ACCURIS | The Cost of Inaction

What engineering and supply chain teams risk without dedicated electronic component intelligence

*Based on an independent survey of **439 professionals** across aerospace & defense, electronics, automotive, medical devices, and industrial manufacturing.*

Executive Summary

A new industry survey reveals the staggering operational and financial toll that manual processes, fragmented tools, and reactive decision-making impose on electronics manufacturing organizations. The findings, drawn from 439 professionals across aerospace & defense, electronics, automotive, medical devices, and industrial manufacturing, paint a picture of widespread inefficiency that compounds at every stage of the product lifecycle.

From engineers spending 30+ hours per month manually extracting datasheet information, to procurement teams blindsided by supply disruptions multiple times per year, the data quantifies what many in the industry have long suspected: the absence of automated, intelligence-driven workflows is costing organizations hundreds of thousands of dollars annually in preventable losses.

This report presents the most significant findings from the survey, conducted independently by Fuld & Company in March 2026 and commissioned by Accuris, a provider of engineering knowledge and supply chain intelligence solutions.

Massive Time Lost to Manual Processes

The survey reveals an enormous burden of manual work across engineering and procurement teams. Nearly six in ten respondents (58%) spend more than 30 hours per month manually extracting data from component datasheets, a task that spans part selection, qualification, and compliance verification. Meanwhile, 77% of respondents spend five or more hours every week reading datasheets and comparing component alternatives.

58% spend over 30 hours per month manually extracting datasheet data

77% spend 5+ hours per week reading datasheets and comparing component alternatives

49% spend more than 11 hours per week manually transferring data across CAD, PLM, and ERP systems

These hours represent engineering capacity diverted away from design innovation and strategic decision-making. For organizations with multiple engineers and analysts, the cumulative time loss translates directly into delayed schedules and inflated labor costs.

The Cost of Inaction

Costly Design Rework and Post-Freeze Changes

Component-related rework remains one of the most expensive pain points in electronics development. The survey found that 85% of respondents face design rework costs of up to $250,000, with the majority of organizations making six or more component changes per design project. Perhaps most concerning, more than half of respondents (51%) report that over 11% of their designs require component changes after the design freeze, when the cost of modification escalates dramatically.

85% face design rework costs of up to $250K per project

51% say over 11% of designs require component changes after the design freeze

46% estimate the average cost of a single post-freeze component change exceeds $50K

"What this survey makes undeniable is that the industry's design rework problem is a data problem. When 85% of teams face up to $250,000 in rework costs and more than half are changing components after the design freeze, we're looking at a systemic gap in how engineers access parts intelligence. We built Supply Chain Intelligence to close that gap. Giving teams verified, real-time component data at the point of design means fewer surprises, fewer six-figure change orders, and faster time to production. These are solvable problems, and the data shows how much is at stake for organizations that wait."

— Greg Jaknunas, Sr. Director of Product, Supply Chain Intelligence, Accuris

Supply Disruptions and Unpredictable Costs

Supply continuity challenges remain pervasive. Nearly half of respondents (46%) experience three to ten costly supply disruptions per year, while 60% say they are surprised by component price increases and supply shortages "sometimes or often." These are preventable surprises: half of the respondents surveyed lack more than four months of visibility into component obsolescence, pricing, and supply trends.

46% experience 3-10 costly supply disruptions per year

60% are surprised by component price increases and supply shortages sometimes or often

72% report the annual cost of reactive supply chain decisions exceeds $50K

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Compliance and Geopolitical Risk Exposure

Regulatory compliance failures discovered late in the product lifecycle carry significant remediation costs. The survey found that 62% of respondents discover compliance violations after the design phase, when corrective action is far more expensive and disruptive. In an era of escalating geopolitical tensions and evolving trade policy, 41% of respondents lack full visibility into where their suppliers and fabrication facilities are located, and 27% cannot quickly assess tariff or geopolitical risks.

62% discover compliance violations after the design phase, when remediation costs are highest

41% lack visibility into supplier country of origin and fabrication locations

Post-Installation Failures and Quality Costs

The consequences of inadequate parts intelligence extend well beyond the design and procurement phases. Half of respondents (50%) experienced six or more post-installation issues in the past year, and 67% report that each post-installation issue costs $50,000 or more when accounting for recalls, rework, warranty claims, and brand reputation damage.

50% experienced 6+ post-installation issues in the past year

67% incurred $50K+ in cost per post-installation issue, including recalls, rework, and warranty

"This data should be a wake-up call for the industry. When half of organizations are managing six or more post-installation failures a year, each carrying a $50,000-plus burden in recalls, rework, and brand erosion, these aren't abstract risks on a spreadsheet. They're tangible losses that ripple across teams, timelines, and customer relationships. What's encouraging is that none of this is inevitable. The organizations pulling ahead right now are the ones weaving parts intelligence into every stage of the product lifecycle, from initial design through procurement, production, and field performance. That holistic approach is exactly what we're building at Accuris, and this survey reinforces how critical the moment is for the rest of the industry to follow."

— Sarita Benjamin, GM, Supply Chain Intelligence, Accuris

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