




The guide every Finance team
needs in 2026

A woman with short blonde hair, wearing a dark blazer over a light top, stands in a meeting room. She is pointing with a blue pen at a whiteboard that has a graph and the number '1203' circled. Three other people are seated at a table in front of her, looking towards the whiteboard. The scene is dimly lit, with the main light source coming from the whiteboard area.

HOW FDs CAN TAKE BACK CONTROL WITH DATA CLARITY

DISCOVER WHAT'S DISTORTING YOUR FINANCIAL CLARITY

Where your **CONTROL** starts to **SLIP**

Have you ever been asked about a number in a high-stakes meeting and not had a clear answer? When all eyes are on you, that brief moment of hesitation takes away authority and confidence. You have the numbers, but they're not always clear and not always easy to stand behind.

Does it feel like reporting takes longer than it should? And despite the effort going into it, there's often an underlying doubt... can these numbers be fully trusted?

Poor data quality costs organisations millions each year & revenue losses can exceed

25-30%



WHEN REPORTING PROCESSES FAIL YOU, THE IMPACT RUNS DEEP:

Intercompany transactions lack transparency

- Working capital efficiency drops
- Teams spend time chasing numbers instead of improving performance

Variance cannot be clearly explained

- Forecast credibility suffers
- Finance loses its authority in strategic decisions

Consolidation takes days

- Insight is delayed
- Decisions become reactive

Balance sheets don't reconcile

- Confidence erodes
- Leadership conversations become uncomfortable



HIDDEN COST 
OF SPREADSHEET DEPENDENCY



YOUR TEAM FEELS IT TOO.

Controllers, analysts and finance managers are often:

- Reconciling spreadsheets manually
- Maintaining complex mapping tables
- Spending days validating data instead of analysing it
- Explaining month-on-month inconsistencies
- Trying to isolate FX impact manually
- Working through spreadsheets that are slow, fragile, and prone to error

11+ hrs

Lost to manual work per week

68%

of finance leaders say manual processes increase the risk of errors in financial reporting.

Your finance team is likely made up of some of the sharpest people in the organisation.

These repetitive and easily automated tasks are not where their value lies. Instead of analysing performance, they're preparing data for analysis. For the CFO, it means high-value talent is underutilised. For the team, it means their potential isn't fully used. There's also a quieter impact. When high-potential team members spend most of their time on manual work, stuck acting as data processors, motivation drops. And over time, so does retention.

Why is there a **LACK OF TRUST** in the numbers

Even the best teams can't compensate for broken reporting.

To err is human and when reporting relies on fragmented systems, manual adjustments, and disconnected data, that margin for error only grows.

You might have experienced that when your confidence starts to slip, then every figure needs a second look, and every explanation takes a little longer.



If you've ever hesitated before presenting a number, you'll recognise this.

1

TOO MANY SYSTEMS

In manufacturing, data doesn't live in one place.

- ERP systems (SAP, NetSuite, Business Central)
- CRM platforms tracking orders
- Inventory and supply chain tools
- Procurement systems
- Local spreadsheets across regions

You might have seen this: A company acquires a business unit.

- The existing business runs on SAP
- The new unit operates on Microsoft Dynamics
- Each has its own GL structure, reporting logic, and setup

In theory, everything should move into one system.

But in reality, that transformation takes months (or years):

- Requires significant cost and resources
- Involves reconfiguring systems, processes, and data
- Forces teams to adapt to entirely new ways of working

Both systems operate. And finance is left managing the gap.

2

THE BLACK BOX PROBLEM

Automation is supposed to help. But when it's implemented without transparency, it creates a new issue. Numbers appear but the logic behind them doesn't.

A CFO gets asked: "Why did our margin improve this quarter?"

If the answer is: "That's what the system shows" That's a problem. Because without:

- Drill-down capability
- Transaction-level traceability
- Clear calculation logic

You're not in control of the number; you're just reporting it.

3

XLS



THE
EXCEL
LAYER

Most manufacturing businesses don't rely on ERP data alone. There's always a layer in between:

- Spreadsheets
- Offline adjustments
- Manual mappings
- "Temporary" fixes that become permanent

A controller adjusts a number to account for a timing issue or a formula is updated to reflect a cost allocation change.

Three months later? No one remembers:

- Why the adjustment was made
- What the original logic was or if it's still valid

There's no real audit trail, just human memory.

4

CONSOLIDATION ISSUES

At a basic level, finance should be able to rely on:

- P&L
- Balance sheet
- Cash flow

From what we've seen in many organisations, even these are spread across multiple systems or structured differently.

