Plex Supply Chain Community

# *Using today's technology to better serve your Plex data*

**Tools and Infrastructure include:**

ODBC Connectivity, SQL DB in MS Azure Cloud, PowerBI, and Microsoft Teams

# EG Industries

*Tony Brown – Director of Business Systems/IT since 2010*

**Privately Held Company**

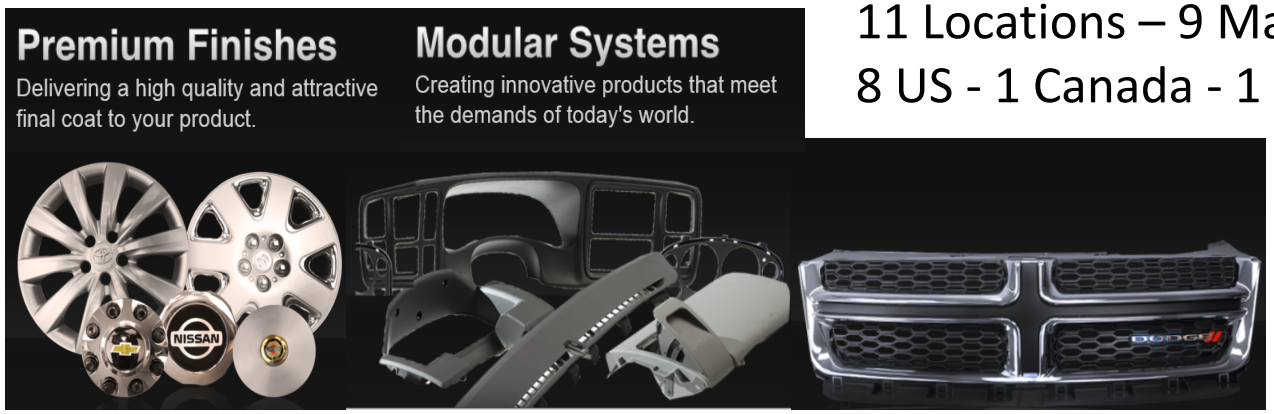
Established in 1981 – Plex since 2011

$215+ Million w/ 700+ Associates

11 Locations – 9 Manufacturing

8 US - 1 Canada - 1 Dominican Republic

Automotive, Medical, and Industrial




**Tony's Plex Profile – Background**

**EG Industries –** 10 Implementations with Plex and Revolution Group since 2010

**Previous Company –** Led or supported 3 Plex Implementations

**Current Roles/Responsibilities:**

**Department of 4 Associates:** 2 Support Plex / 2 Support IT & Office 365

**Support Role:** C.I., Supply Chain, Process, and Q&D

**FY21 Goals:** MS Azure Cloud Migration (18 of 64 Servers) & Cella Application Implementation

EG INDUSTRIES

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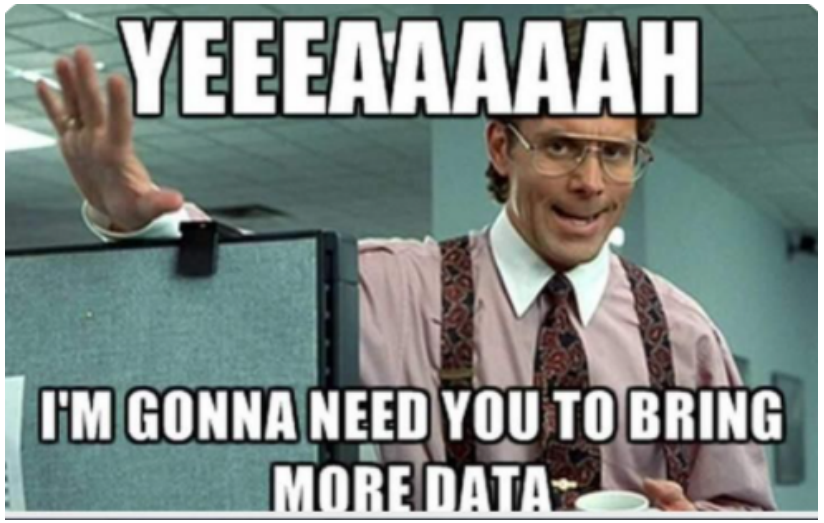


## *Problem Statement:*

*EG Industries associates have become "mechanics" of the data in the language of our business at all levels of management.*

## *Root Causes:*

*No internal developer on staff to write VisionPlex or Intelliplex reports*
*Outsourcing development costly and hard to get approved*
*Corporate Resources struggled with data silos scattered across 11 locations*

