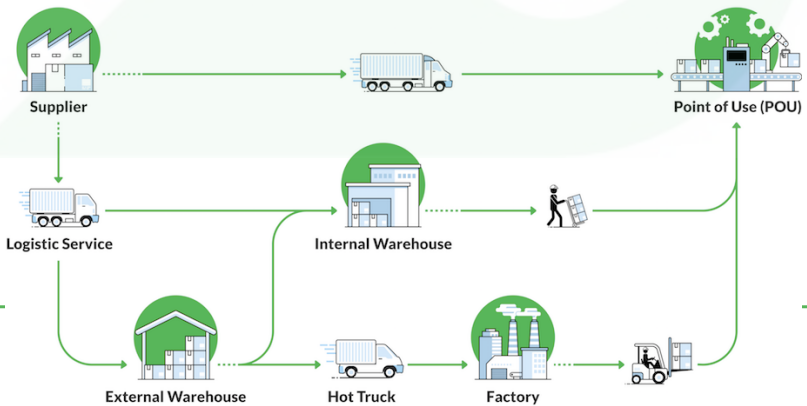


## TRINITY - SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS

### 'Hot Parts' Case Study

Trinity specializes in the supply of standard and customer-specific components through catalog distribution, customized inventory management programs and product delivery services. These services result in an improvement in the flow of products, services, and information across the supply chain, improving the bottom line of the companies. Trinity covers all of the US with 9 different distribution centers providing the highest level of service with real, measurable, repeatable positive results.



“

Over sixty percent of the prospects we encounter are still using an ad hoc approach to deal with their supply chain disruptions. Often, they have not considered the advantages of using a purpose-built tool to automate hot parts, supplier expedites, or root cause analysis.

- Russ Miller, StrataFlows

## MODERNIZING THE SUPPLY CHAIN



As most of the world embraces technology, the supply-chain industry should be no exception. However, with ad hoc systems for tracking Hot Parts and materials such as email, spreadsheets, phone calls, and other limited options, the supply chain industry continues to fall behind. Trinity knew there was a better way to control and manage their Hot Parts. After a deep dive for a solution, Trinity found StrataFlows within a John Deere facility. Taking their requests from 150-200 part requests a day to around 10-15, StrataFlows was the answer Trinity needed.

## THE CHALLENGE



As a Third-Party Logistics (3PL) company, Trinity provides VMI (Vendor-Managed Inventory) directly to the assembly lines for select John Deere plants. Prior to implementing StrataFlows, one of the significant issues they faced was obtaining data from Hot Part requests and being able to track the location and availability of parts inventory in real-time. These 150 to 200 daily requests were sent out in the form of emails and calls with the attached spreadsheets. It was nearly impossible to stay up-to-date and follow up on the newest developments for each Hot Part request, and there was little to no chance of doing root cause analysis without a system to track. The lack of a system for tracking Hot Parts proved difficult for Trinity, leading to costly line shutdowns and unnecessary downtime. With no updated way to track each issue that arose, incident management also became a concern, and multiple requests for the same reason added more chaos to the mix.



## IMPLEMENTING A SOLUTION

Concerned with John Deere's production efficiency, and their own credibility, Trinity implemented their first StrataFlows module designed to deal with Hot Part requests. A critical benefit of the Hot Part module gives Material Coordinators in the Deere plant an effortless way to submit Hot Part requests and communicate them with Trinity, the 3PL provider in the nearby warehouse. From those requests, team members can either quickly pull the item from an inbound shipment before receipt or pick it from inventory to get it to the plant before it causes assembly line impact. According to Jay Rudisill, Trinity's Warehouse Manager, "before using the Hot Part module, we found we would report an issue, only to find out we had some sitting on our dock - now we know if it is on a shipment and when it arrived." Having this new visibility in their supply chain helps Trinity run more efficiently.





The StrataFlows module was incredibly easy to implement with the team. It took maybe an hour or so before our team was up and running with it.

