

5 Tips for **Ditching** Excel BOMs

A Plan for Every Part (PFEP) is an expanded “commercial bill of material” that has been an industry best practice for decades.

Although PFEP is a wonderful tool, it’s often abandoned due to the immense individual maintenance effort required.

1 Foster Cross-Functional Group Buy in

Every function – program management, design, engineering, and manufacturing – needs a seat at the early product development table. Automated PFEP software enables multiple functions to view, edit and manage data simultaneously, accelerating product development timelines.

Emphasize the time that everyone will save using Automated PFEP software to foster quicker cross-functional team buy in.

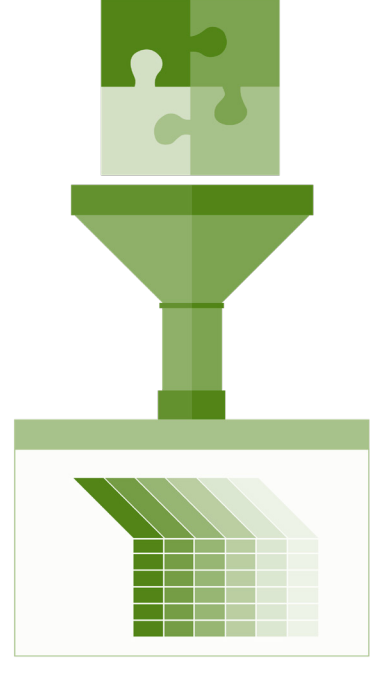


2 Establish a Solid Data Foundation

Using Excel and CSV file import functions within Automated PFEP software can help ease your team’s anxiety when switching to a new software system.

With just a few mouse clicks most Automated PFEP software can upload a large Excel BOM in about five seconds.

Select Automated PFEP software also has built-in functionality to audit your Excel BOM to ensure a solid data foundation is established.



3 Speed Up Data Exchange with APIs to Automatically Pull Data from PLM

Free up time by integrating your Automated PFEP software with your Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) software to automatically pull in data. The amount of time saved by tracking early component revision changes alone can be worth deploying Automated PFEP software.

Further, the time saved from not having to manually update spreadsheets can be repurposed to track down product development issues to optimize the product.



4 Bridge the Data Chasm Between PLM & ERP

Quality Management Systems (QMS) and Transportation Management Systems (TMS) have generated substantial returns on investment. Replicate this success by giving your team a software tool to organize large data sets of critical new product data.

Forward-thinking companies are saving additional time utilizing APIs to connect their Automated PFEP software to their Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software.

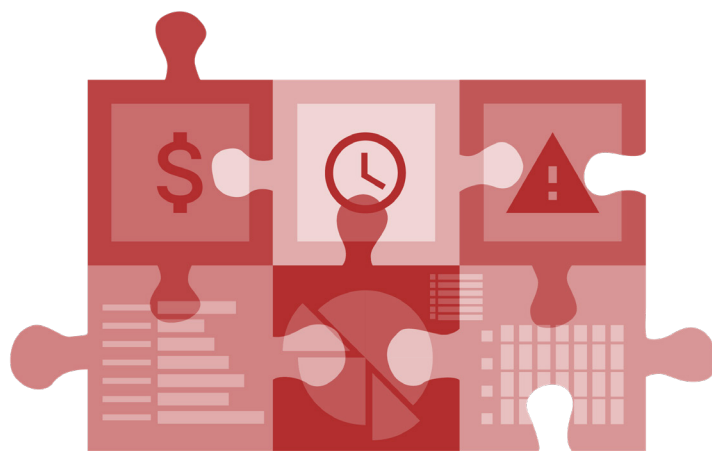
This logical next step bridges the data divide to create an end-to-end automated product lifecycle solution where all data has a home, from idea to production.



5 Automate Executive Reporting with Dashboards

We’re all leaders, regardless of title, so we need real-time access to the latest product cost, timing and risk data throughout early product development to effectively execute our responsibilities.

Utilize automated dashboards that present product, engineering design and testing, equipment, tooling and inbounds logistics costs in real time to empower each individual and the collective team to be more effective.



Innovate Faster to Build Competitive Advantages

There are no shortcuts to success, but the more you and your team can take a hard look at your current early BOM process and automate, the faster you’ll innovate.

Every little step in the process that you can automate saves you valuable time. Focus on deploying Automated PFEP software first, then connect it to your PLM, and then connect to your ERP. Replace your manual Excel BOMs with Automated PFEP software to bring your products to market faster.