

Dear Respondent

As part of my academic pursuits, I am required to conduct a research project focused on optimizing the procurement process within an organization operating in the manufacturing industry. The primary objective of this research is to enhance the organization's efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and overall management practices. It is widely acknowledged that the conventional/manual procurement process can be labour-intensive, time-consuming, and potentially detrimental to the organization's efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and management.

The study aims to investigate the existing traditional procurement methods employed by the organization and identify the specific processes involved in these methods. Furthermore, it aims to ascertain whether traditional procurement methods can be synergistically combined with modern approaches to yield improved outcomes and enhanced management practices. Additionally, the study aims to recommend the most appropriate programs, systems, or software available for complete automation or assistance in automating the procurement process. Lastly, it will investigate the necessary level of skills, human interaction, and monitoring required for the effective implementation and management of automated procurement systems, software, or programs.

By conducting this research, we aim to contribute valuable insights and recommendations to the organization's procurement process optimization, ultimately leading to increased efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and improved management practices.

The survey is anonymous. All responses will be collected and reviewed to ensure no information can be used to identify participants. Participation is voluntary and can be withdrawn at any moment without reason. All the information will be kept confidential and only used for academic purposes

**The questionnaire consists of four sections. Section A is focused on traditional methods and their effectiveness, Section B wants to establish whether traditional methods can be used in synergy with modern methods, Section C explores software possibilities, and Section D wants to determine how much human interaction will be required in a newly adopted procurement system.**

## Employee Survey Questions

The table to follow indicates the scale used to apply to each of the statements to follow in the next section.

1	2	3	4	5
<u>Completely</u> <u>Disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Completely</u> <u>Agree</u>

Using the table above, please indicate your level of agreement to the following statements by marking with a "X" in the column.

Section A: Why are the traditional methods of procurement not as efficient and cost-effective as it was 10 years ago?		Scale				
		1	2	3	4	5
1.	A decline in efficiency and cost-effectiveness of traditional (10 years or older) procurement methods has been observed.					
2.	There has been a significant change in market dynamics that has affected the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of traditional procurement methods in the past 10 years.					
3.	Advancements in technology played a role in reducing the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of traditional procurement methods over the last decade.					
4.	The changes in supplier behaviour or availability have contributed to the decreased efficiency and cost-effectiveness of traditional procurement methods over the past 10 years.					
5.	An increase in competition among suppliers has led to higher prices and reduced cost-effectiveness of traditional procurement methods compared to a decade ago.					
6.	Changing regulatory requirements or compliance standards have made traditional procurement methods less efficient and cost-effective compared to what they were 10 years ago.					

7.	Economic factors, including inflation and currency fluctuations, have impacted the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of traditional procurement methods over the past decade.					
8.	The lack of real-time data and analytics in traditional procurement methods has contributed to their decreased efficiency and cost-effectiveness over the last 10 years.					
9.	A shift in customer expectations and demands that traditional procurement methods struggle to keep up with have been observed.					
10.	There are other factors not mentioned above that have contributed to the reduced efficiency and cost-effectiveness of traditional procurement methods over the past 10 years.					

Section B: Could traditional methods be used in synergy with modern management of procurement methods?		Scale				
		1	2	3	4	5
1.	Currently, traditional procurement methods are being used in our organization.					
2.	I am familiar with modern management of procurement methods, such as automation, digital platforms, and data analytics.					
3.	Traditional procurement methods can complement modern management practices to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.					
4.	We have implemented measures to integrate traditional procurement methods with modern management practices in our organization.					
5.	We are open to exploring ways to combine traditional procurement methods with modern management practices.					
6.	Leveraging technology and digital tools can enhance the effectiveness of traditional procurement methods.					
7.	There are specific areas or processes within our procurement function where we believe traditional methods could work synergistically with modern management practices.					

8.	Incorporating data analytics and real-time insights into traditional procurement methods can improve decision-making and cost-effectiveness.					
9.	I have observed the successful implementation and integration of traditional procurement methods with modern management practices.					
10.	Training and resources to facilitate the integration of traditional procurement methods with modern management practices will assist with the transition.					

Section C: What systems/programs/software is available to assist in automating the procurement process within a manufacturing organization?		Scale				
		1	2	3	4	5
1.	We are currently using systems, programs, and software to automate the procurement process within our manufacturing organization.					
2.	There are enterprise resource planning (ERP), Syspro systems that include procurement modules, and E-procurement systems that streamline the procurement process through digital tools and workflows.					
3.	There are supplier discovery platforms available that help the organization identify and onboard new suppliers which ensures a diverse and competitive supplier base.					
4.	Spend Analysis Tools software systems that are available to be integrated into the procurement process within an organization will assist the organization in providing insight into spending patterns at suppliers, supplier performance, and potential cost-saving opportunities.					
5.	With purchase orders being created on a daily basis for all departments, a purchase order automation software that automates the creation, approvals and tracking of purchase orders which reduces the manual intervention, will streamline the procurement process within the organization.					

6.	There are many software/programs/systems available that could assist with automating the procurement within the organization, but with those programs requires a training program to ensure all workers operating it will be equipped with the necessary skills.					
7.	We have considered and utilized other systems, programs, or software solutions for automating the procurement process within our manufacturing organization.					

Section D: Will the automation of the procurement process within a manufacturing organization still require human interference to ensure maximum efficiency and cost-effectiveness and correct management of the procurement function?		Scale				
		1	2	3	4	5
1.	The automation of the procurement process within a manufacturing organization requires human interference to ensure maximum efficiency.					
2.	Human involvement is necessary to achieve cost-effectiveness in the automated procurement process of a manufacturing organization.					
3.	The correct management of the procurement function in an automated manufacturing organization still relies on human intervention.					
4.	The automation of the procurement process alone cannot ensure maximum efficiency without any human interference.					
5.	The automated procurement process within a manufacturing organization requires human oversight to achieve cost-effectiveness.					
6.	Human interaction is necessary to manage and optimize the procurement function in an automated manufacturing organization.					
7.	The automated procurement process cannot guarantee the correct management of the procurement function without any human involvement.					

8.	The automation of the procurement process in a manufacturing organization still relies on human involvement to achieve cost-effectiveness and correct management of the procurement function.					
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Thank you for your participation in this questionnaire. Your responses will greatly contribute to the successful completion of this thesis and potentially benefit the organization as a whole.