THE PLANT FLOOR IT READINESS CHECKLIST

10 critical checkpoints to prevent unplanned downtime, protect connected equipment, and keep shifts running on schedule

Every hour of unplanned downtime costs your operation in idle labor, missed shipments, and stalled production. Use this 3-minute diagnostic to spot hidden technology risks across your front office and shop floor before they halt your line.

HOW TO USE IT: Check "Yes" only if you have verified this in the last 6 months. Any unchecked box is a potential single point of failure.

SHOP FLOOR & OT SECURITY

- ☐ Is your office network (IT) strictly segmented from your shop-floor machinery and production systems (OT)?
- ☐ Have legacy machines, PLCs, or vendor-managed equipment been audited for unpatched vulnerabilities and unauthorized remote access?
- ☐ Are backups of your critical production configurations and ERP data stored offline/immutable so ransomware can't lock your line?

PRODUCTION CONTINUITY & UPTIME

- ☐ If your main internet connection or local server went down mid-shift, could your floor continue operating without halting production?
- ☐ Do you have a tested, step-by-step recovery plan—and guaranteed response times—if a core switch or ERP server fails during a second or third shift?
- ☐ Have you eliminated single points of failure in your plant's Wi-Fi, barcode scanners, and floor terminals?

ACCESS & VENDOR MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Do equipment vendors and third-party technicians use temporary, monitored access rather than "always-on" VPNs or shared passwords?
- ☐ Can floor supervisors and operators log into shared terminals quickly without bypassing security controls?

BUDGET & STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

- ☐ Do you have a clear 12-to-24-month replacement schedule for aging servers, switches, and shop-floor hardware before they fail mid-run?
- ☐ Does your current IT provider proactively recommend ways to improve throughput and reliability, rather than just reacting to helpdesk tickets?

HOW DID YOU SCORE?

9–10 Checked: Built for resilience. Keep reviewing annually.
6–8 Checked: Solid basics, but hidden bottlenecks could stall a shift.
Under 6 Checked: Exposed to costly, preventable downtime.

A SIMPLE NEXT STEP

Unsure about two or more boxes? MG Computer offers a **Plant Floor IT & Risk Review**—a no-jargon look at your network, shop-floor connectivity, and backup readiness with a prioritized roadmap.

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This checklist is a starting point for discussion, not a technical assessment, security audit, or guarantee of uninterrupted operations.