

Intelligent Automation for Logistics

Logistics and manufacturing operations always walk a fine line between supply and demand. Even slight fluctuations in labor or materials costs, customer behavior, or the weather, can cause hiccups that have a ripple effect down the line. Intelligent automation can help companies anticipate what's next.

Use cases

1. Make forecasting for manufacturing ultra-precise

In manufacturing, timing is everything. Want to capitalize on the weather, a big event, or an of-the-minute fashion trend? You can only do this if your inventory forecasting is fast and precise. Automation Hero can help a company create an AI model that goes beyond simple supply and demand, taking into account parameters like weather patterns, availability of raw materials and machinery, or even political events that might cause hiccups in a supply chain.

The platform can also quickly pull in things like handwritten reports from equipment operators in the field. Once a document is scanned, Automation Hero can use customized OCR (optical character recognition) and AI to extract critical information and then use our connectors to write the information into the relevant system. The ability to synthesize more data points means precision forecasting, which ultimately speeds up timeto-market for a variety of customer goods.

Customized OCR: Our optical character recognition solution uses AI to translate handwritten documents and extract critical information.

2. Optimize dynamic pricing with AI

Let's say your online marketplace offers shipping containers for rent or purchase. An algorithm helps you serve up offers to customers based on inventory, demand, and competition data. But Automation Hero can help you create a simple AI model that works in conjunction with the algorithm — meaning the model learns from patterns over time. For example, if customers accessing your website in a certain area go for higher price points, or buyers from one region all buy the same size containers, you can use these insights to optimize your long-term pricing strategy for each customer segment.

3. Step up efficiency around invoicing

Perhaps you're a small manufacturer who sends and receives invoices for a variety of goods. Most of your suppliers have a 30-day window for payment. But you've noticed that a growing number of suppliers send an invoice whether you've received the goods or not. Automation Hero can help a company create a simple database lookup to detect whether the goods have arrived, and set a rule to authorize payment only once they have. The platform might again extract an account ID from a submitted invoice and then map that ID to the appropriate field in your invoice management software. Now, payment is tied to actual deliveries, not planned or theoretical ones, which improves company cash flow.

30% – 50%

According to McKinsey, predictive analytics and machine learning can reduce forecasting error in supply chains by 30-50%.

4. Extract data from invoices faster

Whether you're using Salesforce, SAP, or some other software to manage information, we can speed up data input and output from that system. For example, let's say you're using SAP for invoice management. Automation Hero can help you create a simple screen automation that fills out an SAP form using information from any other source or database.

The automation might grab, for example, an account ID from an invoice submitted as a PDF, using OCR (Optical Character Recognition). Then it maps that ID to the appropriate field in SAP, and inputs the rest of the critical information from the invoice into the system. What may have taken an employee 30 minutes to input is now an automation that takes just a few seconds.

5. Speed up claims processing for damaged parts

When you produce expensive, specialized equipment that aids in public safety, responding quickly to equipment damage is a big part of your business. Working with a manufacturer of high-speed engines and propulsion systems, Automation Hero devised the following strategies: The company received a number of claims about equipment damage in various parts of the world. But it struggled to respond quickly, meaning high-speed engines sat idle for long periods of time.

Automation Hero helped the company convert unstructured data in the claims (damage location, weather conditions, time of year) into structured data that could be processed in just a few seconds. It also used an AI model to cluster claims according to their commonalities, meaning corrective actions could be taken faster and, often, proactively.

6. Smooth out online ordering

No matter the size of your ecommerce operation, customers should have a seamless ordering experience. Let's say 70% of your customers make purchases directly from a website and 30% send requests via email. Automation Hero lets a company create its own AI model to scan and understand the intent of incoming human messages like email. Based on that intent, the software can automate a response to, for example, a request for a price quote, or route the email to the proper department. Our platform can also communicate with an inventory management system, eliminating human error and saving employees hours of time checking product availability.

What is Automation Hero?

Automation Hero's end-to-end automation platform for the modern enterprise combines screen scraping, structured and unstructured data processing, machine learning, and the human workforce. It's an operating system for automation — intelligently automating everything from simple tasks to complex business processes. This improves information worker productivity and drives more successful, optimized business outcomes. Its powerful backend focuses on three key areas: eliminating repetitive and time-consuming tasks, automating common asks and augmenting employee decision making.