So, finance teams end up:

- Manually stitching reports together
- Reconciling across disconnected systems
- Relying heavily on spreadsheets to bridge the gaps

In manufacturing, these issues are amplified because you're dealing with:

- Multi-entity operations across countries
- Intercompany transactions
- Inventory moving across locations
- FX fluctuations impacting costs and revenue
- Commodity costs volatility
- Layered cost structures (materials, labour, overheads)

Inventory might be produced today, but the sale may not happen for another three months. During which commodity prices could change significantly. So when the product is finally sold:

Which commodity cost should be reflected in the margin?

Here's something else you might have experienced:

A change in exchange rates might impact raw material costs in one region, but revenue is recognised in another currency. If that impact isn't clearly isolated? It shows up as "unexplained variance".

And suddenly, something explainable becomes confusing.



MANUFACTURING COMPLEXITY
makes it worse

5

What do CFOs actually need?

- Predictability in financial performance
- Visibility into what is actually driving the numbers
- Better, clearer conversations in the boardroom
- Faster decision-making
- Control over financial complexity
- Confidence under pressure when the questions start coming

“
Everyone is working hard, but clarity is still missing.
The issue is that the data isn't clear, connected, or
trustworthy enough to support fast decisions.
”

40% of financial leaders
trust their data
but
100% of them are
responsible for it

“
Your team shouldn't be spending 90% of the time
on getting the data. Leaving only 10% for the
analysis, and almost nothing for strategic scenario
planning.
”

THE RIGHT APPROACH to Automation

A common issue that our clients seem to face is that most dashboards look impressive with clean visuals and smart layouts, but when you actually sit down with them as a CFO or finance controller, one question comes up quickly:

“But what is it actually telling me?”

WHY MOST DASHBOARDS DON'T ANSWER FINANCE QUESTIONS

Many dashboards are built from a technical perspective first.

They focus on:

- Data availability
- System structure
- Visual appeal



But finance doesn't operate that way.

Finance operates on logic, structure, explanation, cause and effect. So, when a dashboard isn't built with that lens, it creates friction. You get dashboards that cannot break down or explain numbers.

Or essentially, they cannot support decisions.

For example: A typical dashboard might show:

Revenue ↓ 8% & Margin ↓ 3%

But the real questions are:

- Is this driven by FX or operations?
- Which product lines are responsible?
- Is this a one-off or a trend?
- What changed vs last month?

If the dashboard can't answer that you go back to the lengthy spreadsheets.

Do you need visualisation?

If done right, Power BI dashboards can become high power finance tools that align with your excel, instead of replacing it, and enhance your decision-making:

- Use visuals to highlight cause and effect
- Make trends immediately visible
- Surface outliers without digging
- Simplify complex relationships
- Leadership ready polished reports



Data Bars

Canada \$24,887,655



\$24,354,172



\$23,505,341



\$20,949,352



\$25,029,830

Sparklines

Canada \$24,887,655

\$24,354,172

\$23,505,341

\$20,949,352

USA \$25,029,830

Product Budget

2.6M 3.0M 2.5M

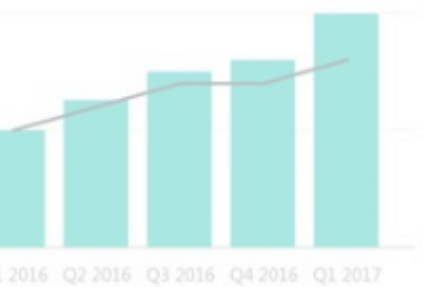


Product Development

Cities



Target Growth



Report preparation goes from

18 hrs to 15 mins

of manual effort

of a Power BI refresh

FOR FINANCE

By Finance

Picture a dashboard created by someone who knows finance inside and out.

One of the biggest advantages of a finance-led dashboard that we've observed is the clarity it creates around ownership.

When data is structured through a financial lens, every number has a clear source and owner. Instead of finance spending time explaining discrepancies, the dashboard makes it easier for each part of the business to see how their decisions impact performance.

That visibility naturally drives accountability.

When teams can clearly see their cost centres, operational metrics, and financial impact in one place, it becomes much easier to identify where performance is improving, where bottlenecks are emerging, and where intervention is needed.

AND IMPORTANTLY, IT SHIFTS THE ROLE OF FINANCE.

Instead of acting as the “number police”, finance becomes an enabler providing the visibility the business needs to take ownership of its performance.

Because when the numbers are clear and traceable, trust follows, and accountability across the organisation becomes far easier to establish.



