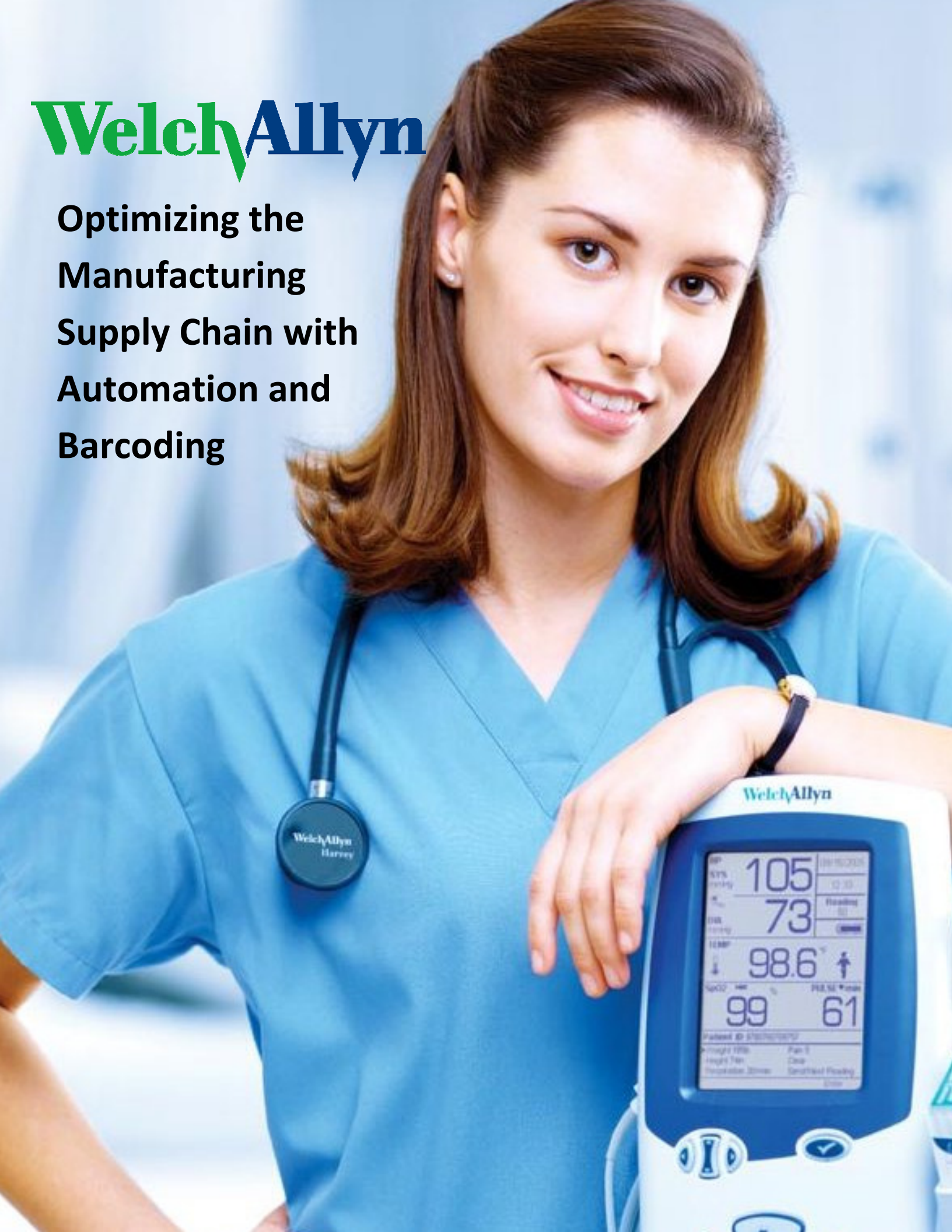




**Optimizing the  
Manufacturing  
Supply Chain with  
Automation and  
Barcoding**



WelchAllyn

BP	105	105/73
HR	73	73
Temp	98.6	98.6
SpO2	99	99
PRR	61	61
Patient ID: 123456789		
Patient Name: John Doe		
Room: 1234		
Bed: 5678		
Date: 12/12/2023		
Time: 10:30		



**Welch Allyn**, a leading global manufacturer of medical diagnostic equipment, develops hundreds of breakthrough products and technologies that enable frontline practitioners to provide superior patient care. Building on these successful products, they have enjoyed steady growth by expanding their traditional position into electronic and connected product categories like continuous patient monitoring, automated vital signs capture and diagnostic cardiology. Their continued advancements make accessing patient information faster, more accurate and more efficient.

Welch Allyn adopted the most efficient and effective practices over the years to achieve the optimal efficiency in their manufacturing and operations. These practices include Kanban based production, cycle control, automation, and recycling of materials. "The users on the manufacturing floor are not SAP IT professionals and wanted a simple interface on fun devices like iPods," said Andy Rindfleisch, Manager Manufacture Systems at Welch Allyn. "SAP is a very powerful system but the multiple fields, tabs, screens provide too much complexity when the user only needs a subset of fields on each screen."

When Welch Allyn was first made aware of the GuiXT Liquid UI solution, it's no surprise that they were a quick proponent. GuiXT not only solved their screen complexity issue, but barcode enabled their SAP system which resulted in automation and greater efficiencies.

### Screen Consolidation

Welch Allyn observed that users were only using about 5% of the standard SAP screens and fields. Using GuiXT, Welch Allyn created simple inventory transactions such as a single screen MF1B transaction and a single MIGO screen to print out labels. The solution paid off quickly as any screen efficiencies resulted in huge benefits as they used a high volume of transactions annually.

	Number of Transactions	Hours Saved
MIGO	140,000	3,889
MB1B/311	350,000	5,833
MF1B	160,000	2,000
VL02N	350,000	8,750
SCALE Interface	100,000	1,667
Pick Tickets	350,000	2,917
Shortage report	2,080	6,240
Supplier Emails	176,000	14,733
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,628,880</b>	<b>46,029</b>

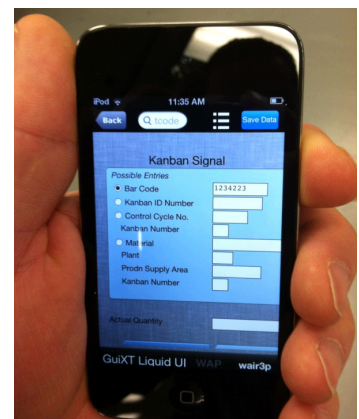
"GuiXT screens can do amazing things. Reducing a transaction we do 350,000 times a year from 2 screens to 1, from 20 fields to 8, results in tremendous value." says Rindfleisch. "The savings goes back to the business as we become leaders in optimizing our manufacturing supply chain."

### Automation

A key component of GuiXT Liquid UI is the ability to kick off other PC applications such as Microsoft Excel or Microsoft Access database to run jobs at night when the load on the SAP server is reduced. Welch Allyn used Visual Basic to do exactly that. An SAP session is initiated using GuiXT scripts to download data, then kick off a Microsoft Access database to aggregate the data into spreadsheets. The operational and management reports are then sent out via email using Google or posted to Google drive so they are received first thing in the morning. The spreadsheet is so compact with data that it contains information like safety stock levels which is equivalent to 85,000 SAP screens!

### Barcoding

Barcoding not only reduces transaction speed, but also reduces errors.



For a small investment, combining GuiXT with ActiveX to generate the barcodes helps production users to scan items and print kanban tickets. Using a 3<sup>rd</sup> party sled to do scanning on an iPod touch is also used in the shipping area so that users are not tied down to a PC. GuiXT Liquid created happy users which in turn are productive users.