AI approach towards Quality Control Systems for Zero Defect Manufacturing

Dr. Dipali Brijpalsingh Tawar[1]
Maeer's Mit Arts, Commerce and Science College, Alandi (D), Pune.

Mr. Vinayak Sambhaji More[2]
Indira College of Commerce and Science, Tathwade, Pune

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ABSTRACT

Artificial intelligence (AI) has been included into quality control systems as a result of the drive for zero defect manufacturing, which has completely changed industrial processes. The application of AI-driven quality control systems in manufacturing settings is examined in this paper, with a focus on the systems' real-time fault detection, prediction, and preventive capabilities. A complete quality assurance framework is produced by combining cutting-edge sensor, computer vision, and machine learning methods. The study looks at how well these techniques are effective in cutting down on waste, lower error rates, and enhance overall product quality. Case studies from a range of industries show significant improvements in efficiency in production and defect detection accuracy. The report also discusses workforce adaptation, data management, and system integration issues. The findings indicate how AI powered quality control systems have the potential to transform manufacturing procedures, also highlights future work in autonomous AI systems, integration with Industry 4.0 paradigms, and sustainable manufacturing practices opening the door to zero defect production and boosting competitiveness in the global market. Also the process real time data generated and can be used for industry as well the customer.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Zero Defect Manufacturing, Real Time data.

INTRODUCTION

Quality control systems powered by AI have become an innovation in the manufacturing industry, especially in the search for Zero Defect Manufacturing (ZDM). By completely removing flaws from the production process, this method seeks to guarantee that every product satisfies the highest quality requirements. A major step toward accomplishing this objective is the use of artificial intelligence into quality control procedures, which provides previously unheard-of levels of precision, effectiveness, and predictive power.

Although ZDM is not a novel idea, current developments in AI and machine learning technology have given it new interest. Particularly in high-volume manufacturing settings, traditional quality control techniques, which frequently depend on statistical sampling or physical inspection, are inherently limited in their ability to identify all flaws. However, AI- driven systems are able to continuously monitor and analyse enormous amounts of data in real- time, spotting anomalies and trends that humans would ignore.

To build an in-depth quality control framework, these AI systems use a range of methods, such as sensor fusion, deep learning algorithms, and computer vision. For example, computer vision can examine things at rates and detail levels that are significantly faster than human capabilities, identifying even the smallest defects in real time. Early repairs and process modifications are made possible by deep learning algorithms' ability to evaluate past data and anticipate possible quality problems before they arise.

Furthermore, AI-powered quality control systems are dynamic; they keep learning and getting better over time. These algorithms get better at spotting flaws, figuring out the underlying reasons, and even making recommendations for process enhancements as they handle more data. This flexibility is especially useful in manufacturing settings where manufacturing processes and product requirements can change rapidly.

The use of AI in quality control is also consistent with the larger Industry 4.0 concept, which stresses the incorporation of intelligent technology in production. A more comprehensive and adaptable manufacturing ecosystem can be established by manufacturers by integrating AI- driven quality control systems with other production-related processes. Defects are less likely because to this integration, which allows production parameters to be changed in real time depending on quality data.

Adopting AI-powered quality control solutions for ZDM is not without its difficulties, though. It is necessary to handle issues like data quality, system dependability, and the requirement for qualified staff to manage these complex structures. Furthermore, the employment of AI in decision-making processes raises ethical questions that could have a big impact on the safety and quality of the final product. Despite such challenges, AI-driven quality control has significant potential advantages in reaching ZDM. In addition to lowering errors and raising product quality, these systems also promise to increase overall operational effectiveness, cut waste, and eventually boost customer happiness and brand recognition.

Exploring the diverse AI technologies and methodologies that can be used for manufacturing quality control, their efficacy in various industrial contexts, and the best practices for their deployment are critical as research in this area advances. In the framework of Zero Defect Manufacturing, this study attempts to give a thorough review of the current status of AI-driven quality control systems, looking at both their promise and the obstacles that stand in the way of their broad adoption.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Recent studies show revolutionary advancements in the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for quality control and defect identification in a variety of manufacturing industries.

