

# AUTOMATION & HUMAN ROLES ON THE MODERN FLOOR

How staffing adapts around modern production floors, automated systems, and the human roles that keep operations moving.



Reliable  
Support Roles



Quality &  
Uptime



People &  
Automation



## THE CHALLENGE

Automation is becoming a bigger part of modern production floors, warehouses, and distribution centers. Conveyors, AS/RS systems, robotic palletizers, cobots, and guided vehicles are helping employers move product faster, improve consistency, and reduce repetitive strain. But automation does not remove the need for reliable people.

Every automated system still depends on associates to feed product, monitor performance, clear jams, handle exceptions, complete inspections, and keep work areas clean, safe, and within spec. When those human roles are not staffed or clearly defined, automation does not eliminate the bottleneck. It simply moves it to another point in the process.

## THE REAL IMPACT

**Automation gaps do not stay contained, they impact the entire operation:**

### Production Delays

Uncleared jams, alarms, and stoppages slow output and reduce equipment value.

### Quality Issues

Processes can drift out of spec without trained inspection and verification support.

### Workforce Strain

Experienced employees carry more pressure when support roles are not staffed properly.

### Operational Inefficiency

Automation moves faster, but unresolved exceptions create new delays and rework.

## WHY IT MATTERS

As operations become more automated, the staffing question is changing. Employers are no longer only asking how many people automation can replace. When the right people are positioned around automated equipment, production becomes more stable, responsive, and efficient. When those roles are overlooked, delays increase, alarms sit longer, exceptions pile up, and quality issues can move further down the line.

## THE SOLUTION

**Stronger automation starts with a staffing strategy built around both people and equipment.**

### Key Focus Areas:

- Screen for dependability
- Set attendance expectations
- Align shifts with the labor market
- Support clear communication
- Retain reliable workers

## HOW NSC STAFFING SUPPORTS YOU

**NSC helps employers staff for the modern production floor with workforce solutions designed to support uptime, quality, and consistent performance:**

- Dependable light industrial associates
- Safety-aware equipment support roles
- Quality and inspection staffing

Hiring the right people around automation is one of the most effective ways to keep systems moving, protect output, and maintain quality across the production floor.

