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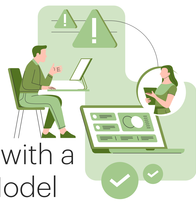
WISETECH GLOBAL GROUP

Supply Chain Planning: Comparing Legacy Tools with a Connected Model



Supply chain planning has become a messy affair, marked by day-to-day uncertainty, siloed teams and partners, and a near-constant host of potential interruptions. So how are planners supposed to make predictions in an unpredictable environment? The answer is e2open Connected Planning.

In this infographic, you'll learn how a modernized approach to planning can drastically improve the way your supply chain responds to adversity.

Current trends and challenges shaping the future of planning

In the table below, you'll find the most common challenges facing modern supply chain planners and the responses required to stay ahead of disruption.

INCREASING RISKS

1. Predict ever-shifting demand patterns
2. Understand variable supply capacity and availability
3. Track fluctuating logistics lead times
4. Follow ever-changing, complex trade regulations
5. Respect ESG and SCOPE 3 regulations

RISING COSTS

1. Lower inventory stocking levels without impacting service
2. Reduce expediting costs
3. Improve planner productivity through automation
4. Reduce total cost to service demand across the value chain

LACK OF AGILITY

1. Drive better decisions across the entire supply chain
2. Balance competing corporate objectives and KPIs
3. Proactively respond to shifting demand patterns
4. Evaluate solution options to mitigate the impact of disruptions

EVOLVING TECHNOLOGY

1. Speed the cycle time to gather, cleanse, and synthesize data
2. Streamline processes for collaboration and consensus
3. Consolidate the number of systems needed for planning
4. Adopt AI and modern technologies to retain competitive advantage

Side-by-side comparison: Traditional supply chain planning vs. e2open Connected Planning

Traditional planning tools are siloed from both execution and external events, leaving them in the dark. However, e2open Connected Planning is a modernized approach that inherently closes the loop, providing bidirectional communication for enhanced visibility, collaboration, and continuous feedback for improvement. It is AI-enabled at every step to support informed decision-making, process orchestration, and automated replanning.

A comparison between traditional planning tools and a connected model.

Traditional Point-Solution Tools	E2open Connected Planning
SILOED Fragmented systems requiring manual data exchange; siloed processes across demand, supply, and inventory planning.	**INTEGRATED** Unified platform with an Integrated Data Model connecting demand, supply, inventory, and channel planning in real time.
MYOPIC Limited to internal enterprise data; lacks multi-tier partner insights.	**HOLISTIC** End-to-end visibility across multiple tiers and partners, enabling proactive risk management and collaboration.
SLUGGISH Slow response to disruptions; dependent on periodic S&OP/IBP cycles.	**AGILE** Dynamic scenario planning and real-time adjustments powered by AI and digital assistants for continuous planning.
MANUAL Often rule-based with minimal AI; or the AI is treated as an overlay. Limited automation and predictive capabilities.	**AUTOMATED** Embedded AI, machine learning, and autonomous planning for predictive and prescriptive decision-making for continuous planning.
CLUNKY Complex, rigid interfaces and a high dependency on IT for configuration.	**SLEEK** Modern, intuitive UX with connected dashboards and digital assistants for ease of use and faster adoption.
LIMITED Difficult to scale across global networks; integration challenges with diverse data sources.	**SCALABLE** Highly scalable architecture that supports large models, multi-source data, and global collaboration.

The e2open point-of-view: How companies can embrace the evolution of planning

As supply chain planning continues to advance in today's rapidly evolving landscape, high-performing organizations embrace new approaches and technologies to effectively manage ongoing change. This section highlights the critical factors shaping future success and offers the e2open perspective on strengthening resilience and agility within modern planning processes.

Observation	E2open POV
Companies are moving away from rigid, forecast-driven models based solely on historical data.	**AI-powered probabilistic forecasting** enables dynamic adjustments and improved accuracy across demand and supply.
Traditional cyclic processes reduce agility in volatile markets.	**Unified planning model** with real-time visibility and scenario planning accelerates decision-making.
Most disruptions originate outside the enterprise, so organizations seek integrated views across tiers and partners.	**Multi-enterprise collaboration** and a single data model connect data, people, and decisions across ecosystems.
Proactive risk management and rapid adaptation are essential.	**Dynamic scenario management** and contingency planning help businesses respond confidently to disruptions.
AI adoption is critical at the point of decision to improve speed, agility, and resilience.	**Embedded AI and autonomous planning** deliver actionable insights without bolt-on complexity.

A vision for the future of modern supply chain planning

Traditionally, "connected" in the supply chain space simply meant linking systems and data so information could flow. Over the last five decades, this level of connectedness has reduced lag times and improved productivity, but it's also left enterprises with sub-optimal outcomes. Today, being connected means fully integrating enterprises, decisions, and outcomes. Modern connected planning unifies partners and processes, driving collaborative decisions and shared results across the value chain.

The transition from traditional supply chain planning to e2open Connected Planning represents a significant leap forward in operational efficiency, collaboration, and resilience. Organizations should embrace AI-driven technologies, unified data, and integrated partner networks to proactively address shifting market demands and disruptions.

This strategy transforms planning from a reactive, siloed process into a dynamic, connected, and informed strategy. If you're interested in investing in modern planning capabilities that not only drive better decisions but also position you to thrive amid uncertainty and complexity, contact us today.