“

Clarity doesn't just improve reporting; it helps in driving accountability and trust throughout the business.

BEYOND PRESENTING NUMBERS

It's also designed to:

- Break variance into meaningful drivers (FX, volume, pricing)
- Show movement across periods clearly
- Connect P&L, balance sheet, and operational data
- Allow drill-down to transaction level
- Reflect how finance teams actually analyse performance

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOUR TEAM

They don't need to:

- Export data
- Rebuild logic in Excel
- Double-check numbers manually

You can:

- Trust what you're seeing
- Answer questions immediately
- Move from reporting to decision-making

IN PRACTICE

Instead of just showing a variance, it shows:

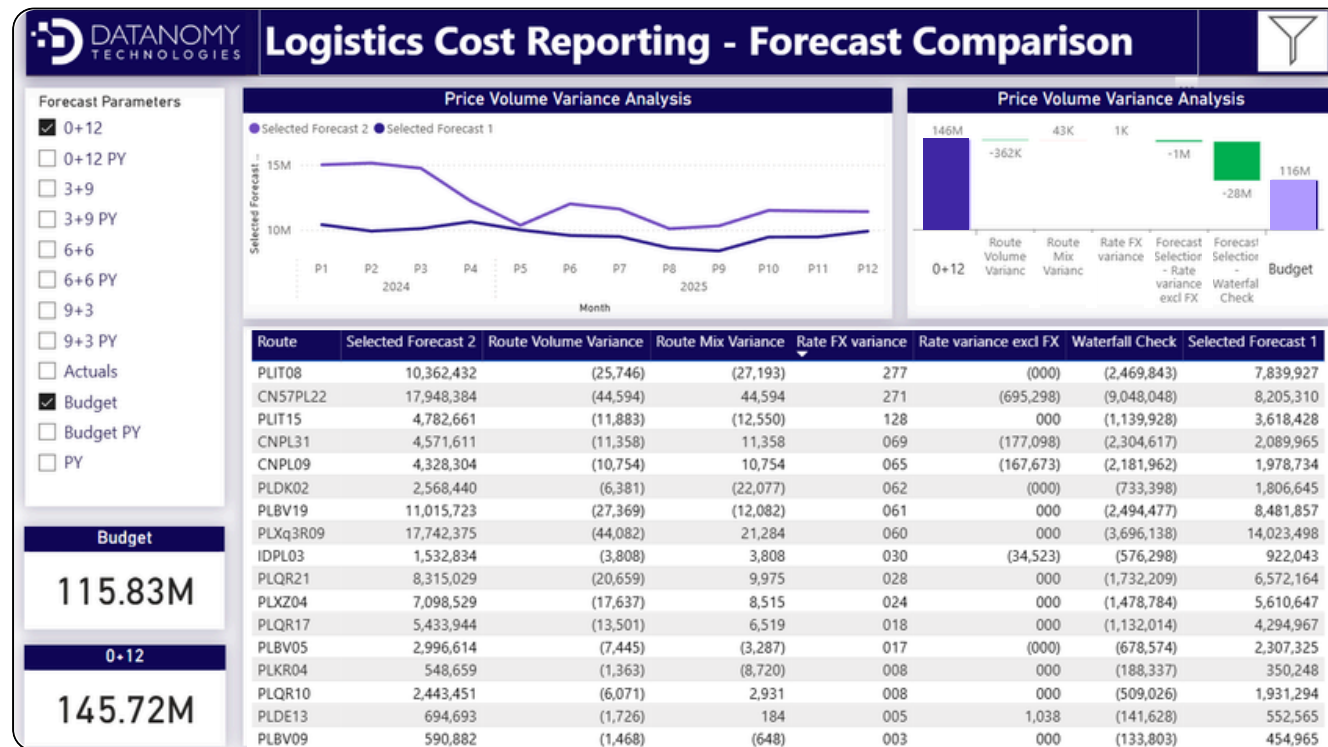
- What portion is FX-driven
- What changed vs last period
- Where exactly the movement came from

So, when someone asks, "What's driving this?"

The answer is already there.

55%

of finance teams struggle with data accuracy & consistency issues in their systems.



