**Three Manufacturing Trends in the Supply Chain**

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The first trend I found in manufacturing is the breakdown of the barrier between manufacturing and service firms. In today’s competitive and demanding market, manufacturing companies are expected to not only produce, but to provide service and maintenance to their products. In the article, “The Servitization of Manufacturing: Further Evidence,” Andy Neely defends this trend with Rolls Royce Aerospace’s Total Care Solution, where customers buy the capability the engines deliver. Rolls Royce retains responsibility for risk and maintenance, generating revenues by making the engine available for use. This was the biggest trend I found because companies are having to go above and beyond stay ahead of the global competitive market.

The next manufacturing trend I found touched based on technology’s influence on manufacturing software in our society. The article, “Trends in Manufacturing Software,” Nolan Rhea emphasizes the need for manufacturing enhanced software. “Current manufacturing software activity reveals that microcomputer software is doing more than ever before, and standardization is slowly coming to manufacturing systems software,”(Rhea 1). I agree with this trend because our society relies so heavily on technology, and I hope to find more trends of specialized manufacturing for enhanced software systems.

I was happily surprised by the third manufacturing trend I found. The article, “The Research and Markets: Trends in Green Manufacturing for Electronics,” shared the growing trend of green manufacturing of electronics. Laura Wood went in depth about the challenges, but stressed that its long-term benefits are substantial, as it not only reduces the company's carbon footprints, but also helps them cut costs through lowered energy consumption and improved process control” (Wood 1).

Works Cited

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