



## CASE STUDY

# Fabricator sees efficiency gains and increased visibility with Octave Loop Material Readiness

### Key facts:

**Industry:** Fabrication

**Country:** United States

**Octave products used:**  
Loop Material Readiness (*Jovix*)

### Key benefits:

- Proactive, predictive material and process control
- KPIs and dashboards for better decision-making
- Ability to correct material issues before impacting schedule
- Digitized data collection

A multi-site, U.S. fabricator had a goal to improve efficiency, productivity and accuracy in material management, including pipe spools and modules. They launched a company-wide, phased approach to deploy Inspections Loop Material Readiness, automating reporting and enabling visibility into internal and external progress communications.

With a goal of proactive and predictive material and process control, the fabricator digitized data collection with RFID tags, barcode labels and mobile hardware, providing unique services to clients with real-time reporting and downstream material tracking. After integrating Loop Material Readiness into their existing scheduling software, enterprise resource planning (ERP) tool and engineering bills of material (BOM), the fabricator set themselves apart from competitors with total visibility into their processes, including enhanced collaboration and communication with the workforce planning tools of EPC firms and prime contractors.

The fabricator has three facilities in the eastern U.S. and business units in industrial construction, pipe fabrication, modular fabrication, fire protection and engineering services. With over 800 employees, 8,000 global clients and over 20,000 projects, the fabricator's mission is to increase productivity while maintaining safety standards.



### Pain points in the traditional fabricator workflow

Growth brings growing pains, and as they grew, the fabricator noticed cracks appearing in traditional processes like inventory and shop floor control.

- Disparate spreadsheets for inventory
- Shop floor control run on disparate spreadsheets
- Spreadsheets lacked visibility and consistency, leading to data silos

They needed a resolution that provided visibility and transparency, both internally and externally.

### The Goal? Efficiency and Visibility

## Solution

Loop Material Readiness worked with the fabricator to develop solutions to improve process productivity, efficiency and accuracy.

- Removed paper-based systems
- Automated pipe spool status activities
- Created a single source for material inventory
- United three shops under one tracking/location system, providing material visibility to corporate
- Provided client access to material status reports and downstream tracking

## Where does Loop Material Readiness fit into their processes?

The fabricator's scheduling software feeds into the ERP system which sends material information into Loop Material Readiness, which is also populated with engineering BOMs from third parties.

### The Four-Phase Implementation

#### Phase 1:

##### Server transactions, Material availability and allocation

Accomplished through consumption of source fabricator and client spool data • ISO and spool drawing data structures • Purchase order tracking • Inventory management • Material receiving

#### Phase 2:

##### Mobile Hardware, Mobile Transactions and Barcoding

Supported by mobile receiving, inventory management, mobile picking and issuing, mobile barcoding of inventory and mobile barcoding of pipe

#### Phase 3:

##### Testing Automated Hardware and Fabrication

Facility gate readers • Facility RFID loop markers • Material RFID tag attachment and reads • Automatic spool status updates and location by fabrication loop process

#### Phase 4:

##### Business Intelligence (BI) and Reporting

• Continuous business requirements from phases 1-3 • Loop Material Readiness BI development and mock-up • Loop Material Readiness BI validation and roll-out

## Results

- Proactive and predictive material and process control
- Key performance indicators and dashboards
- Management by exception allows the fabricator to correct issues before they become problems that impact schedule
- Mistake-proof processes via digitized data collection and the elimination of paper-based transactions

The fabricator's Loop Material Readiness deployment across multiple facilities led to efficiency gains and increased process visibility and was made possible by digitized material data collection and a collaborative workspace that adds value upstream.

## About Octave

Octave is a leader in enterprise software, turning data into decisive action and intelligence into your edge. Our software solves for and simplifies complexity, from the design and build to operations and protection of people, property and assets – for any scope, at any scale. For decades, we've partnered with customers to sharpen performance, elevate efficiency and amplify results. From factory floors to entire cities, our solutions are tuned to scale up what's possible from day one onward.

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