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Power BI

Microsoft Teams

Microsoft SQL Server

PLEX
THE MANUFACTURING CLOUD

Office 365
ENTERPRISE E3

## *Definitions of the Tools:*

*ODBC – Open DataBase Connection*

*PowerBI – Business Analytics Service by Microsoft*

*SQL – Structured Query Language for Databases*

*Microsoft Teams – Microsoft Collaboration Tool*

*Microsoft Azure – Cloud platform*

*Office 365 – Cloud Application Subscription*

*Word, Excel, Access, Teams, Sharepoint, Outlook, etc.*

What is SQL in simple terms?

**SQL** (pronounced "ess-que-el") stands for Structured Query **Language**. ... **SQL** statements are used to perform tasks such as update data on a database, or retrieve data from a database. Some common relational database management systems that use **SQL** are: Oracle, Sybase, Microsoft **SQL** Server, Access, Ingres, etc.

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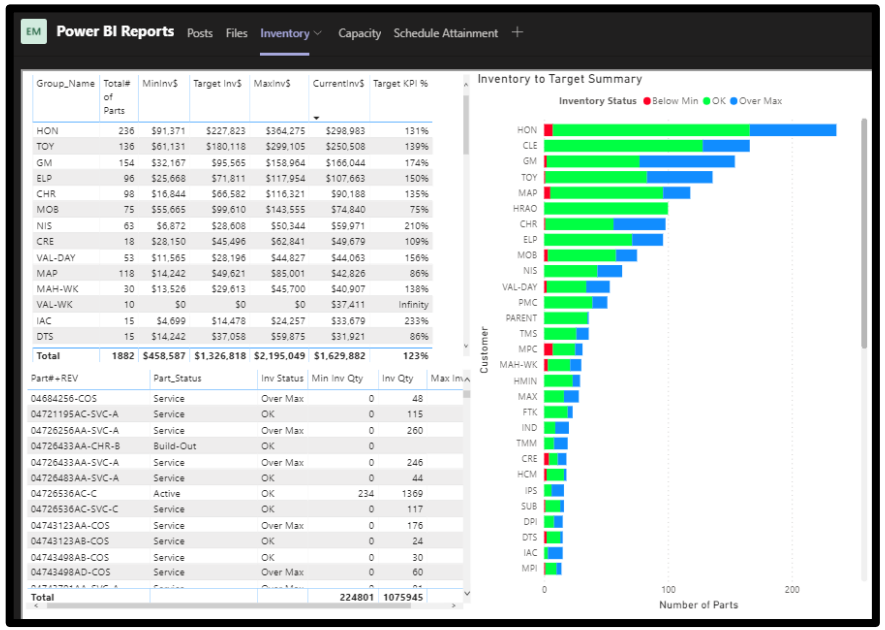


*How does ODBC work and why do I need it?*

PLEX THE MANUFACTURING CLOUD

Data Engine

ODBC CONNECTION

Extract it

Microsoft SQL Server

Form it

Power BI

Visualize it

Microsoft Teams

Serve it

*Other DBs can be used as well (Access, MySQL, etc.)*

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*How and where do I get the ODBC Driver for Windows?*

- *Issue a Plex support ticket*
- *Ask for the ODBC Progress DataDirect Client Documentation (PDF Step by Step)*
- *Plex does charge for this connectivity $$*
- *Does connect to the Report Server*
  - *(Up to 4 hours old data)*

## Set up Open Database Connectivity (ODBC)

Follow these instructions to set up **Progress DataDirect OpenAccess Client for ODBC SDK 8.1** in your Windows environment.

### ODBC V8.1 CLIENT DRIVER INSTALLATION

You must have a valid Plex user ID and password to download and install the ODBC v8.1 client drivers.

**Windows Users**

1. Download the ODBC installation package.
   - 32-bit version: http://viewers.plexonline.com/Plex_ODBC_v8_1_32_bit.zip
   - 64-bit version: http://viewers.plexonline.com/Plex_ODBC_v8_1_64_bit.zip
   **Note:** Click here if you are installing both drivers.
2. Save the file to your desktop, or other file location of your choice.
3. Use Windows Explorer to navigate to the downloaded file location.
4. Double-click the .zip file.