Automotive Industry

A thorough review by Matamoros et al. (2025) shown how principal component analysis, deep learning, and artificial neural networks are enhancing defect identification, process automation, and predictive maintenance in the car manufacturing industry. Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) reduce the need for manual checks by improving computer vision inspection precision. AI also makes it possible to trace parts in real time, anticipates machine breakdowns in advance, and supports zero-defect manufacturing programs, all of which improve sustainability, efficiency, and quality. In order to comply with Industry 5.0 standards, integrating transparent AI and cyber-physical systems is mentioned as a future priority.

PCB Manufacturing

Advanced AI methods like computer vision and machine learning are used in PCB manufacturing to optimize production yield and detect defects early (Ghelani, 2024). By automating inspections, these AI solutions decrease manual involvement, increase throughput, and decrease faults. Robust quality assurance is achieved by real-time inspections, which reduce false negatives and offer useful information for process enhancements.

Zero Defect and Zero Waste Strategies

The review by Lario et al. (2025) highlights the use of AI in conjunction with non-destructive inspection methods to meet zero waste and zero defect goals. AI improves data-driven decision-making, guaranteeing more production control and efficient resource use. The shift to efficient, sustainable production settings is fueled by this all-encompassing strategy.

Additive Manufacturing

The use of machine learning for real-time quality monitoring in additive manufacturing (AM) is highlighted by Mondal and Goswami (2024). Through directly monitoring and process parameter analysis, AI enhances defect detection and enables quick correction of deviations. In addition to increasing yields, this makes advanced quality control and ongoing process optimization possible.

Textile Industry

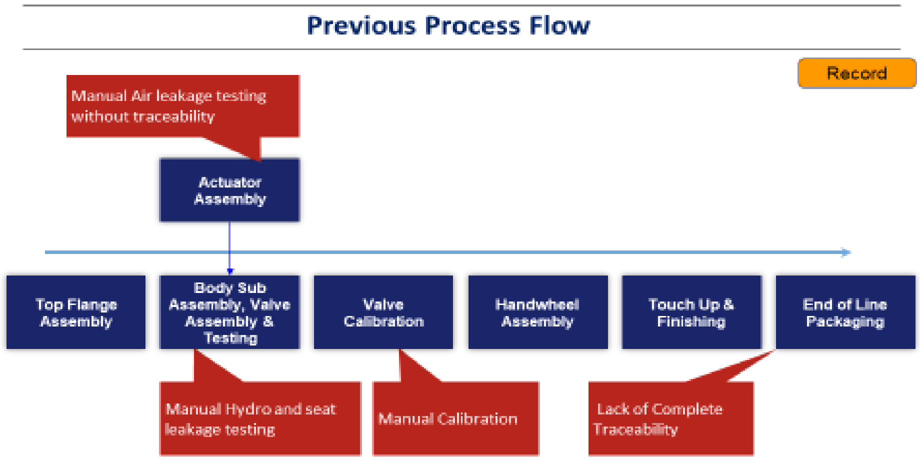
CNNs and AI-based detection have replaced manual inspections in the textile industry (Ozek et al., 2025). AI exceeds conventional techniques in identifying fabric flaws quickly and accurately. Organizations may maintain strict quality standards and significantly lower scrap rates by implementing AI-powered vision systems.

As AI is bringing about amazing advances in a number of industries, it is also achieving great quality control and preventing more issues in the manufacturing process.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Data for this study was gathered from a single company that specializes in the production and use of control valves. The company has included Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies into its production and quality control procedures after accepting Industry 4.0 frameworks. Direct observations, method records, quality inspection reports, and interviews with technical and operational employees were all used in the data collection procedure. The facility's AI-driven quality control systems monitor process parameters, identify anomalies, and facilitate proactive maintenance through the use of real-time sensors, machine learning algorithms, and predictive analytics. Over the course of six months after the deployment of these AI systems, data and documentation on defect rates, production throughput, and system response times were collected. Through the combination of automated system logs, consumer interviews, and observational recordings, the study technique guarantees data dependability and offers a comprehensive understanding of the effects of AI-enhanced Industry 4.0 activities within the company.

The Impact of Absence of AI on Quality Assurance and Process Efficiency



The above figure illustrates the primary issues with the company's previous valve manufacturing process and demonstrates how it operated.