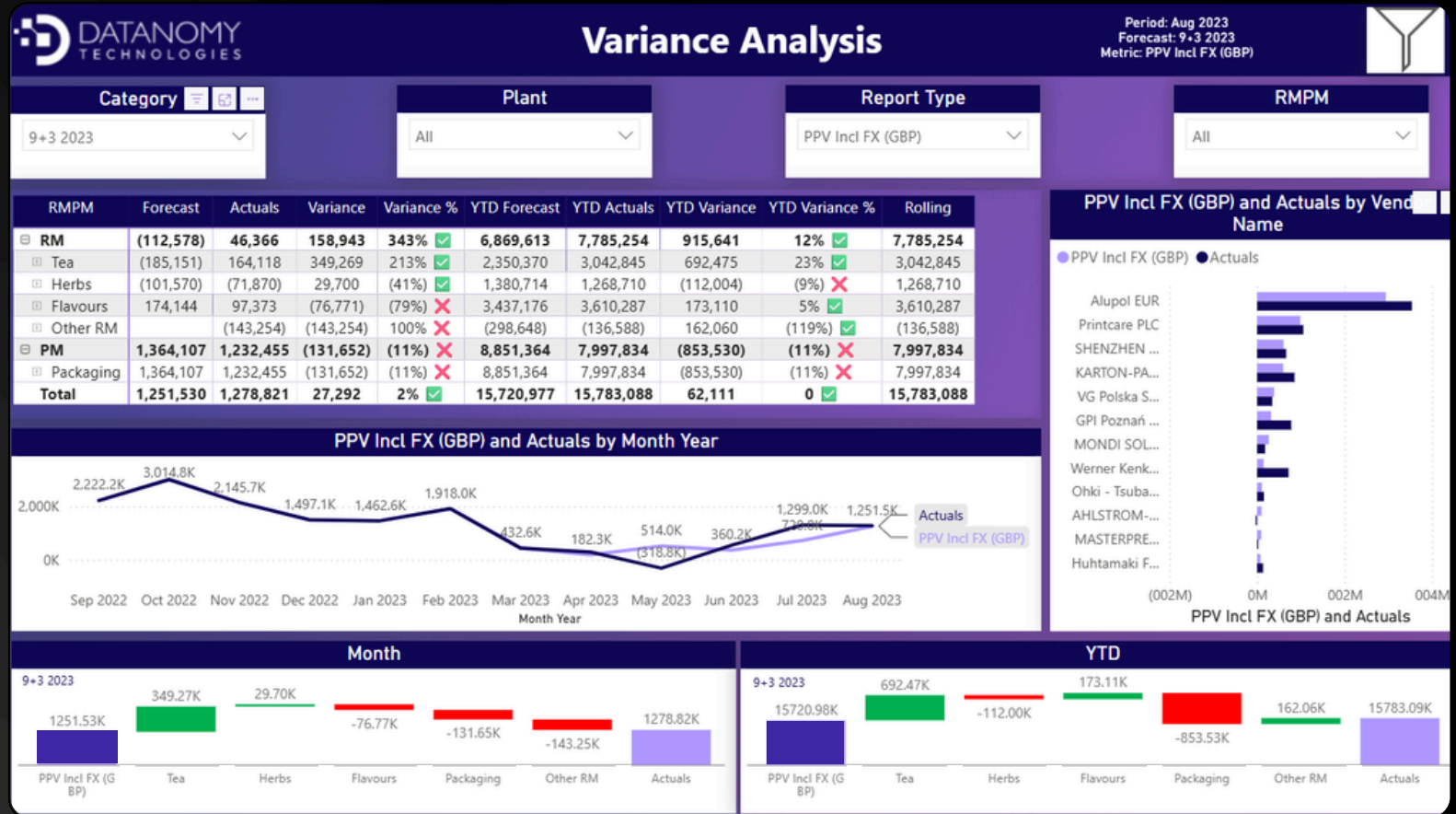
A photograph of a classical building facade with several white columns and a pediment, set against a clear blue sky. The image is used as a background for the text.

4 Pillars of Financial Clarity

HOW LEADING MANUFACTURERS REGAIN CONTROL

68%

of finance leaders say manual processes increase the risk of errors in financial reporting.



1 Automated Financial Consolidations

- One-click P&L and balance sheet consolidation
- Elimination of mapping-table chaos
- Consistent month-on-month reporting
- Clear reconciliation across systems
- Audit-ready transparency

Result

- Faster month-end close
- Numbers that can actually be explained
- Less reliance on fragile spreadsheets

98%

of finance leaders say they lack full confidence in their organisation's cash-flow visibility.

