System76 boosts production planning efficiency by 80%
Katana gives System76 the real-time overview they need to manage production scheduling and scale their manufacturing operations effectively. With the help of Katana, their team spends 50% less time on admin while boosting production efficiency by 80%.
Sarah Zinger, Director of Production Logistics at System76

“We knew we needed something more than just a spreadsheet but we didn't like the idea of paying a crazy amount for a huge system that we would not fully use. Katana was simplistic and answered what we needed without a ton of fluff or other elements that we did not need.”
After switching to Katana from spreadsheets, System76 made day-to-day operations **50%** more efficient

System76 improved inventory control and increased production planning efficiency by close to **80%** as a result of prioritizing and scheduling production with Katana

Previously, System76 struggled to track inventory and order fulfillment, and Katana gave their team a clear delineation of the order of operations for each product in their catalog
About Hornby Organic

System76 is a computer manufacturer based in Denver, Colorado, specializing in Linux-based laptops, desktops, and servers. The company is an advocate for free and open-source software, offering either Ubuntu or their own Ubuntu-based Linux distribution, Pop!_OS, as the default operating system.

Widely regarded as the gold standard in Linux-based computing, System76 offers a unique combination of purpose-engineered hardware and software optimized for its machines. This and a focus on customizability make System76 highly regarded among developers and technology professionals.
The challenge they faced

Before Katana, System76 took the usual route of using spreadsheets to manage their manufacturing business. While spreadsheets are an excellent tool for and micro-manufacturers, once the company grows and introduces new products, materials, and employees, following all the moving parts in a spreadsheet becomes time-consuming and error-prone.

Like any rapidly growing tech manufacturer, System76 experienced difficulties following the stock movement throughout the production process and scheduling shop floor tasks effectively. Plus, the time spent on manual spreadsheet updates made it challenging to focus on what mattered. They decided to look for a software tool that would make it easier to:

1. Streamline stock management from materials to finished items
2. Prioritize production tasks to optimize operations
3. Manage operations and task order for specific production tasks
The solution they found

Like many Katana users, System76 outgrew spreadsheets once they started scaling, and what was once a great tool become too complex to manage. So they began looking for a manufacturing ERP that would handle the complexities of computer manufacturing.

Many ERP solutions on the market were too costly and difficult to implement, and lower-cost alternatives only offered stock management and lack manufacturing modules. So when System76 came across Katana, their Director of Production Logistics, Sarah Zinger, was relieved that Katana provided everything they needed and more without the hefty costs.

“We knew we needed something more than just a spreadsheet but we didn't like the idea of paying a crazy amount for a huge system that we would not fully use [...] Having a system track inventory and what stage it is in has been incredibly helpful. It also has helped our team have a more clear delineation of the order of operations for each product in our catalog.”
How Katana helped System76 boost efficiency while reducing admin work

Since switching to Katana, System76 got the visibility they needed in a platform that was both easy to use and easy to integrate with the other services they used. They were able to track stock movements throughout the entire production process from components to finished product and prioritize operations using Katana’s Shop Floor App and bill of materials (BOM) features.
System76 in numbers

With the help of Katana their team was able to:

- Improve inventory control by more than 60%
- Increase production planning efficiency by close to 80%
- Make overall day-to-day operations more efficient by 40%
Electronics and high tech manufacturers use **Katana** to align their sales and production with one **easy-to-use platform**. Katana keeps track of demand to automatically adjust your production schedule according to resources and deadlines. And features like **batch tracking** help electronics manufacturers stay compliant and manage quality assurance processes with ease.
Everything you need to keep manufacturing

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*No credit card required