   The installation package files are unzipped to the file location.
5. Double-click the **License Key.txt** file to open the licensing key information.
6. Double-click the **progress_datadirect_oaodbc64_win_8_1_0_setup.exe** or **progress_datadirect_oaodbc34_win_8_1_0_setup.exe** file.
   Note: Confirm that you want to open the file if you receive a security warning.
7. Follow the prompts from the **Progress DataDirect OpenAccess SDK 8.1 - Client for ODBC InstallShield Wizard**.
   1. On the **Welcome** screen, click **Next**.
   2. On the **End User License Agreement** screen, select the **I accept the terms in the license agreement** radio button, and click **Next**.
   3. Complete the **Product Registration** form using the **Serial** # and **Key** from the download .txt file, and click **Next**.
   4. On the **Custom Setup** screen, accept the default selections by clicking **Next**.
   5. On the **Ready to Modify the Program** screen, click **Install**.
   6. On the **InstallShield Wizard Completed** screen, click **Finish**.

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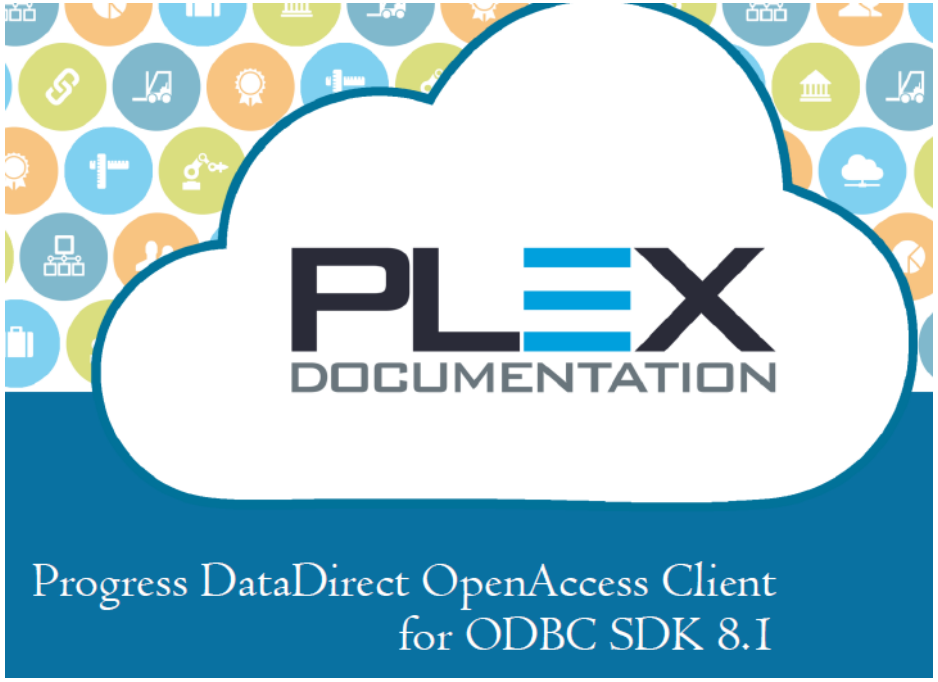
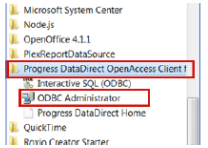
Step By Step

*How do I install it and connect to Plex?*

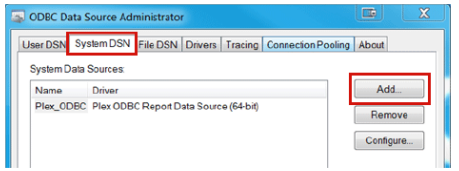



## LAUNCH ODBC V8.1 CLIENT

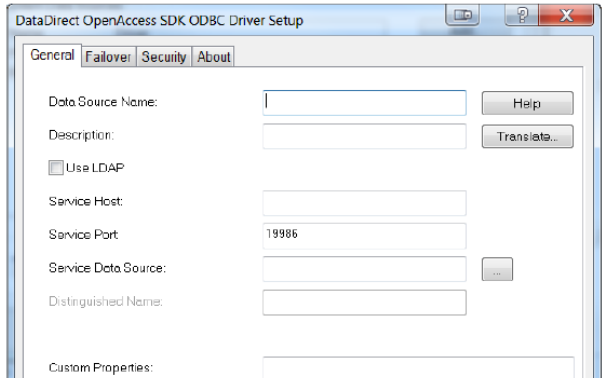
1. Open the Start menu.
2. Click **Progress DataDirect OpenAccess Client**.
3. Double-click **ODBC Administrator**.




