Sage 100 ERP | White Paper

Manufacturing: Realizing Enterprise ROI Through Sage 100 ERP Solutions





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Sage 100 ERP Solutions ROI Study in Manufacturing Companies

About the Gantry Group, LLC

The Gantry Group is a strategic advisory and custom market intelligence firm. It applies primary market research to help companies cost-effectively accelerate the successful market adoption of their products and services—both online and offline. Gantry Group has helped over 165 client companies drive sales, acquire new customers, increase brand equity, and increase customer lifetime value through its market analysis, marketing testing, and ROI/TCO benchmarking service suites. Gantry Group creates customized market research studies to better understand customers' needs and experiences. It uses both qualitative and quantitative techniques, including online and traditional surveys, focus groups, and one-on-one interviews. Gantry Group benchmarks a client company's opportunity and competitive landscape and its offering's ROI impact on its target market. The result is a quantified value proposition that is crisply differentiated within a receptive market.

Today more than ever, companies are looking for near-term return on investment in this overall budget-constrained climate—and the sooner, the better. Successful solution vendors must now use a much more analytical approach to selling. Customers want assurances that an investment will pay for itself over an acceptable time period—either by increasing the top line, decreasing operating expenses, or both.

The Total Cost of Ownership, or TCO, is a vital ingredient to any rigorous ROI calculation. TCO informs prospects and customers as to the economic benefits an offering brings after they subtract the cost of an offering. A TCO calculation requires a vendor to work closely with customers to discover underlying cost drivers that may not be apparent on the surface. A technology product, for example, may require new infrastructure investments and the learning of new skills that its operation may require. New business processes that must be put in place to accommodate a new system may require training and support. The lifetime of some technologies must be factored into TCO to reflect the replacement cost of new units when old ones fail.

The Gantry Group designs custom TCO and ROI studies to help companies communicate factual quantified value propositions to prospects and customers. Based on in-person interviews, Gantry Group first designs custom ROI and TCO calculators to comprehensively profile the impact equation of a company's offering. Using such tools, Gantry Group then conducts online and in-person studies to profile ROI/TCO consistently across a carefully selected sample of participating companies. Gantry Group has equipped many product and service firms with credible TCO and ROI models that communicate value in the terms of the business metrics that customers and prospects use to access the performance of their own companies.

Its executive team of experienced business executives combines deep operations experience with proven strategic planning, research methodology, and market intelligence to grapple with the most challenging business goals and problems. Gantry Group works with CEOs, senior marketing, and sales executives in technology, financial services, health care, and retail sectors. The company can be reached at 978-371-7557 or: www.gantrygroup.com

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TCO is a vital ingredient to any rigorous ROI calculation.



Abstract

Sage is a leading provider of business information management solutions. Implementation of Sage 100 ERP (formerly Sage ERP MAS 90 and 200) solutions results in significant enhancements in productivity, efficiency, and streamlined business processes. The net benefits of the deployment and use of these products in manufacturing businesses have been documented in numerous case studies (www.Sage100ERP.com), which illustrate both increased revenues and cost reductions or even cost eliminations. These benefits significantly overshadow the investment in the software solution itself and are typically realized in the first year of deployment.

Sage engaged the Gantry Group to conduct an objective ROI study to quantify the net business impact of Sage 100 ERP solutions. Gantry Group has developed definitive ROI tools that address the unique business benefits of software to manufacturers. This white paper explores experiences of Sage 100 ERP solutions manufacturing customers.

Methodology

In 2003, by conducting objective interviews with Sage manufacturing customers, the Gantry Group developed a realistic, payback-modeling tool that measures the ROI impact that a deployment of Sage 100 ERP solutions has on key business metrics and cost drivers. Ten manufacturing companies contributed to the development of this quantitative cost/benefit tool.

To ensure that the ROI model is conservative and credible, the Gantry Group identified only tangible costs and benefits that can be directly measured. No estimate-based assumptions of intangible benefits were included in the model. Customer input was thoroughly crosschecked to protect against "double-counting" and inclusion of cost savings that were theoretical but not realized.

