



Obsolescence Risk Scorecard

Every machine is a collection of critical components with a use-by date nobody wrote down. Print this, walk the floor, and fill it in one component at a time, before one of them fills it in for you.

How to use this scorecard

1. List every critical component on the machine, one row each. Add rows for anything specific to your equipment and cross out the ones that do not apply.
2. Note the model or part number for each component.
3. Rate the Risk Tier (1 to 4) using the table below. This tells you how hard the component is to replace.
4. Mark whether the component is Critical or Auxiliary. This tells you what happens when it fails.
5. Ask your supplier for a realistic expected lead time, not the number on the brochure.
6. Read the Tier and the Criticality together. A Tier 4 Auxiliary component is a nuisance. A Tier 3 or 4 Critical component with a long lead time is the one that closes a production line. Start there.

The four risk tiers

Tier	Label	What it means
1	Drop-in replacement	Available off the shelf, same part or a direct modern equivalent. Order it, fit it, nobody notices.
2	Replaceable with existing components and a bit of work	No exact match anymore, but a modern equivalent exists. Expect rewiring, reprogramming or a panel modification.
3	Replaceable, but operability is not guaranteed	Something fits (refurbished, secondhand or a workaround), but there is no promise it plays nicely with the rest of the system.
4	Obsolete, irreplaceable, OEM no longer exists	The manufacturer is gone, the part is gone, and the only way forward is a redesign or a full retrofit.

Two more things worth knowing, unrelated to the tier

Critical	The machine stops without it. No workaround, no production.
Auxiliary	Production can continue without it, in a reduced or workaround state.

There is no single score that sums this up honestly, and we are not going to pretend there is one. A machine's risk is not one number, it is a short list of the components that are both hard to replace and impossible to work around. Find that list, then plan around it.

Obsolescence Risk Scorecard, worksheet

Machine / Line: _____

Asset Tag / ID: _____

Assessed by: _____

Date: _____

Critical Component	Component Detail (Model / Part No.)	Risk Tier (1-4)	Critical / Auxiliary	Expected Lead Time	Notes / Recommended Action
VFD / Drive (EXAMPLE)	ABB ACS550, 3 kW, discontinued 2019	2	Critical	2-3 wks (equiv.) / 4-6 mo (OEM)	Modern ACS580 equivalent available. Needs re-parameterisation and a new keypad.
PLC / CPU					
HMI / Operator Panel					
VFD / Drive					
Servo Drive / Motor					
Control Card / I-O Module					
Memory / Storage Module					
Power Supply					
Network / Communication Module					
Safety Relay / Safety PLC					
Critical Sensors					
Programming Software / Licence					
Mechanical Drivetrain (Gearbox / Bearings)					
Other:					
Other:					

This scorecard is a planning tool, not a substitute for a professional inspection. If a component on this sheet is scoring Tier 3 or 4 and Critical, get in touch with SyncHub Automation to arrange a full onsite obsolescence audit before it becomes an emergency instead of a project.