

## **BACKGROUND**

Our client, a global manufacturer of agricultural and construction equipment, engaged us to source hydraulic hoses and tubes totaling \$150M in annual spend. The category includes a large number of low-complexity, lower-cost SKUs, each customized to suit specific equipment models and applications.

## **CHALLENGE**

Over the course of the sourcing project, several systemic challenges with the current state were identified:

- (1) Due to the wide variety of product offerings, applications, and customer-specific customization options, excessive part proliferation has resulted in the manufacturer having to manage over 15,000 unique SKUs
- (2) Part numbers were historically awarded based on shot-term supplier capacity rather than strategic alignment with the suppliers' core competencies
- (3) Suboptimal forecasting and supply planning resulted in a highly localized supply chain that sacrificed cost competitiveness



"What I'm most proud of with our team's recommendation for hydraulic hose and tubes was that we were able to successfully bring in new suppliers that offer local assembly and warehousing, giving us faster response times, reduced logistics costs, and improved service to our operations"

# CLAUDIA CONSULTING

#### **APPROACH**

During the execution of the process, key considerations that drove the teams' strategy and recommended business award included:

- (1) During the **Site Visit** step, the team gained a detailed understanding of each supplier's raw material supply chain, capacity, assembly, and internal testing capabilities thereby gaining confidence that the supplier could meet the technical and quality requirements.
- (2) During the **Negotiations** step, the team incorporated a requirement for selected suppliers to have in-region final assembly and distribution capabilities.

## **RESULTS**

The Claudia Strategic Sourcing process resulted in the selection of competitive suppliers that could offer competitive pricing through a combination of global manufacturing and in-region **final assembly and distribution**. Additionally, the team worked with the client's engineering organization to reduce part proliferation through modular design principles and part re-use. The team's strategy and business award results in 23% annualized cost savings.