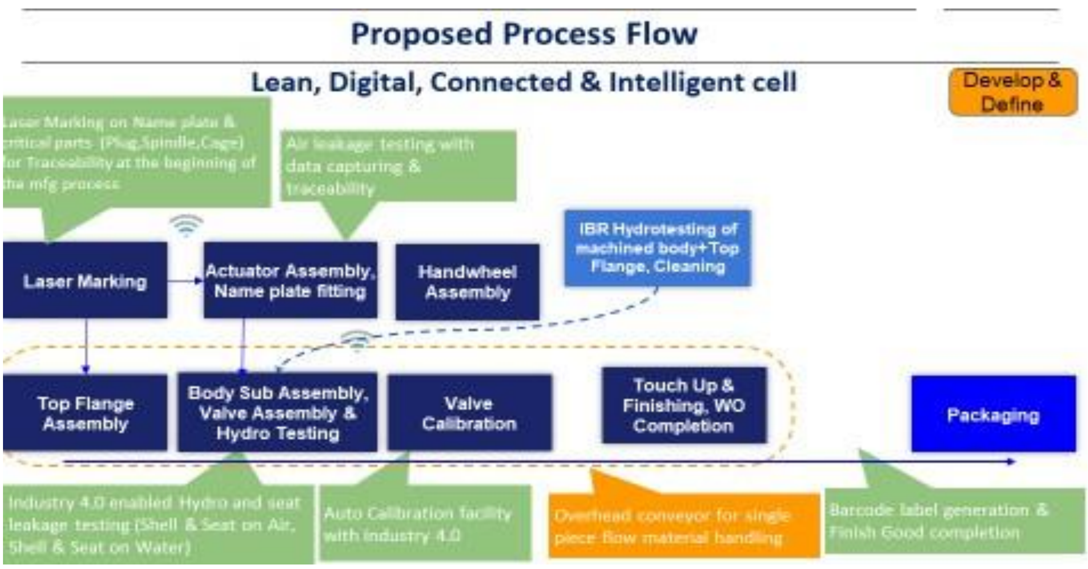
- **Methodical Procedure**
  1. The Top Flange Assembly marked the beginning of production.
  2. After that, it went on to testing, valve assembly, and body sub assembly.
  3. Next came the Hand wheel Assembly and then Valve Calibration.
  4. End of Line Packaging was the next step, followed by Touch up & finishing.

Principal Issues with the Procedure

- Testing and calibration were carried out manually at a number of stages, which could result in errors and make it challenging to identify the root cause of issues later.
- Testing for air leaks was done by hand at the actuator assembly stage, and results could not be linked to particular items. If something went wrong, it was difficult to identify the source because there was not full traceability.
- Manual calibration and hydro and seat leak testing were time-consuming and prone to mistakes.
- Digital solutions such as E-KANBAN, an electronic system for tracking parts and workflow, were not used by the system.
- Large stockpiles were maintained, using resources.
- There was less flexibility because materials were only available when work orders were released.
- Rather than using automation or digital tracking, many of the phases relied on manual labour.

The prior procedure was costly, slow, and made it hard to monitor quality problems or effectively manage materials, which resulted in mistakes, delays, and resource waste.

The Impact of Presence of AI on Quality Assurance and Process Efficiency



The figure illustrates how the new valve manufacturing method is superior to the outdated one. To increase quality and efficiency, it uses AI-powered quality control systems in combination with digital tools, automation, and smart systems.

- **Laser Marking:** Every name plate and important component receives a laser mark at the beginning, and AI-powered systems already have the data they need to track each valve as it moves through the process.
- **Actuator Assembly & Name Plate Fitting:** Here, air leakage testing is carried out with the help of air leakage detection machine. Since the results are digitally recorded, tracking down any issues and the results are simple.
- **Handwheel Assembly:** This component is put together much like the others. Improved hydro testing with digital tools is part of the Top Flange Assembly and Hydro testing of Machine bodies with top in machine shop only so that tested body and top is available to assembly to reduce leakages issues.

The use of Industry 4.0-enabled technologies and AI powered quality control systems in body sub assembly, valve assembly, and hydro testing has made leak tests on air, water, and other check quicker, more accurate, and automatically documented.