4. On the **ODBC Data Source Administrator** screen, select the **System DSN** tab.
5. Click **Add**.




6. From the list, select **DataDirect OpenAccess SDK 8.1 driver**.
7. Click **Finish**.
8. Complete the **DataDirect OpenAccess SDK ODBC Driver Setup**, using the values from the table.




| FIELD | VALUE | NOTE |
|---|---|---|
| **Data Source Name** | User-defined | This is the name your program references as the Data Source Name (DSN). |
| **Description** | User-defined | Text description of your connection. |
| **Service Host** | test.odbc.plex.com | ODBC test tier |
| **Service Host** | odbc.plex.com | ODBC production tier |
| **Service Port** | 19995 | TCP/IP Port for all tiers |
| **Encrypted (SSL) Checkbox** | Select | The check box is on the **Security** tab. |
| **Service Data Source** | ReportDataSource | |
| **Custom Properties** | CompanyCode=[Company Code] | The name/value pair that identifies your tenant code within Plex.<br>Note: Do not use your PCN. |

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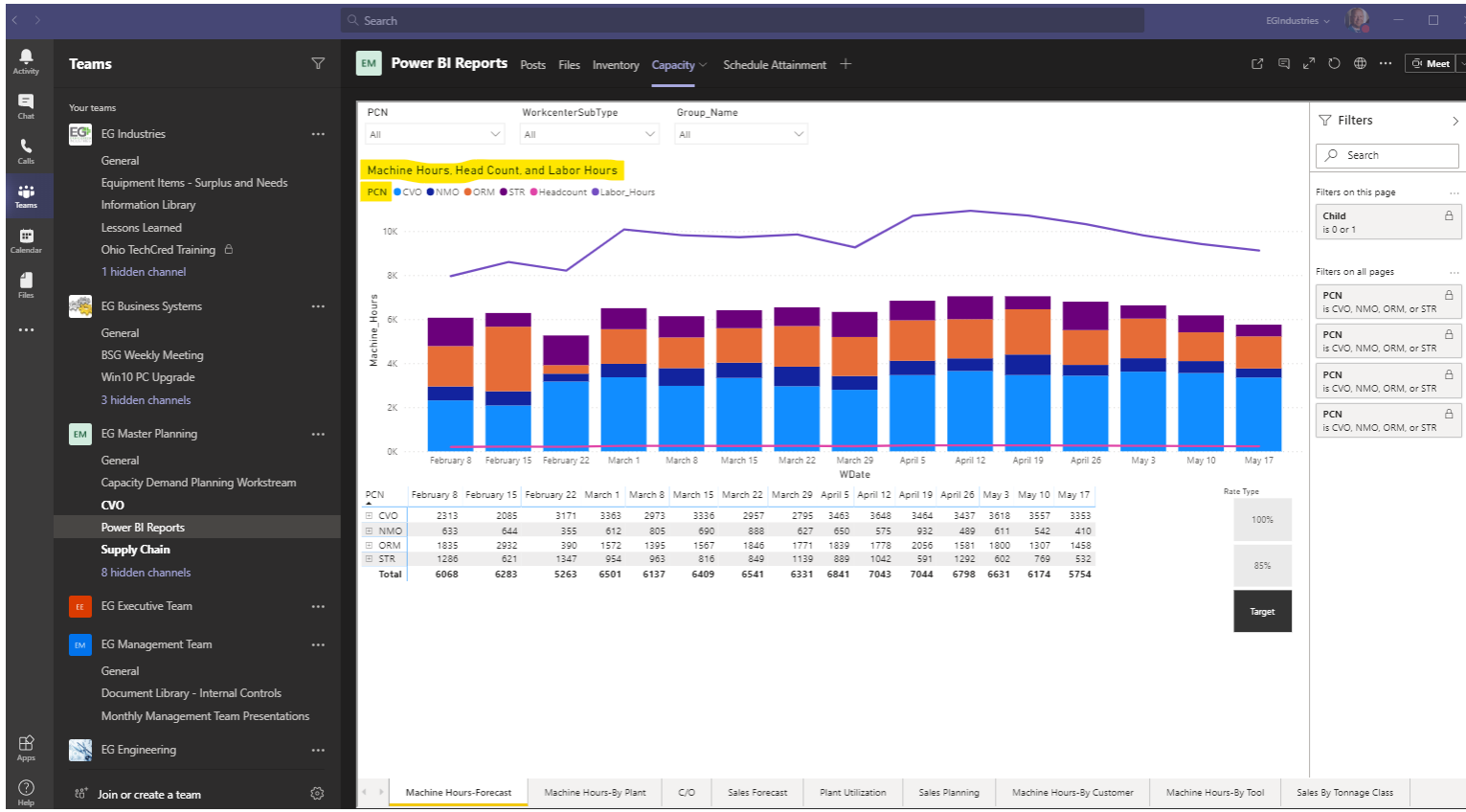
## *Microsoft Teams*

