

# Industry: Pharmaceuticals

## Global Biotech/Pharmaceutical Leader

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### *Key Criteria Needed:*

Management of Specialized Sterile Equipment Requires:

- ◆ Tracking by item number and expiration date
- ◆ Inventory control by designated storage and usage locations
- ◆ Completion of cleaning and sterilization tasks within established maintenance guidelines
- ◆ Accurate maintenance history records by item number
- ◆ Complete visibility to open orders, replenishment cycle-times and service levels
- ◆ Accurate stocking levels to support manufacturing operations

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Ultriva, Inc.

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### **CUSTOMER PROFILE:**

This Global Biotech/Pharmaceutical Leader (GBPL) is an intravenous drug manufacturing division of one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies. GBPL provides life-saving treatments to hundreds of thousands of patients annually.

### **BUSINESS SITUATION:**

GBPL's process manufacturing operation depends upon a vast array of sterile equipment that must be cleaned, dried, sterilized, stocked and monitored by item number and expiration date.

Before implementing Ultriva, GBPL's manufacturing services team had no way to track and control equipment inventory across the production, cleaning and restocking loop. This lack of visibility created a vicious cycle because manufacturing groups would over-order items and hold them in safety stock at manufacturing sites. When one manufacturing group ran out of an item, its replacement could be sitting idle at one of many locations, including another manufacturing location. Production was regularly delayed while searching for equipment. The short term solution was to order large amounts of equipment but that resulted in a high rate of sterility expirations, forcing unused equipment back into cleaning



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## *Ultriva was Chosen Because:*

- ◆ Support for pull-based replenishment
  - ◆ Complete barcode enablement
  - ◆ Closed-loop supply chain execution
  - ◆ End-to-end visibility to production and supply chain operations
  - ◆ Cloud-based deployment
  - ◆ Speed of deployment and ease-of-use
  - ◆ Flexible reporting options
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and thus creating a large backlog of uncleaned, unusable equipment inventory.

## **OUR SOLUTION:**

GPBL chose Ultriva's cloud-based [Lean Factory Management](#) (LFM) solution. LFM helped GPBL's manufacturing services group gain control of its sterile equipment inventory by establishing a series of interconnected material replenishment loops between manufacturing usage and supply locations. The amount of sterile equipment inventory in each replenishment loop was determined based on actual consumption history. In addition, a barcode labeling process was implemented to track usage by location and item number. When production scans the barcoded sterile equipment item labels, a pull-based replenishment signal is automatically sent to material coordinators to pick-up unsterile equipment and replenish with sterile units. Usage monitoring is also performed by LFM to determine when material replenishment loops must be resized to account for increases or decreases in consumption.



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*Within 60 days of deploying Ultriva, GBPL improved on-time delivery rates from 62% to 82%, eliminated stock-outs, and continues to make strides towards improving on-time delivery and employee productivity.*

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### About Ultriva Inc.

**Ultriva** empowers leading businesses to operate more effectively and collaboratively by providing real time visibility and targeted actionable intelligence into inventory and material flows. Ultriva's cloud-based platform leverages and seamlessly integrates with leading ERP and MRP systems, to deliver an end to end pull based replenishment model.

### THE RESULTS:

GBPL had attempted several solutions prior to implementing Ultriva's Lean Factory Management solution. Ultriva was chosen because it could automatically trigger material replenishment signals on consumption, track sterile equipment inventory by printing and scanning barcode labels, and provide usage metrics and analytics: all made visible for the first time by an intuitive, easily navigated, browser-based solution. The entire application is automated through tablet devices on movable stations, enabling complete mobility throughout GBPL's manufacturing plant. Within a short period of time sterile equipment usage velocity was measured (along with variability) to compute the optimal loop size and accurate safety stock levels for each component. Within 60 days of deploying Ultriva, GBPL's manufacturing services team improved on-time delivery rates from 62% to 82%, eliminated stock-outs, and continues to make strides towards improving on-time delivery and employee productivity.

