Tier one automotive supplier has several overlapping opportunities for operational efficiency that could save them $50-$100M dollars/year with greater tracking and coordination technology.

Critical Tracking Points

Distributed Container Assets
Tracking 1-2 million returnable containers that cost $200 each are in circulation across 136 facilities throughout the U.S. at any one time. Approximately 10% loss of visibility happens once containers go to automotive OEM. Optimizing trailer and shuttle use for increased production and improved customer delivery times.

Large Tools
Locating and retrieving large tools that get shipped to OEMs for manufacturing using their parts. The tools cost from $0.5M to $1M and are scattered between the manufacturer’s or OEM’s facility. A missing tool or asset impacts the bottom line since tools are not readily available or cannot fulfill OEM’s order requirements for tooling. is a threshold for how long they can be out of the freezer.

Summary Of Tracking Needs:
The company wants to track containers and returnable bins across several customer supply chains. Other priorities include optimizing trailer and shuttle use between plants, tracking internal forklifts as well as locating and retrieving expensive tools.

Cloudleaf Solution
Traceability of valuable tools to minimize loss and improve order fulfillment for OEMs improves visibility and optimization for shuttles and forklifts, as well as cycle time for loading and unloading. Efficient movement of storage bins and reduction of excess bin inventory so they know how many empties they have and are available for use.

Challenge
Inaccuracy of parts and containers delivered from dock to plant lead to production delays.

Solution
End-to-end continuous visibility of inventory helps optimize work-in-process (WIP) and production scheduling.

Results
Efficient production scheduling with 99% inventory accuracy (parts & containers) and 80% reduction in production downtime.

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