- *Create a Teams Site for each functional area*

*- Create Channels in those Teams Sites to collaborate and share information*

*- Add apps like PowerBI to server your internal customers*



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Microsoft Teams

Power BI

***PowerBI Live Demo in Teams***

- *Inventory Dashboards*
- *Capacity Plan*
- *Sales & Material Buy Forecasting*
- *Schedule Attainment*
- *Tool Change Overs*

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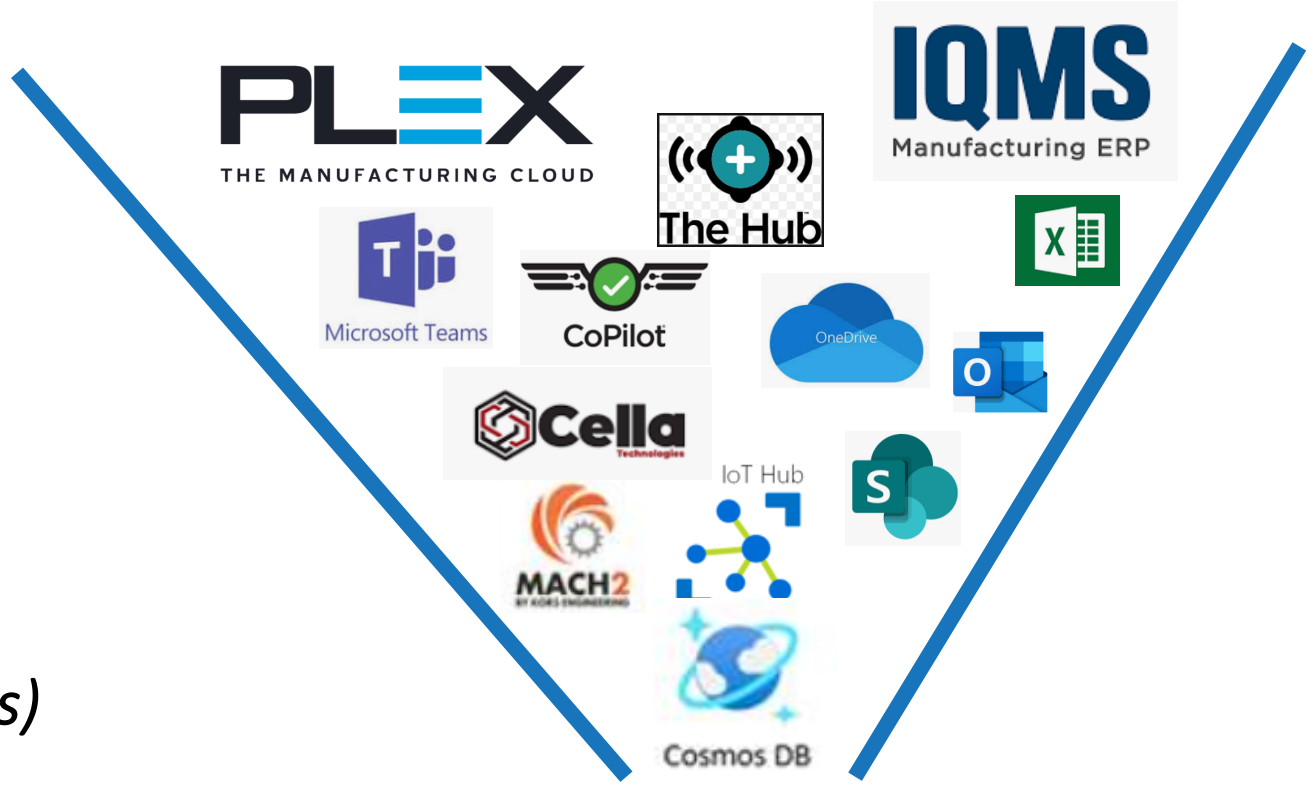


*Art of the possible / What's Next?*

- *Microsoft Cloud Migration (18 Servers)*
- *IoT Azure Hub Data Collection*
- *Predictive and Preemptive Analytics*
- *Machine Learning / A.I.*
- *Simplified Control Panel (MES)*
- *Process Automation*

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*Questions?*