DATANOMY TECHNOLOGIES

Summary | Monthly Trend | Sales Invoice vs General Ledger | Revenue - BC vs Anaplan | **Revenue - By Customer** | Aged Debtors

Revenue Analysis

Revenue - GBP

Customer Name	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026
A0001 - ALBAKSAN D.T.V PAZARLAMA A.S.	247,168	450,683	658,709	897,648	1,212,256	1,327,459	1,327,459	1,535,377	1,773,922	2,065,298	2,291,140
A0011 - ASKOZVAR s.r.o.											
A0703 - ARTWELD S.R.O.	84,137	221,569	320,746	455,236	617,620	710,302	823,579	935,599	1,068,795	1,112,899	1,261,140
B0007 - BMW Manufacturing Hungary Kft.DEBRECEN											
B0102 - BAMBU TECHNOLOGY DE			421	421	421	421	2,985	2,985	5,495	5,495	
B0105 - BAMBU TECHNOLOGY	150,654	276,849	421,925	552,224	654,038	693,469	873,070	1,028,471	1,058,435	1,184,177	1,401,140
B0180 - BMW (UK) MANUFACTURING LTD				11,357	60,686	112,680	136,784	163,858	163,858	173,249	191,140
B0310 - BMW LEIPZIG AG				112,796	112,796	131,854	245,124	245,124	264,091	392,375	392,375
C0001 - COSKUNOZ MA SRL	8,226	21,722	21,722	35,542	35,542	35,542	54,237	54,237	81,478	81,478	91,140
C0154 - COREMA SVETS & INDUSTRIPRODUKTER AB (BELGIUM)	17,449	47,263	76,473	123,820	153,734	183,795	213,992	244,362	262,254	274,632	321,140
C0155 - COREMA SVETS & INDUSTRIPRODUKTER AB	28,355	136,124	164,273	283,513	279,330	368,469	430,748	517,159	563,131	588,754	711,140
C0156 - COREMA SVETS & INDUSTRIPRODUKTER AB	11,138	11,844	19,288	15,104	19,288	19,288	19,288	19,288	22,926	22,926	22,926
C0160 - CIE Metal CZ s.r.o								3,284	3,284	3,284	
D0122 - MERCEDES-BENZ AG		39,146	121,726	121,726	204,284	215,508	310,594	322,026	322,026	364,522	431,140

Revenue - Original Currency

Currency Code	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026
EUR	2,859,463	6,011,439	9,478,669	12,656,237	15,756,535	18,013,077	20,928,333	23,978,974	26,029,118	30,249,387	33,590,037	37,631,614	2,201,093
GBP	248,394	508,160	966,479	1,499,872	1,791,044	2,125,586	2,466,953	2,777,383	3,201,624	3,579,234	3,980,131	4,397,915	170,751
USD					32,398	32,398	32,398	34,409	34,409	34,409	34,409	34,409	36,796
Total	3,107,857	6,519,599	10,445,147	14,156,109	17,579,977	20,171,061	23,427,684	26,790,767	29,265,151	33,863,030	37,604,577	42,066,325	2,371,844