However, noncash benefits were captured and are included as a line item in the ROI Scorecard, although they were not used in the ROI calculation.

Business Benefit

The companies profiled in this case study realized, on average, actual ROI of 8,000 percent over a three-year time period, with payback occurring in less than 17 months. These organizations shared a common set of challenges, which drove the adoption of one of the three Sage solutions:

- Inconsistent, questionable data in various business units
- Costly manual data entry into systems
- Duplication of data entry for nonintegrated systems
- High inventory overstock
- · Lengthy inventory reconciliation and end-of-month closing
- Inability to scale legacy systems
- Frequent errors and delays between customer order and customer shipment
- Delays in action and problem resolution

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The companies profiled in this case study realized, on average, actual ROI of 8,000 percent over a three-year time period, with payback occurring in less than 17 months.



Deployment of Sage 100 ERP solutions resulted in direct, tangible benefits derived from:

- Seamless data flow due to integration of systems.
- Elimination of staff positions or reduction of need to hire more.
- Improved sales and repeat sales.
- Increased transaction volume through the business (increased capacity utilization).
- Reductions in inventory overstocks and increased inventory turns.
- · Reduction in payments to third-party accounting firms.
- Reduction in payments to outsourced IT firms to handle data loss and down-time incidents.
- Reduced average days outstanding of receivables and shorter collection times.
- Decreases in returns, scrap, and rework.
- Decreases in redundant IT infrastructure.

Industry Sector Overview

Manufacturing is an industry sector that cuts across a range of businesses, from food and beverage manufacturers to production of fabricated metal products, assembly of machinery and equipment, and other industries. Manufacturing companies vary dramatically but do have some common operating characteristics. These include:

- Control of production standards—every manufacturer has bill of material and labor operations that, when used together, define the process of converting raw materials into finished goods. Process manufacturing customers utilize a similar process by combining formula or recipe definitions with labor instructions.
- Maintaining inventories—inventory asset management is a primary focus of operations. In a highly competitive market, manufacturers are constantly looking to reduce on-hand inventories as well as work-in-process inventories. Inventory turns are also a concern, as is maintaining accurate costing and pricing for a complete profitability picture.
- Managing resources—every manufacturer has resources that must be optimized. Resources may
 include labor, tools, and machines or work centers. Consequently, it is increasingly important for
 manufacturers to balance resource availability with material supplies and customer demand.
- Real-time decision making—throughout a given day, customers frequently need immediate
 access to historical or current data concerning the company's operation. As a result, there is a
 pressing need for fast generation of reports or online inquiries as well as online views into current
 or previous production runs, costs, and shipments.
- Cost analysis—most manufacturing customers, especially those in make-to-order and job shop
 industries, need the capability to analyze profitability by job or work order. Detailed cost analysis
 should compare actual costs and estimated or standard costs by cost element—material, labor,
 outside process, administrative, and more.



Customer Challenges

No matter what products are being manufactured, businesses typically face a common set of challenges that drive costs. These include:

- Inconsistent data—companies often find it difficult to reconcile inventory data, shipment
 information, and production information when multiple systems are used for different
 business processes.
- Manual data entry-manual data entry is costly and time consuming for those businesses that
 have yet to automate their distribution or manufacturing systems.
- Reports and queries—companies need accurate information in real time. Companies using
 antiquated business systems or disjointed systems do not have access to critical business
 information. Further, many companies do not trust the data they receive in reports and inquiries
 because it may be outdated. As a result, many companies spend countless hours validating report
 data and reconciling data across applications.
- Quality issues—companies with disparate business systems often scrap or perform rework
 operations to salvage components. These companies could reduce scrap and the need for rework
 if they had an integrated business system providing accurate bill of material and routing definitions
 and detailed production instructions. Material that is scrapped for a production order is costly and
 often affects availability for other production orders requiring the same material. Further, rework
 operations affect production schedules for upstream operations or production orders scheduled
 for the same work center. Consequently, reducing scrap and rework dramatically improves ontime shipments to customers while optimizing both work center and labor resources.
- Inaccurate schedules—manufacturers who do not have integrated business systems or those who schedule production using magnetic white boards or spreadsheets often spend a large portion of their day reconciling their schedule with what's actually happening on the shop floor. An integrated, online scheduling application can help companies maximize machine and work center uptime and resource utilization. As a result, shop employees are more efficient, and production schedules are available to key groups such as customer service, management, and even sales.
- Inaccurate material plans—disjointed manufacturing applications often result in poor material plans. Buyers find it difficult if not impossible to determine what to buy and when to buy it because they do not have visibility into sales forecasts, current production requirements, and accurate on-hand inventories. Consequently, many companies maintain large inventories of raw materials and components to avoid material shortages. An integrated business system can help buyers reduce their on-hand inventories and subsequent carrying costs while further reducing late orders due to stock-outs.
- Managing growth—many older business systems were designed for limited transactions and
 a small number of users. As a company grows, it tends to process more data, store larger data
 marts of historical information, and have more employees on the system at the same time.
 Consequently, system performance is often very slow. A slow system affects the productivity of
 every employee in the organization—from an accounts receivable clerk performing an inquiry on
 past-due accounts to buyers running MRP. As such, many companies lose thousands of dollars
 annually in employee productivity.

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No matter what products are being manufactured, businesses typically face a common set of challenges that drive costs.



- Unhappy customers—disjointed or older business systems may result in delayed shipments to
 customers, inaccurate billing, significant delays in information for customer requests (such as
 customer service questions and quotes), as well as product quality issues. As a result, customers
 may choose to buy from a competitor that is able to better serve their needs. The inability to
 fulfill orders accurately and on time coupled with poor customer service results in lost sales
 opportunities. Lost sales directly affect the bottom line and require companies to focus more time
 and money on acquiring new accounts.
- Lack of communication—companies utilizing stand-alone or manual manufacturing systems do
 not provide customer service or sales with all of the information they need to serve customers.
 As a result, customer service and sales have to call production each time that a customer calls
 in and wants to change order quantities or shipment dates. An integrated manufacturing system
 provides customer service with critical production information, thus eliminating the need for phone
 calls, email, or walks to the shop floor for information. Further, shop management can focus on
 managing the floor instead of spending time answering customer service questions.

Benefits of Sage 100 ERP Solutions

When software systems are consolidated into a single solution, business processes are interconnected.

The implementation of Sage 100 ERP solutions can have an immediate effect on many of the challenge areas listed above. Once staff members are trained and the data migration from a prior system has been completed, businesses can begin benefiting right away. Areas of benefit include:

- Integrated data flow—when software systems are consolidated into a single, integrated solution, business processes are interconnected with data that is reliable and consistent. Data is timely and easily accessible so businesses are able to process more orders and transactions than with previous systems.
- Staff reductions/optimization-staff requirements decrease due to increased productivity, the
 elimination of duplicate data entry, and data validation, as well as improved processing speed.
 Companies often move employees into other critical business areas and may even reduce staffing
 to more manageable and profitable levels.
- **Resource optimization**—labor, machine, and tool resources run at optimal levels with minimal downtime since materials are available, employees are scheduled, and machine and tools availability are in sync with production plans.
- Improved job costing/estimating—an integrated business system provides manufacturers with
 information to determine which high-volume, high-revenue items to run in their product mix. Slowmoving and less profitable items can therefore be eliminated. Further, accurate job costing helps
 companies prepare more accurate bids, estimates, or quotes for similar order in the future.
- Stock reductions—Sage 100 ERP solutions provide companies with extremely accurate inventory numbers. This allows buyers to maintain minimal on-hand raw material inventories, reducing safety stock levels, carrying costs, and overhead. Accurate inventory numbers also reduce the number of late jobs waiting on material receipts and subsequent late shipments of finished goods to customers. Further, companies can use these freed cash resources to purchase additional equipment or to expand facilities.

Sage 100 ERP

When software systems are consolidated into a single solution, business processes are interconnected.