- Jay Rudisill, Trinity



Implementing new software and a way of operating can be tricky sometimes. However, Jay noted that this module was exactly the opposite. Quick turnaround time is a key feature of the StrataFlows platform. It can integrate with the systems manufacturers are already using making it extremely easy for team members to communicate. Jay also notes, "the ability to access from a cell phone or any device, allows me to continue to follow and track requests from anywhere in the plant, making it easy to stay up to date with any developments." StrataFlows modules are also easily customizable; For Trinity, the flexibility of the platform helped them tailor the Hot Part request module to meet their exact business needs. "From almost the first day of Stratawise, it allowed my team to take a step back to see where we are with certain requests.

The requests were easier to manage because we could see the stage they were at – submitted, acknowledged, picked, delivered." Jay says. Trinity now has an easier way to follow up, track, and manage all Hot Part requests that come in from the production line. Not only are team members able to view real-time data, requests, and issues on the interactive dashboard but they also could export all data to an Excel file for further analysis. StrataFlows helps Trinity not only follow up on requests faster but allows for incident management and tracking. By tracking issues, Trinity is able to single out reoccurring issues and communicate to correct the problem for the future.

# SUCCESSING WITH StrataFlows



With the ease of implementation and the success the Hot Part request module was providing, Trinity did an internal audit of their workflows to assess if StrataFlows could help improve other aspects of their supply chain.

The second module implemented was for their ACD (add/change/delete) process. This module was tailored for Trinity to add, change, or remove parts needed on the line. With the help of StrataFlows, team members could quickly look up a needed part and see if there was another area of the plant it was located in or if there was an adequate substitute they could use instead. Prior to StrataFlows, this searching for parts resulted in many phone and email requests and, ultimately, led to costly production downtime. Now though, with the module in place, requests and downtimes have significantly been reduced.

**Hot Part Request** HPR-00010 Awaiting Receipt ✕

**Material**

Requested Material  
AH8903

Supplier  
Bare

Description  
NUT, SQUARE

Quantity  
1

Priority  
1-High (Line Down)

**Location**

Source Location  
23

Destination Location  
44

Warehouse Location  
Whse Loc 3

Requesting Department

Receipt Complete Save Close Window



Trinity has now developed modules of their own on the Stratawise platform that they use internally and with other customers, such as CNH Industrial, through their “myparts” 3PL and VMI services:

1. **ACD** – add/change/delete for tracking the placement of parts they manage within work centers on the plant floor
2. **Inbound Expedite** – used to request parts anticipated to be short coming in from a Trinity hub or external supplier. It provides visibility into which supplier the part is being sourced from, quantity, the ETA, tracking details and general status
3. **Cycle Count** – used to do systematic inventory checks back into the warehouse or a department on the plant floor as part of an inventory management system





SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS

# TRINITY

A GROWING BRAND OF  AGRISOLUTIONS



Before Trinity found StrataFlows, team members were fielding phone calls and emails for 150-200 part requests a day, causing stress, and issues when requests slipped through the cracks. That number has been cut down to about 10-15 requests a day, or a **92.5% decrease** since StrataFlows helped modernize their workflow. Along with the decrease in daily requests, reoccurring incidents are down thanks to the data reporting provided by StrataFlows which allows for root cause analysis. Happily working with the two modules now, Trinity is already looking to StrataFlows to help streamline their other workflows.

# StrataFlows

The Material Flow Solution

- Reduce the frequency and volume of expedites
- React more optimally when material inevitably needs to be expedited
- Capture the metrics that enable process improvement and quantify the improvement
- Perform process improvement, thereby reducing the number and cost of production disruptions resulting from materials handling issues
- Improve the morale of all those involved through more predictable execution

Ready to Move  
Your Firm to the  
Next Level with  
StrataFlows?

Download Our 'Hot  
Parts' Free Trial

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