Financial Year, Month Year, Re...
Multiple selections

Is IG Customer
All

CurrencyCode
All

Time Intelligence
Year to Date

2 Intercompany & Invoice Intelligence

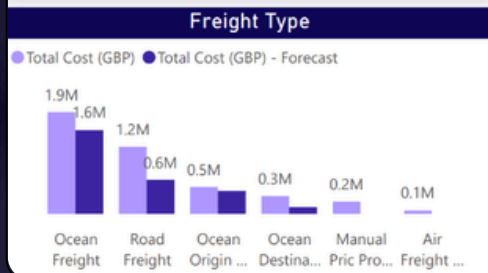
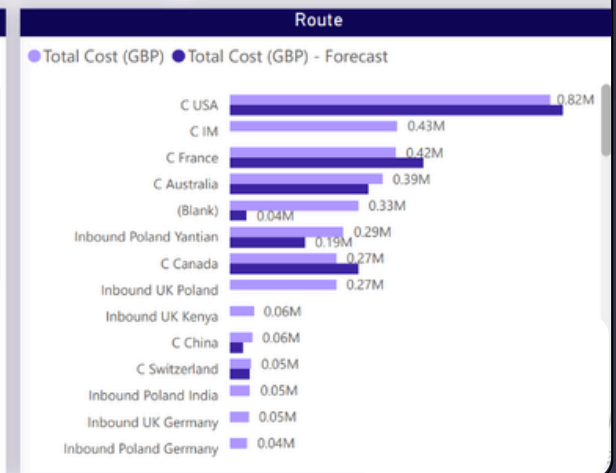
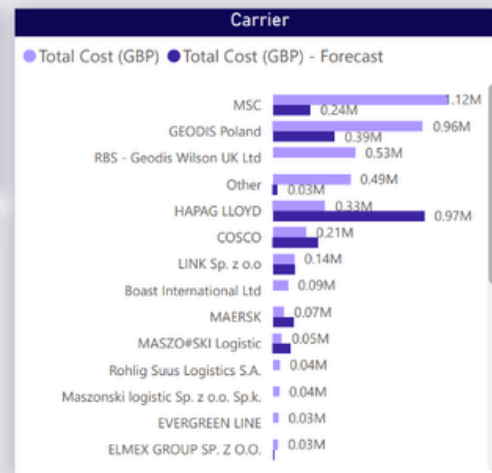
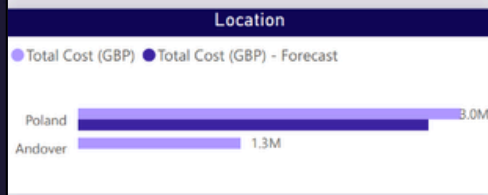
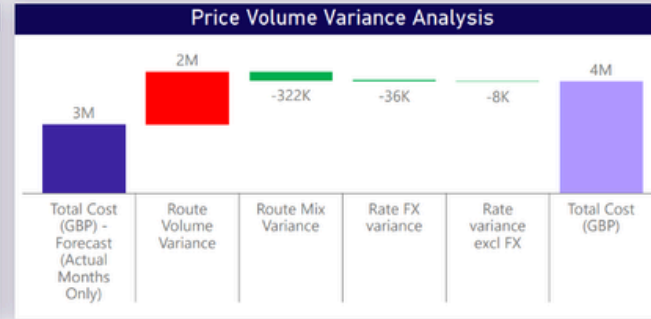
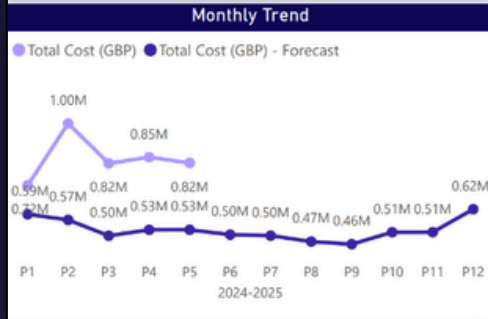
- Inter/ intra-company transaction tracking & matching
- Multi-currency invoice visibility
- Automated validation
- Error detection built into the reporting layer
- Processes that once took days reduced to minutes

Result

- Significant time savings
- Lower operational effort
- Greater trust in the numbers

64%

of finance leaders say manual work leaves little time for planning and analysis.



3 Margin & Variance Intelligence

- Clear budget vs actual analysis
- FX impact broken down and isolated
- Forecast gaps explained, not guessed
- Rolling comparisons across 3, 6 and 9 months
- Scenario modelling for forward planning

