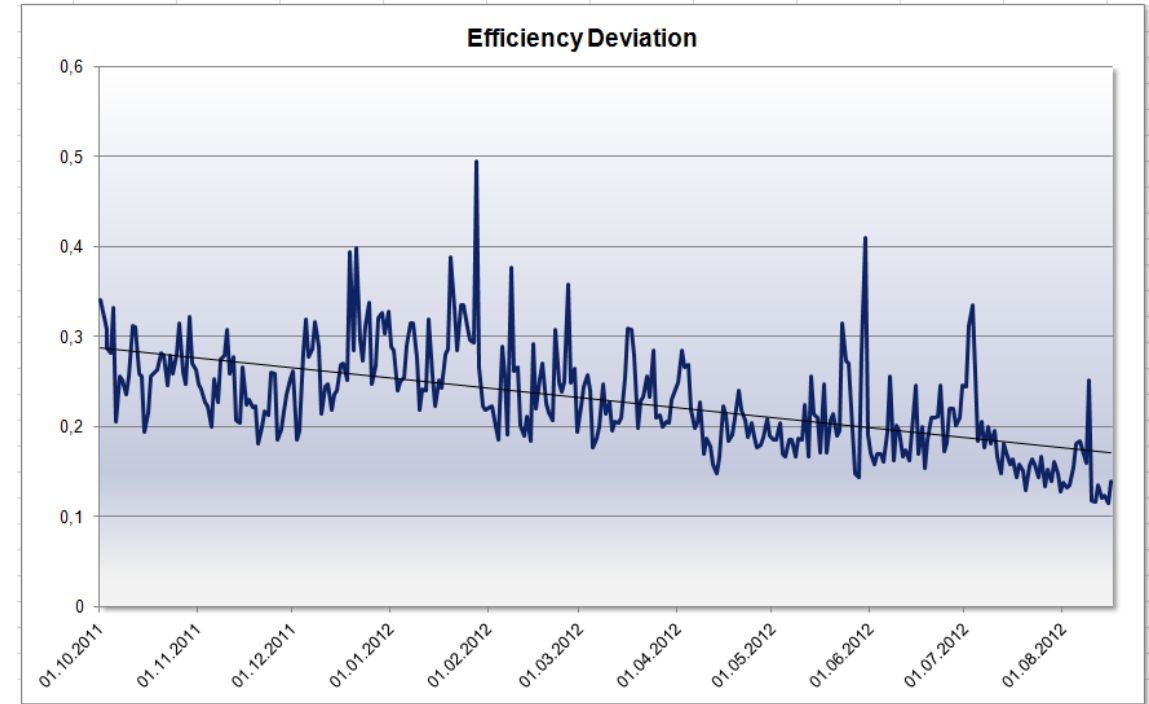
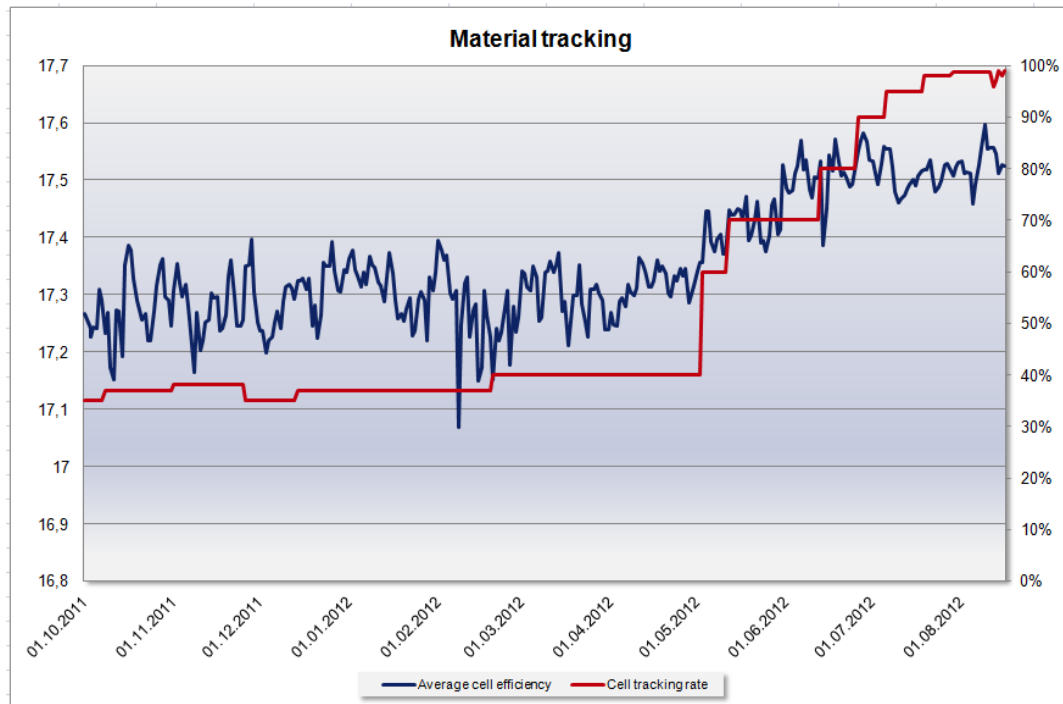


COMMUNICATION MES – EQUIPMENT



BENEFITS OF VIRTUAL TRACKING IN SOLAR CELL PRODUCTION

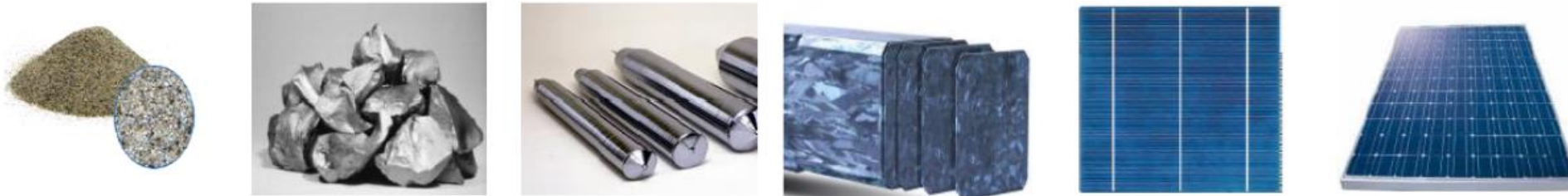
- ▶ Increase efficiency by using virtual wafer tracking in solar cell manufacturing
- ▶ Reduce efficiency deviations



EXAMPLE OF A SOLAR CELL AND MODULE PRODUCTION



- ▶ More than 1000 connected equipment to FabEagle® MES to produce several 100.000 solar cells per day
- ▶ Real-time connection to ERP to track finished and semi-finished products
- ▶ Process and Equipment data acquisition with Online-SPC
- ▶ Material and carrier interlock
- ▶ Product Track & Trace
- ▶ Monitoring equipment performance



Crystal Growing

Cropping

Wafering

Solar Cell

Solar
Module

BENEFITS OF MES FUNCTIONS THAT ARE NEEDED TODAY



INCREASED TRANSPARENCY

- ▶ Reduce downtimes and troubleshooting to optimize production
- ▶ Motivate employees with feedback on the production state



TRACEABILITY

- ▶ Improving product quality by collecting material batches and process data
- ▶ Rapid response time to deviations by automated data acquisition



PRODUCTION CONTROL

- ▶ Central process control by standardizing interface
- ▶ Meet delivery commitments by transparency in the progress of orders

TIME FOR YOUR INPUT



- ▶ Please give us your feedback on the Polls
- ▶ The results are available in the right bottom corner



Secure quality. Improve processes. Save costs.



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