

DEWALT



**CONSTRUCTION
TECHNOLOGY™**



**CASE STUDY:
HOW AZCO BROUGHT
REAL-TIME CONTROL
TO PIPE FABRICATION**





The biggest thing for me is knowing exactly where things are at—without chasing paper or spreadsheets.”

MATTHEW BENNER

Pipe Fabrication Department Manager
AZCO



REAL-TIME INSIGHT FOR BETTER PRODUCTION PLANNING

A DEWALT® CASE STUDY

- **COMPANY:** AZCO
- **INDUSTRY:** Heavy Industrial and fabrication
- **LOCATIONS:** Wisconsin
- **KEY CONTACT:** Matthew Benner, Manager



OVERVIEW

AZCO is a heavy industrial construction and fabrication solution provider supporting complex infrastructure projects across power, oil, gas and industrial markets. Operating as part of the Burns & McDonnell family of companies, AZCO integrates closely with engineering, construction, and fabrication teams to deliver predictable, high-quality outcomes.

The AZCO pipe fabrication facility in Wisconsin serves as a centralized hub for stainless and carbon steel fabrication, supporting multiple concurrent projects with strict quality and code requirements.

KEY FACTS

- **45,000 sq. ft. pipe fab facility**
- **39 craft pros on the shop floor**
- **4 in-house drafters producing spool drawings**
- **Union fabrication workforce**



THE CHALLENGE: LIMITED VISIBILITY IN A PAPER-DRIVEN FABRICATION ENVIRONMENT

Before MSUITE, AZCO managed fabrication using a combination of **paper spool drawings**, **Excel spreadsheets**, and a legacy **homegrown system** that **lacked real-time production tracking and visibility**.

While the existing tools supported basic design needs, they did not provide live insight into fabrication status, weld progression, or QA/QC requirements. Critical information still flowed through the shop on paper, making it difficult for leadership and project managers to understand true production status at any given time.

As fabrication volume increased and multiple projects ran in parallel, AZCO needed a better way to track progress, coordinate work, and maintain quality without adding administrative overhead.

“Prior to my involvement around here, we had a homegrown program that didn't track real-time information. We were still having paper copies flowing through from a QA/QC standpoint.”

MATTHEW BENNER

Pipe Fabrication Department Manager

WHY AZCO SELECTED MSUITE

Real-Time Insight for Better Production Planning

AZCO selected MSUITE to bring real-time visibility and structure to fabrication execution. The primary driver was not modeling sophistication, but operational control. AZCO needed to know exactly where spools were in the process, what packages were being worked on, and how production aligned with plans.

With MSUITE, project managers and shop leadership gained immediate access to live production data, eliminating guesswork and reducing the need to chase updates across the shop floor.



KEY RESULTS & IMPACT

- **LIVE ACCESS TO PRODUCTION DATA**
- **NO MORE CHASING UPDATES**
- **REAL-TIME STATUS**
- **SOFTWARE SYNERGY (BIM, FAB, TOOLS)**
- **NO MORE GUESS WORK FOR PLANNING**
- **ENHANCED TRACEABILITY**

“ My PMs were getting real-time information. I was able to know exactly where the spools were and where they were on the shop floor.”

MATTHEW BENNER

Pipe Fabrication Department Manager
AZCO

IMPLEMENTATION

Rolled Out Around How the Shop Actually Works

AZCO partnered with MSUITE to implement the platform in a way that matched real fabrication workflows rather than forcing artificial process changes.

The rollout focused on:

- Clearly defining fabrication sequences and shop roles
- On-site training and walkthroughs with MSUITE specialists
- Gradually onboarding new projects while legacy jobs were phased out
- Deploying iPads across welders, fit-up booths, cutters, and loaders

By the time MSUITE was fully operational, it was embedded into daily shop activity rather than treated as an overlay system.

“MSUITE’s customer support team came here and did a great job walking through the different sequences and roles.”

MATTHEW BENNER

Pipe Fabrication Department Manager, AZCO

SOLUTION

One Source of Truth for Fabrication Execution

Today, MSUITE serves as AZCO’s system of record for pipe fabrication execution.

The platform provides:

- Real-time dashboards showing project and package status
- Digital tracking of spools through fabrication stages
- Centralized QA/QC workflows for weld logs and inspections
- Reduced dependence on parallel spreadsheets and paper tracking

For leadership, MSUITE delivers immediate visibility across all active projects, helping ensure work progresses according to plan.

“The Dashboard is extremely helpful. I can see exactly where things are at—all the projects, what packages are getting worked on.”

MATTHEW BENNER

Pipe Fabrication Department Manager, AZCO



MEASURABLE IMPACT

Strongest Gains in Quality Control and Visibility

The most immediate return for AZCO has come from improved quality control and documentation. With MSUITE, weld logs, inspection requirements, and code-driven steps are tracked digitally, reducing errors and eliminating the need for side spreadsheets. **QA/QC documentation** is easier to generate, review, and validate, even for complex projects with stringent inspection requirements. At the same time, leadership and project teams have clearer visibility into what is being worked on, what remains, and where attention is needed across multiple concurrent jobs.



“ QA/QC is where I’ve seen the biggest return. Everything is in one place now instead of tracking Excel spreadsheets on the side.”

MATTHEW BENNER

Pipe Fabrication Department Manager, AZCO

LOOKING AHEAD

With fabrication workflows structured in MSUITE, AZCO is now focused on deeper insight and optimization. Production data is being evaluated for integration into Power BI to support:

- Multi-project scheduling
- Better understanding of hours remaining
- Improved capacity planning across facility

AZCO is also closely watching advancements in fabrication automation and machine integration as skilled labor shortages continue to impact the industry. **MSUITE provides the structured data foundation needed for future initiatives.**

“ We’re starting to look at estimated hours, total hours, hours remaining—and pulling that into Power BI.”

MATTHEW BENNER

Pipe Fabrication Department Manager
AZCO





PREDICTABLE FABRICATION IN A CONSTRAINED LABOR MARKET

For AZCO, MSUITE delivers more than visibility. It provides control, consistency, and confidence in fabrication execution. By replacing fragmented paper and spreadsheet workflows with a single, real-time platform, AZCO is better positioned to:

- Coordinate fabrication across multiple projects
- Maintain high QA/QC standards
- Plan production with greater accuracy
- Prepare for analytics and automation initiatives

MSUITE helps AZCO turn fabrication into a predictable, manageable operation rather than a reactive process.



A BURNS & MCDONNELL COMPANY

AZCO builds the critical infrastructure that keeps communities and industries running. As part of Burns & McDonnell, AZCO works across engineering, construction, and fabrication to bring tighter controls, improved coordination, and more predictable execution to heavy industrial projects.

By integrating fabrication early and aligning closely with field and engineering teams, AZCO helps customers execute projects safer, better, smarter, and faster. Visit their [website](#).

See why millions of professionals choose DEWALT®. From our rich history and proven performance to our focus on innovation and technology. DEWALT® continues to design and optimize professional jobsite solutions—tools, accessories and service—to ensure absolute confidence for the toughest conditions.