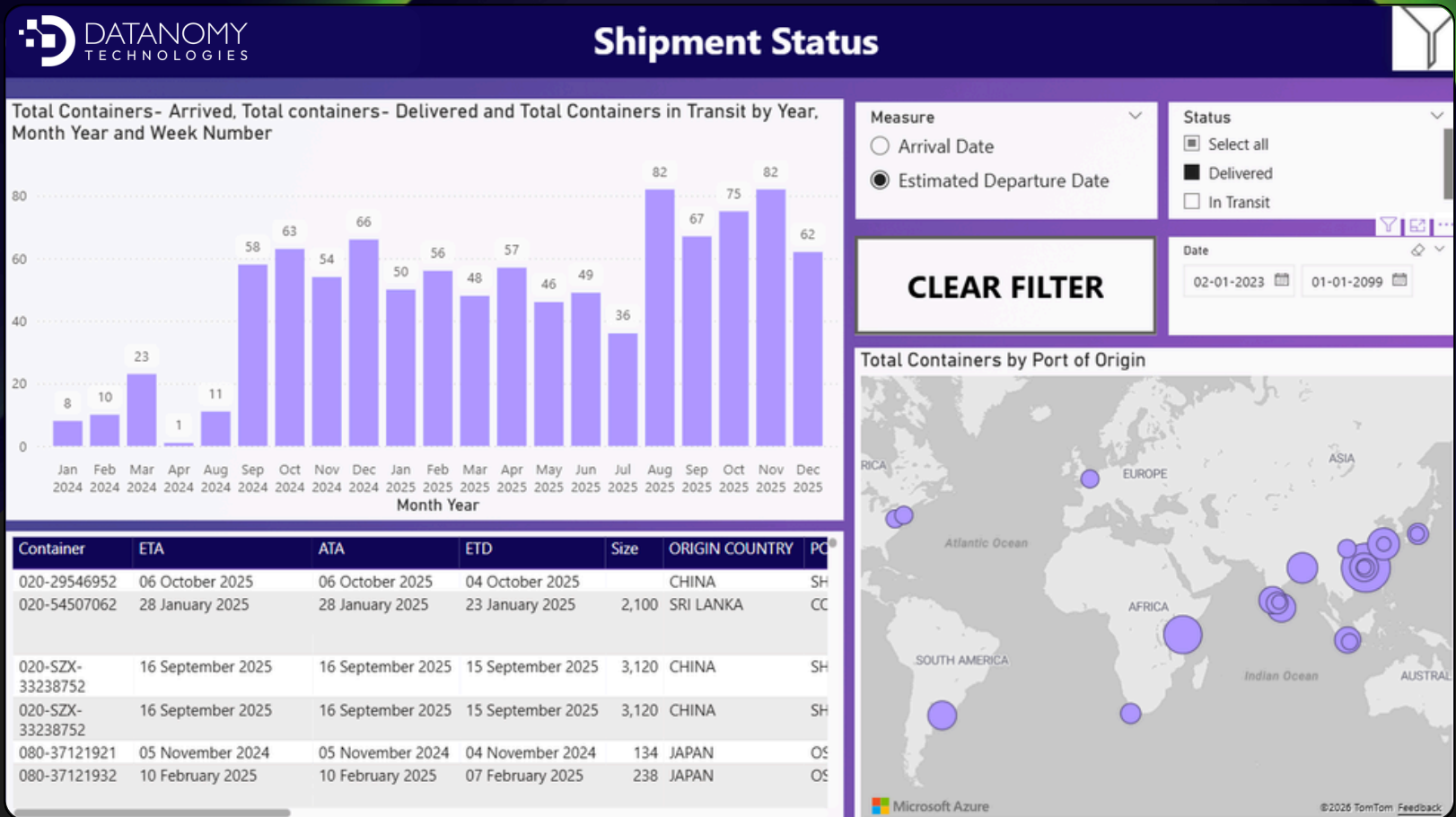
Result

- Forecasts that are easier to defend
- Variance explanations ready for the boardroom
- Better pricing and planning decisions

31%

of finance leaders say data coming from multiple systems is a major reason they don't trust their financial data.

4 Operational & Transit Visibility



- Real-time tracking of goods in transit
- Category-level performance breakdowns
- Visual mapping of operational movement
- Data extracted from static P&L structures
- Live reporting instead of 15-minute Excel load times

Result

- Faster operational decisions
- Real-time supply chain visibility
- Clearer links between operations and financial performance

“

The difference is immediate.
When financial data becomes transparent,
decision-making accelerates.



88-94%

of spreadsheets contain errors;
even one wrong cell can cost
thousands.

80-90%

of reporting time can be cut by
automation

120+ hrs

are wasted every year bridging ERP
and production data for most teams
we've come across.

THE RESULT?
THE RESULT?
THE RESULT?
THE RESULT?
THE RESULT?

Across the manufacturing organisations that
we've worked with, improving visibility has led
to outcomes such as:

- Reporting processes reduced from multiple days to a single refresh
- Hidden spreadsheet errors uncovered and eliminated
- Balance sheet mismatches resolved
- FX-driven forecast distortions clearly isolated
- Intercompany transactions made fully traceable
- Month-on-month reporting consistency restored

The 1-10-100 Rule in Finance



You might know about the simple principle often used in operations and quality control, the 1-10-100 rule states:

- It costs 1x to prevent a problem
- 10x to detect and correct it later
- 100x to fix it after it has impacted outcomes

And while it's often applied to manufacturing defects, the same logic applies to financial data.

Think about something as simple as FX impact.

If it's not identified early:

- It gets buried in variance
- Misinterpreted as operational performance
- Reflected incorrectly in forecasts

By the time it's discovered, pricing, planning, and reporting may already be affected.