- **Valve Calibration:** Industry 4.0 smart technologies have automated calibration, resulting in precise and digitally stored data.
- **Touch up & Finishing, Work Order Completion:** Prior to packaging, the finishing work is finished.
- **Material Movement:** It is more effective to use an overhead conveyor to transfer each valve through the procedure separately.
- **Packaging:** All information about completed goods is tracked in the computer system, and barcodes are automatically generated.

Key Improvements

Complete Traceability with AI: Every valve is traced during the whole production process thanks to cutting-edge technology like laser marking and AI-driven digital records. This guarantees full access into test performance and product history.

Accurate and Automated Testing: AI-powered technologies automate calibration and testing, significantly lowering human error, saving time, and automatically logging accurate test results for in-the-moment quality control.

Optimized Material Handling: Intelligent material handling systems that use barcode scanning and conveyors improve inventory accuracy, reduce delays, and simplify production flow.

Decreased Manual Intervention through Digitalization: The manufacturing process has moved from manual labor to networked digital systems by utilizing Industry 4.0 technologies like IoT sensors, machine learning, and intelligent automation. This has resulted in fewer errors, quicker operations, and increased consistency.

Industry 4.0-Enabled Smart Manufacturing: The Industry 4.0 paradigm is embodied by the combination of AI, IoT, and data analytics, which allows for more intelligent decision-making, proactive defect detection, and smooth process control—all of which together raise productivity and product quality to new heights.

The revolutionary role that AI and Industry 4.0 technologies play in improving manufacturing's accuracy, efficiency, and traceability. Additionally, quality control systems driven by AI have the ability to completely transform manufacturing processes. They open the way for the adoption of sustainable manufacturing techniques, smooth integration with Industry 4.0 frameworks, and future developments in autonomous AI technologies. When considered as a whole, these developments improve competitiveness in the global market and allow zero-defect production.

PARAMETERS	EXISTING	PROPOSED
Quantity/Year	**5280**	**7020**
Throughput Time, Week	**5**	**3**
Time Saving	**-**	**35% Reduction in time**
ROI		**1.5 Year**

The data indicates that the suggested system improves the current one by a considerable margin. Due to increased capacity and throughput, the yearly manufacturing amount rises from 5,280 to 7,020 units. By cutting the throughput time from five weeks to three weeks, a 35% time savings is achieved, improving operational efficiency. Furthermore, the suggested solution provides a positive return on investment (ROI) in less than a year and a half, showing its affordability and worth to the company. All things considered, the suggested approach offers increased output, quicker turnaround, and significant financial gains.

CONCLUSION

An important step toward increasing production accuracy, efficiency, and traceability is the incorporation of AI-powered quality control systems into Industry 4.0 manufacturing frameworks. These solutions optimize material handling, minimize human error, and facilitate real-time decision-making by automating crucial inspection and calibration procedures. In addition to advancing the aim of zero-defect manufacturing, the shift from conventional manual workflows to intelligent, networked systems also supports sustainable practices, which eventually boosts global competitiveness. Innovation and operational excellence in the manufacturing industry will be further stimulated by future research and implementation initiatives that concentrate on autonomous AI systems and deeper Industry 4.0 integration.

FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

A particular range of valves is the focus of the current methodology, which offers efficient AI integration for those valve types. Future enhancements, however, seek to greatly expand its reach. The strategy is for creating a sophisticated AI-integrated system that can accommodate a greater range of valve types, enhancing the system's scalability and versatility. This extension will improve the methodology's applicability and efficacy by enabling it to handle a variety of production needs across various valve categories.

Using machine learning techniques, real-time defect detection, and predictive maintenance models that can adjust to the particulars of different valve designs and functionality is necessary to create a more complete AI system. Manufacturers may increase dependability, lower faults, and facilitate more intelligent decision-making on a bigger scale by combining these capabilities to improve production and quality control processes for a wider range of products. Expanding the AI framework also supports Industry 4.0 principles, which allow for increasingly automated, intelligent, and connected industrial settings. By increasing resource efficiency and reducing waste across several valve production lines, it also helps achieve sustainable manufacturing goals. Manufacturers will be able to satisfy changing market demands, preserve their competitive edge, and provide greater product quality across a wider range of valves thanks to this future-ready, scalable method.

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