- Reduced IT expenses—Sage 100 ERP solutions are reliable, mature products that are easily
 administered in-house. As such, the core business system is rock-solid for increased uptime.
 Older systems or those that are pieced together tend to crash more often, resulting in hundreds
 or thousands of lost man-hours in productivity. Further, a reliable business system requires fewer
 IT personnel and reduced dependency on outside IT resources for system upgrades, database
 administration, custom reporting, and data recovery.
- Decreased returns—even a small improvement in returns management can result in thousands
 of dollars in savings for many companies. Improved returns management helps companies
 identify quality control issues that may have resulted from defective machines or materials or
 poor workmanship from shop employees. Further, returns management can identify salvageable
 products from those that must be scrapped. Integrated returns management ultimately reduces
 the number of returns, improves customer satisfaction (including increased customer orders), as
 well as reduced scrap and rework.
- Reduced IT infrastructure—Sage 100 ERP customers benefit from a single technology infrastructure, including operating systems, databases, and other technologies. Companies with multiple products most likely staff additional IT resources to manage each database platform or programming language. Consolidating technology platforms results in significant cost reductions in recurring product support, maintenance, and upgrade fees and costs.
- Improved communication—integrated business management systems like Sage 100 ERP solutions provide customers with online inquiries and reports to real-time information. This realtime exposure to data eliminates phone calls, email, and face-to-face dialogue for many common business questions such as material availability, customer order changes, and bill of material revisions.

Sage 100 ERP Solutions

ROI Scorecard

There are key determinants that are common to any company implementing Sage 100 ERP solutions. It should be noted that business metrics used to determine an ROI Scorecard vary somewhat with the particular industry.

This model uses textbook algorithms for measuring ROI and ROI as a percentage for a given time period:

ROI = Total Benefit - Total Investment

ROI (%) = Total Benefit/Total Investment

This model measures ROI over a three-year time period, paying particular attention to the returns realized the first year after Sage 100 ERP solutions deployment and the cumulative effect after three years.

Payback Period computes the time period required for the enterprise to recoup its software solution investment.

Three-year ROI is calculated by taking the Net Present Value (NPV) of the three-year net cash flows using a discount rate equal to then-current 30-year T-Bond rate (3.46%).



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ROI Scorecard In Thousands of Dollars				
	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	
Increased Revenues	\$	\$	\$	
Cost Savings	\$	\$	\$	
Avoided Costs	\$	\$	\$	
Total Benefit	\$	\$	\$	
Total Investment	\$	\$	\$	
ROI (\$)	\$	\$	\$	
ROI Benefit (%)	%	%	%	
Payback Period				
3-Year ROI (NPV)	\$	(_	_%)	

Total Benefit

Total Benefits realized by the implementation of the Sage 100 ERP solution are calculated as follows:

Total Benefit = Increased Revenues + Cost Savings (include avoided costs)

• **Increased Revenues** are sales directly attributable to the application implementation and are derived from the following factors:

Increased transaction volume due to the acceleration of the business process.

Sales dependent upon enhanced reporting capability that would not otherwise have been closed.

Higher capacity utilization resulting from better scheduling and fewer delays and streamlined business processes.

• Cost Savings are derived from savings that directly result from the application deployment. In addition to reductions in existing expenditures, the implementation of Sage 100 ERP solutions also leads to elimination of some costs. Labor reductions that do not result in staff eliminations are not included in the ROI calculations, as the affected employees are simply redeployed within the organization (that is, there is no net increase in cash to the company).



Cost reductions that result directly from the use of the software are numerous and generally not all quantifiable within a given company. Key categories for cost reduction include the following:

- Reductions in scrap and rework result in savings in cost of materials and disposal of scrap or rework, as well as impact on other work orders requiring the material, work centers, and labor resources needed for rework.
- Increase in inventory turns per year after implementing Sage 100 ERP solutions—resulting
 in net cash increase to the company because inventory levels are lower. Thus, this decreases
 carrying costs, produces fewer stock-outs, and provides more money on hand for business
 improvements and investments.
- Elimination of data recovery cost from data loss or corruption includes the associated labor costs and disruption of daily business activities.
- Reduction in average days' receivables and a shorter collection cycle achieved after
 implementing the accounting applications give the company an opportunity to earn interest on
 money deposited sooner than it would have been before implementation.
- Increased profitability due to accurate estimating and job costing can be achieved after the implementation of the various manufacturing modules, including Estimating and Job Cost.
- Reduction in staff required (or avoidance of the need to hire) affects both direct and indirect
 labor costs and is a direct result of the new efficiencies that are created with deployment of
 the software.
- Reduction in accounting fees stems from the decreasing need for accountants to be as closely
 involved with operational accounting issues. After implementation, in-house staff can handle many
 of the accounting activities that were previously outsourced.
- Cost savings from manual or duplicate entries convert into direct and indirect labor cash savings if these tasks are performed by temporary employees or outsourced. However, this item is not used in the ROI calculation if staff members perform the tasks in question in-house.
- Time Savings are quantified noncash benefits derived from reductions in general productivity improvements, efficiency in accounting activities, and other components of the workflow resulting from the software deployment. Time savings are very important benefits, but they do not result in measurable cash benefits to the company. Therefore, they are not included in the ROI calculation. They are, however, captured and entered as a line item on the ROI scorecard. Sources of time savings include:
 - 1. Faster resolution of issues due to visibility, advanced inquiry, and reporting capabilities of the software. This effect can also be measured through the more general overall indirect labor time savings from integration and ease of use of the software.
 - 2. Faster closing of accounting periods and other reporting requirements can be achieved after the implementation of the accounting modules.
 - $\textbf{3. Faster order processing} \ \text{can be attained if the distribution modules are implemented}.$
 - 4. Faster payroll processing may result after installation of the Payroll module.
 - **5. Faster inventory reconciliation** can be achieved if the Inventory Management module is implemented.
 - **6. Decreased time to reconcile bank statements** can follow after the implementation of the Bank Reconciliation or Cash Management modules.



Total Investment

Total Investment is calculated as follows:

Total Investment = Sage 100 ERP Solutions License Costs + Training/Support Costs + Customization/Implementation Costs + IT Costs

- Software license fees include the initial capital outlay for the software and user licenses.
- Training and support costs include the training and support services provided to the company
 by either Sage or the reseller. At times, companies may choose to buy technical support packages
 from both the reseller and Sage. Annual maintenance fees from Sage are included to support
 packages and provide access to the online knowledge base.
- Customization and implementation costs include annual fees charged by resellers. The customization fee comprises the cost of customizing the Sage solution to fit the unique needs of a given client and range from custom reports to integration or development of separate applications. The fee for implementing the software is usually a one-time installment in Year 1.
- Additional IT costs include the costs of any additional servers and/or hardware, which may also
 include networking, operating systems, databases, and other IT-related costs. This charge varies
 greatly from client to client based on their current IT infrastructure. These IT costs are usually
 charged only in Year 1.

ROI Methodology

Sage retained the Gantry Group LLC to develop an ROI Scorecard Tool tailored to the deployment of Sage 100 ERP solutions in manufacturing companies.

In 2003, Gantry Group employed a structured methodology to collect quantitative ROI metrics through interviews with companies implementing Sage 100 ERP solutions. The ROI Scorecard focuses on direct and indirect quantitative ROI components; qualitative, intangible components were not modeled due to the possible inaccuracy they might introduce.

The ROI Scorecard is based upon data prior to the Sage 100 ERP solutions implementation as compared with the same business metrics 12 months, 24 months, and 36 months following deployment. The ROI calculation considers the costs associated with one discrete deployment within the enterprise. If additional modules were purchased and deployed in the three time periods following initial deployment, costs and benefits associated with follow-on units were not included. Therefore, the ROI calculation has a single "start date" upon which the three future time periods are based.

For each of the three future time periods, the ROI tool calculates ROI as the difference between the investment and benefits for the period. The ROI, expressed as a percentage return, is calculated by dividing the total benefits by the total costs for each of the three time periods. The three-year ROI is calculated by taking the Net Present Value of the three-year net cash flows, using a discount rate equal to then-current 30-year T-Bond rate (3.46%).

