Shoring-Up the Extended Enterprise

Three Challenges of External Workforce Management in the Manufacturing Industry — and How to Solve Them

For manufacturing organizations, delivering and tracking training to ensure compliance is a tricky thing to manage, especially when time and money are in short supply. Without the necessary training, compliance violations could cost millions of dollars and tarnish a company's reputation. Even worse, using untrained or unregulated contractors could cost lives.

Yet delivering, tracking, and reporting on training for a large extended workforce is extraordinarily difficult—especially if you're using spreadsheets and emails to manage compliance. *Learn how leveraging an extended enterprise solution helps manufacturing organizations manage all of these challenges.*

Three Challenges of External Partner Management for Manufacturing Organizations—and How to Solve Them:

Compliance regulations are continually changing, making it hard to keep your workforce up to date.

Challenge

There are always new rules and regulations in the construction and manufacturing industries. They are crucial to ensuring workplace safety; though, keeping every member of your extended workforce current can be a logistical nightmare. Relying on manual methods for tracking and reporting on training are inefficient. However, neglecting to provide proper training can exponentially increase the risk of accidents, errors, and fines.

Solution

Use technology that's designed to automatically track and manage compliance training. An extended enterprise platform enables manufacturing companies to schedule and deliver new compliance training for external teams, regardless of their location. Training can be delivered via mobile devices and is automatically tracked and compiled for reporting to regulatory agencies.

Training is non-negotiable—but in-person training is the enemy of productivity.

Challenge

Every time a contractor leaves for classroom training, your project falls a little more behind. Plus, in-person training makes it difficult to measure how well the contractor really understands and integrates new skills and standards—which in turn threatens compliance, quality, and your reputation.

Solution

Implementing an extended enterprise solution enables manufacturing organizations to deliver timely on-demand, online training to their extended workforce. Contractors can also access mobile training – critical for those who aren't near a laptop or an office. Individuals can complete training on their schedule and take as much time as they need to truly grasp new concepts—instead of being hurried through a one-time classroom session.

Tracking and managing certifications and licenses at multiple levels is a paperwork nightmare.

Challenge

You've decided to provide training to all your contractors to improve their knowledge and productivity. But can you instantly view any independent contractor's current certification and license status? Do you know who recently gained new skills? Is that new employee really qualified to operate the forklift safely? You may know your people are certified, but getting the information together is difficult, especially if you're using spreadsheets or binders to track and report on every member of your extended team.

Solution

Know your workforce's most up-to-date capabilities and certifications. Certification management capabilities allow construction and manufacturing organizations to design and report on custom certifications and forms, deliver comprehensive standard and customized reports on compliance, and show certification status by partner type.

Stem productivity losses, maintain brand integrity, and streamline compliance training and reporting by extending on-demand, mobile training to independent contractors and other partners. Discover how Cornerstone's Extended Enterprise for Learning helps manufacturing and construction organizations to easily and cost-effectively offer training, certifications, and collaboration opportunities to extended teams at home and across the world.

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