**Main Message:** The Digitalization of Manufacturing

**Guest & Title: Gary Mintchell, Title?**

**Intro:**

Manufacturing is always pursuing higher production rates, increased productivity, more efficient use of materials, better product quality, improved safety, reduced factory lead times not to mention shorter workweeks for labour and better worker safety.

Digitalization – Industry 4.0, IiOT, Smart Factories – or whatever you choose to call it is changing the manufacturing landscape. Sensors littered throughout factories collect and share data to monitor and enhance operations, and data collection can start as far back as the source of a product’s raw materials. This mountain of data will have a huge impact on four primary areas; 1) operational efficiency; 2) predictive and preventative maintenance; 3) supply chain management; and 4) inventories and logistics.

This week on the Make It Right podcast we are looking at the digitalization of manufacturing. Kevin Snook and I are pleased to have Gary Mintchell as our guest. Gary does research, analysis and writing about manufacturing. He is a blogger and host of the Gary on Manufacturing podcast. Welcome to the show Gary.

**Questions:**

1. Are most manufacturers moving forward digitalization and where do they start??
2. Let’s discuss the four key area that will be impacted by digitization

Operational Efficiency

* where and how can manufacturers make the most impactful changes
* I read a report that indicated productivity gains of 25%…what kind of results are manufacturers actually getting?

Predictive and Preventative Maintenance;

* as the speed of manufacturing increases, the cost of maintenance and unplanned downtime increases too – does this approach to maintenance require a mindset shift for most manufacturers?

Supply Chain Management;

* how is digitalization changing/going to change how supply chains are managed?
* Real time status visibility on supply chains - what impact will this have on a manufacturers competitiveness…those with the strongest supply chains win?
* Has the desire for more visibility further down the line increased since COVID?

Inventories and Logistics.

* What role does digitalization play for inventories and logisitics?

1. What challenges do you see ahead for manufacturers?
2. Key takeaways

**Thank you & Extro:**

**Gary Mintchell is the host of the Gary on Manufacturing podcast.**

Kevin Snook is a manufacturing Leadership Advisor and author of the bestselling book *“Make It Right - 5 Steps to Align Your Manufacturing Business from the Front Line to the Bottomline”.*

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Until next time, I’m Janet Eastman. Thanks for listening to the Make It Right podcast.

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