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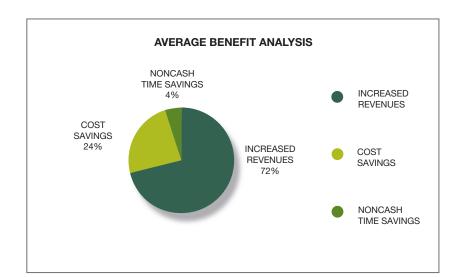
ROI Scorecards

Benefit Analysis

The data collected from the ROI scorecards of the ten respondents gives a clear and relatively consistent picture with regards to the benefits derived from the implementation and utilization of Sage 100 ERP solutions. As it was mentioned above, the study captured the total benefits for the first three years; thus, the average benefit analysis presented below is the average net present value of the derived benefits for the first three years across the ten participating companies.

The bulk of the total benefit of implementing Sage 100 ERP solutions is realized through the increase in company revenues. As the graph below indicates, the increased revenues account for an average of 72 percent of the total benefits. Cost savings comprise an average of 24 percent. Furthermore, on average, 4 percent of the total benefit is attributed to the noncash time-saving measures. It is important to note that one interviewed company was able to achieve IT savings after the implementation despite initial IT-related expenses. However, this kind of benefit was an exception, thus was not included in the overall analysis.

Note that while noncash savings from productivity enhancements are included in the benefits pie chart, that figure is not included in the calculation of the ROI.



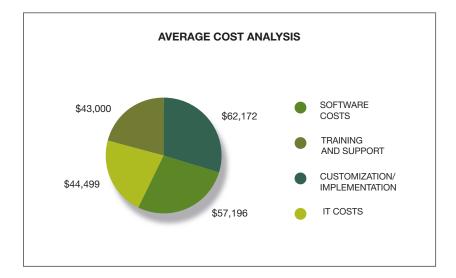
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The bulk of the total benefit of implementing Sage 100 ERP solutions is realized through the increase in company revenues.



Cost Analysis

Consistent with Benefit Analysis, the net present value of cost considerations of deployment of Sage 100 ERP solutions is calculated by summarizing the costs to be faced by interviewees over the three years following implementation. After comparing the average costs associated with the purchase and implementation of the software, the Gantry Group discovered that on average Customization/ Implementation Costs and Software Cost account for some 58 percent of total average expenditures, \$62,172 and \$57,196 respectively. IT and Training/Support costs account for the other \$44,449 and \$43,000 respectively.



Overall Analysis

The summary of the key findings is presented below. Based on the research data, the Gantry Group found that the greatest increase in revenues occurs in the first year of implementation of the software. On average, the respondents experienced a \$582,500 boost to their revenues in Year 1. This increase comprises an average of 9.2 percent of the total expected revenues of the companies. In Year 2 and Year 3, the companies' revenues rose by an average of \$465,600 and \$484,005, respectively. Participants of the study experienced the most cost savings (average of \$186,367) in Year 3. Respondents saw an average of \$166,840 savings in Year 1 and \$176,267 in Year 2.

An analysis of the investment required to deploy Sage 100 ERP solutions shows that the bulk of the costs associated with the implementation occurs in Year 1. This is consistent with the front-loaded investment structure of any enterprise business software. The average total investment in Year 1 was \$171,482 across the ten participants of the study. It is important to note that the costs faced by the companies in Year 2 and Year 3 were as little as \$22,280 and \$19,288.

In monetary terms, the average Return on Investment for respondents was \$577,858 in Year 1, rising to \$619,587 in Year 2, and \$651,085 in Year 3. Thus, the firms recouped an average of 613 percent ROI in Year 1, 3,606 percent ROI in Year 2 and 4,562 percent in Year 3. While the average payback period is around 17 months, the periods varied greatly based on the individual companies in the study. The shortest payback period among the interviewees was less than one month, while the longest was 93.9 months. If this outlying value is not considered in the average payback period calculation, the average payback period is 8.3 months. The NPV three-year ROI based on this study is \$1,816,970.

Sage 100 ERP

On average, the respondents experienced a \$582,500 boost to their revenues in Year 1.

The NPV three-year ROI based on this study is \$1,816,970.



