



<https://atautoconveyor.com>

AUTOMATION & PROCESS UPGRADE READINESS CHECKLIST

1 Volume & Demand Stability

- ☐ Is production volume consistent year-round?
 - ☐ Are peak demand spikes predictable?
 - ☐ Is growth projected in the next 12–24 months?
 - ☐ Are labor shortages affecting throughput?
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2 Manual Task Identification

- ☐ Are operators manually rotating product?
 - ☐ Are repetitive push/pull tasks present?
 - ☐ Are multiple employees required for repositioning?
 - ☐ Are manual alignment steps slowing production?
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3 Cycle Time Variability

- ☐ Does output vary significantly by shift?
- ☐ Are certain operators significantly faster than others?
- ☐ Are delays caused by human pacing instead of equipment?
- ☐ Is takt time documented and tracked?

4 Layout Constraints

- ☐ Is material flow linear and predictable?
 - ☐ Are transfer points clearly defined?
 - ☐ Is there room for modular equipment upgrades?
 - ☐ Are stations fixed or adjustable?
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5 Data & Visibility

- ☐ Is downtime logged with root cause?
 - ☐ Is throughput measured per station?
 - ☐ Is WIP tracked in real time?
 - ☐ Are bottlenecks documented or anecdotal?
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6 Safety & Labor Pressure

- ☐ Are lifting injuries increasing?
 - ☐ Is overtime required to meet targets?
 - ☐ Is turnover high in manual handling roles?
 - ☐ Are ergonomic complaints rising?
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7 Financial Justification Signals

- ☐ Is downtime cost per hour known?
 - ☐ Is manual handling labor cost quantified?
 - ☐ Has ROI been calculated for equipment upgrades?
 - ☐ Would a 12–18 month payback be acceptable?
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8 Executive Alignment

- ☐ Is leadership open to capital investment?
- ☐ Is there a defined improvement initiative underway?

- ☐ Is continuous improvement culture active?
 - ☐ Are Kaizen or Lean programs in place?
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Final Readiness Assessment

If 3 or more of the following are true, upgrade potential is strong:

- ☐ Labor dependency is high
- ☐ Bottlenecks are recurring
- ☐ Downtime is increasing
- ☐ Volume is growing
- ☐ Safety exposure is rising