

## PRESS RELEASE

## Acumence Announces Benchmark Report from AberdeenGroup "Manufacturing Transparency: Turning Visibility into Value"

*Acumence to Host Complimentary Webinar on February 22, 2006*

**Chicago – January 10, 2006** – Acumence Incorporated, a leading provider of enterprise manufacturing intelligence solutions, today announced its sponsorship of the "[Manufacturing Transparency: Turning Visibility into Value](#)" Benchmark Report by AberdeenGroup. Acumence is committed to delivering knowledge, tools, and services for continuous improvement in manufacturing. This report from Aberdeen provides real-world strategies and tactics for achieving best-in-class manufacturing performance.

Aberdeen's report identifies that half of the manufacturers' surveyed report that ERP investments have not delivered the visibility into factory floor data that buyers anticipated. One-third of manufacturers' surveyed said plant-floor data is being delivered to executives-level dashboards, and that number is growing dramatically.

"Leading manufacturers are tackling the tough issues of integrating plant MES (manufacturing execution systems) with plant floor devices, rationalizing disparate data sources, and electronically connecting with ERP and supply chain systems," said Jane Biddle, Vice President of Global Manufacturing Research at AberdeenGroup, author of the report. "In the report, we feature enterprises like Rexam, who have used real-time plant floor data to drive top- and bottom-line improvements. Rexam has standardized on Acumence's Plant Analytics Server across all its plants."

The report is the result of a survey and follow-up interviews conducted in July and August 2005 by AberdeenGroup and Control Engineering. In addition to summarizing the findings of the study, AberdeenGroup offers valuable insight and advice on how manufacturers can apply the latest strategies and technologies to achieve best in class performance.

Acumence will host a complementary webinar to present and discuss the findings and recommendations contained in the report, and to talk about some real-world examples of manufacturing transparency. The keynote speaker will be Jane Biddle, Vice President of Global Manufacturing Research at the AberdeenGroup, and the host and co-presenter will be David Brochu, Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Acumence. The webinar will run on Wednesday, February 22, 2006 at 11:00 am EST. To register for this event visit <http://www.acumence.com/resourcecntr.php>.

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### **About the Speakers**

Jane Biddle leverages more than 25 years of manufacturing, enterprise, supply chain, and international logistics expertise in her current role as researcher and advisor to the global manufacturing sector. A recognized speaker, she has been at the forefront of technology since implementing MRP systems for Hewlett-Packard customers, which led her to become the MRP/ERP product manager and industry solution manager for Hewlett-Packard's CIM marketing organization. In the mid-1990s, she established the manufacturing practice for Benchmarking Partners before she joined SAP to initiate and manage its Industry Centers of Expertise for the Americas. Prior to joining Aberdeen, Jane was an independent consultant providing strategic advisory services to technology and service providers in the supply chain and manufacturing sectors. She received her MBA and BS in Computer Science from Rivier College in Nashua, New Hampshire. She is certified by APICS (CPIM) is currently serving as the president of the West Jersey chapter.

David Brochu has 20 years of hands-on technology and manufacturing expertise. A frequent speaker, David began his career as an applications engineer and manager for Adept Technology, a leader in the field of robot and vision-guided automation. Before joining Acumence, David spent 15 years in executive sales and marketing positions with Rubicon Technology, a provider of expert system-based troubleshooting and diagnostics systems for equipment manufacturers, Wonderware Corporation, now a division of Invensys and leader in factory-floor software, and SmartSignal Corporation, the leading provider of predictive maintenance solutions in the power generation industry. David holds a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Texas A&M University, and an MS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University.

### **About Aberdeen Group**

Founded in 1988, Aberdeen Group is the leading provider of fact-based research and advice for the global technology-driven value chain, delivering solutions for business and technology executives.

[www.aberdeen.com](http://www.aberdeen.com)

### **About Acumence**

Acumence develops software for monitoring and analyzing manufacturing processes, leading to higher productivity and efficiency. The Acumence Manufacturing Business Intelligence Solution is in use in 11 countries, supports 13 different languages, and is the leading enterprise operations monitoring solution in the beverage can industry.

[www.acumence.com](http://www.acumence.com)

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