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In Thousands of Dollars						
Benefits	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3			
Increased Revenues	\$582.5	\$465.6	\$484.0			
Cost Savings	\$166.8	\$176.3	\$186.4			
Total Benefit	\$749.3	\$641.9	\$670.4			
Total Investment	\$171.5	\$22.3	\$19.3			
ROI (\$)	\$755.9	\$619.6	\$651.1			
ROI Benefit (%)	613%	3606%	4562%			
Payback Period	17 Months					
3-Year ROI (NPV)	\$1,816,970					

Sage ROI Scorecard

Notes

It is important to follow the ROI guidelines described below in order to calculate an accurate ROI analysis. It should be noted that this ROI model is tuned to specific business metrics for manufacturing companies.

- The ROI model discussed in this document is highly quantitative and focuses on actual, tangible
 business performance metrics. These performance metrics are specific to manufacturing
 companies implementing Sage 100 ERP solutions. Every effort to maintain the integrity of the
 calculation and rigor of the model has been made to protect against "double counting" of benefits
 and incomplete assessment of total costs.
- Users of this ROI model should exercise caution when providing data on labor savings. Only those labor savings that actually result in staff reduction should be included in the model.
- Other tangible but nonmeasurable business metrics should also be input with care. In particular, increased inventory turns means that materials have less risk associated with sustaining unexpected damage and incurring unknown liability. Unless users can actually track liability data and have quantified risk, these factors—though significant if incurred—should not be included in the ROI calculation.
- When using this model, managers are encouraged to assess each of the ROI components carefully—whether costs, savings, or revenues. In many cases, the business metrics listed in the model will not all be applicable, while a given company may not even measure others.

• The software investment section is divided into four cost categories:

Initial per-license software cost

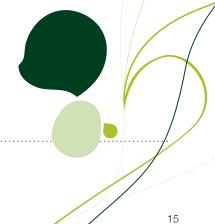
Training and ongoing support costs

Custom software development and implementation costs

Hardware and other infrastructure costs

As indicated in the ROI Methodology section, the Gantry Group conducted personal phone interviews with representatives from ten companies that have already deployed Sage 100 ERP solutions. While every company is involved in manufacturing, they represent a wide range of industries. The following is a summary of the study participants at the time of the interviews. Please note that each company was at a different stage of the implementation process.

	Industry (Manufacturing)	Average Revenue	Product Purchased	Number of Licenses	Years of Implementation
1	Soil Amendments	\$67.1 M	Sage 500 ERP	60	5
2	Foundation Equipment	\$29.1 M	Sage 100 Advanced ERP	15	3
3	Telecommunications Equipment	\$18.3 M	Sage 500 ERP	15	2
4	Trailer Components	\$10.8 M	Sage 100 Advanced ERP	16	5
5	Electronics	\$8.5 M	Sage 100 Standard ERP	15	10
6	Printing	\$6.6 M	Sage 500 ERP	20	1.5
7	Trailers and Hot Tubs	\$4.5 M	Sage 100 Standard ERP	10	2
8	Recycling and Remanufacturing	\$4.1 M	Sage 500 ERP	10	2
9	Kitchen and Bath Accessories	\$3.8 M	Sage 100 Standard ERP	15	1
10	Water Treatment Equipment	\$3.0 M	Sage 100 Standard ERP	5	2



About Sage

Sage North America is part of The Sage Group plc, a leading global supplier of business management software and services. At Sage, we live and breathe business every day. We are passionate about helping our customers achieve their ambitions. Our range of business software and services is continually evolving as we innovate to answer our customers' needs. Our solutions support accounting, operations, customer relationship management, human resources, time tracking, merchant services, and the specialized needs of the construction, distribution, manufacturing, nonprofit, and real estate industries. The Sage Group plc, formed in 1981, was floated on the London Stock Exchange in 1989 and now employs 12,600 people and supports more than 6 million customers worldwide. For more information, please visit the website at www. NA.Sage.com or call 866-996-7243. Follow Sage North America on Facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/SageNorthAmerica and Twitter at: http://twitter.com/#l/sagenamerica.