Checks

Duplicate Unique IDs		
Unique ID	Partner	PP/Standard
3343847566_445485-3/10	AAA ENERGY SERVICES	pp
3343847566_445485-3/11	AAA ENERGY SERVICES	pp
3343847566_445485-3/9	AAA ENERGY SERVICES	pp
3304958677_440596-3/4	APEX ENERGY PARTNERS	pp
9910514233_112152-9/6	APEX ENERGY PARTNERS	pp

Duplicate Unique IDs	
Unique ID	Partner
3343847566_445485-3/10	AAA ENERGY SERVICES
3343847566_445485-3/11	AAA ENERGY SERVICES
3343847566_445485-3/9	AAA ENERGY SERVICES
3304958677_440596-3/4	APEX ENERGY PARTNERS
5565069788_667607-5/10	DIRECT POWER SOURCE

Duplicate Unique IDs	
Unique ID	MPAN-Contract-Month
1121625344_222553-1/10	1121625344_222553-1/2_Aug 25
1121625344_222553-1/11	3343847566_445485-3/4_Aug 25
1121625344_222553-1/12	3343847566_445485-3/4_Aug 25
1121625344_222553-1/13	5565069788_667607-5/6_Dec 25
1121625344_222553-1/14	5565069788_667607-5/6_Dec 25

Flags duplicate Unique IDs within the same partner and pricing type, showing repeated entries that shouldn't exist.

Identifies duplicates, highlighting potential cross-partner duplication or data integrity issues.

Detects duplicate Unique IDs, surfacing inconsistencies in contract-period mapping.

1001298473_110293-1/1	ENERGY CONNECT LTD	pp	1121625344_222553-1/7	PEAK POWER BROKERS	2225536455_334374-2/10	2225536455_334374-2/3_Aug 25
4454958677_556596-4/11	ENERGY CONNECT LTD	pp	1121625344_222553-1/8	PEAK POWER BROKERS	2225536455_334374-2/11	2225536455_334374-2/3_Aug 25
4454958677_556596-4/12	ENERGY CONNECT LTD	pp	1121625344_222553-1/9	PEAK POWER BROKERS	2225536455_334374-2/12	4454958677_556596-4/5_Dec 25
4454958677_556596-4/9	ENERGY CONNECT LTD	pp	2225536455_334374-2/10	TRIPLE A UTILITIES	2225536455_334374-2/13	4454958677_556596-4/5_Dec 25
6676170899_778718-6/11	GREEN GRID SOLUTIONS	pp	2225536455_334374-2/8	TRIPLE A UTILITIES	2225536455_334374-2/14	6676170899_778718-6/7_Aug 25
6676170899_778718-6/12	GREEN GRID SOLUTIONS	pp	2225536455_334374-2/9	TRIPLE A UTILITIES	2225536455_334374-2/15	9910514233_112152-9/1_Aug 25
6676170899_778718-6/13	GREEN GRID SOLUTIONS	pp	4405069788_550607-4/5	TRIPLE A UTILITIES	2225536455_334374-2/3	2225536455_334374-2/3_Aug 25

80%

of execs have started prioritising "smart manufacturing" and analytics.



What could have been a simple explanation turns into a complex correction.

THE COST OF GETTING IT WRONG

1X: AT THE SOURCE (PREVENTION STAGE)

- The issue can be caught early with automated checks and no manual errors:
- Cost is correctly classified
- Data is structured properly at entry
- Systems are aligned
- Fixing it here is quick with minimal impact.

This is where you want to catch it, and it happens without manual error or effort.

10X: DURING REPORTING (DETECTION STAGE)

With manual reporting, the issue surfaces during consolidation or reporting:

- Numbers don't reconcile
- Variance appears unexplained
- Teams spend hours validating data

Now, the time that could go into analysis & planning goes instead into finding and fixing an error that could have been easily avoided and deadlines get pushed.

100X: AT DECISION LEVEL (IMPACT STAGE)

If the issue was not caught, it reaches leadership:

- Incorrect numbers are presented
- Forecasts are distorted
- Decisions are made on flawed data

Now the cost isn't just time. It's:

- Lost credibility
- Poor strategic decisions
- Rework across teams
- Difficult boardroom conversations
- Financial penalties



Financial Control Shouldn't Be **COMPLEX**

Manufacturing finance teams often rely on fragmented systems & spreadsheets, creating multiple versions of the truth & limited visibility into what is actually driving financial performance.

Reporting becomes slow, reconciliations take days, and explaining variances requires extensive manual work. Confidence in the numbers erodes, decisions are delayed, and finance teams spend more time validating data than analysing it.

Datanomy helps manufacturers regain financial clarity by automating consolidation, connecting fragmented systems, and structuring financial data through finance-led Power BI reporting.

The result is transparent, traceable insight: faster month-end processes, clear variance drivers, fully visible intercompany transactions, & leaders who can answer questions with confidence.

150%

ROI can be achieved with financial automation in year 1.



**DON'T LET MANUAL PROCESSES
ERODE YOUR CONFIDENCE**

EXPLORE AN INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD



www.datanomytechnologies.com