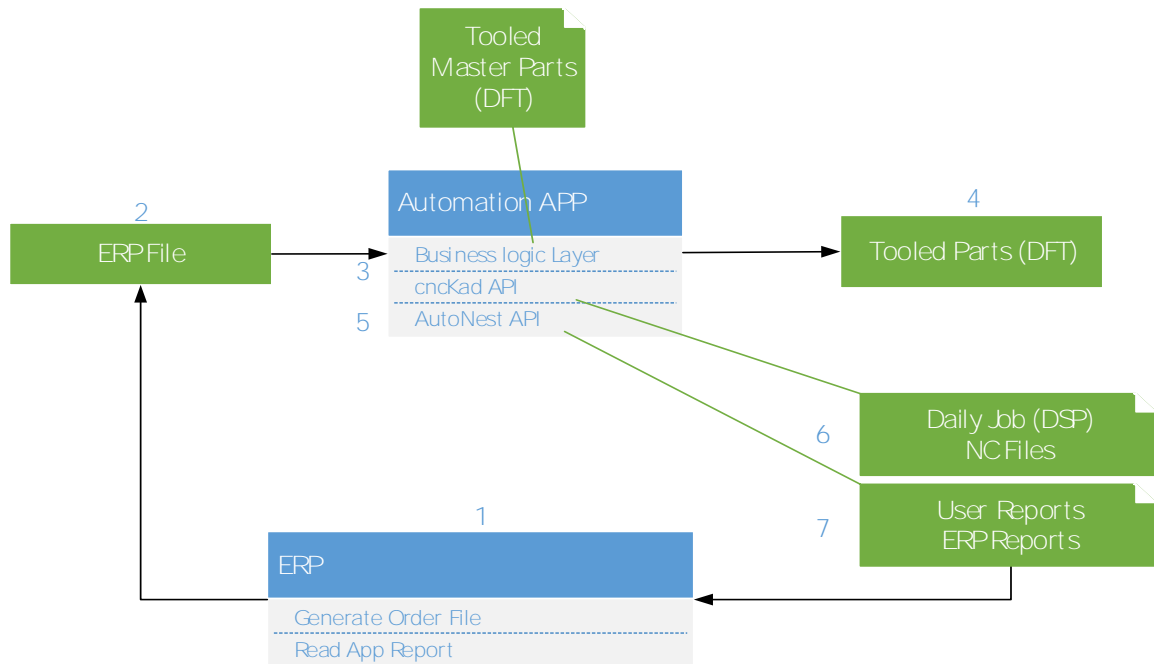


Metalix API Automation Flow

This document explains the basic data flow using the **cncKad/AutoNest** API.



Steps in the flow:

1. The client identifies a need to process data originating in the ERP system, into **cncKad/AutoNest**.
2. The client exports data from ERP to an output file in CSV, text, or XML format.
3. The **cncKad** API project, written in C#, processes the data.
4. The API application uses an SQL database but can also use local files and perform operations on them. The application lets the client define their own product logic:
 - The master DFT files can be stretched.
 - Sub-parts can be inserted.
 - A mapping dialog box can translate ERP names to application names.
5. The **cncKad** API project outputs tooled part DFT files and accompanying ORD files. The API automation process can be configured to stop at this stage, thereby allowing the client to manually adjust SubNests. Alternatively, the process can be fully automated to run through to Step 7 without user intervention.
6. The **AutoNest** API project imports the ORD files, runs the nesting process, and saves DSP files.

7. **AutoNest** outputs NC files to the machines and produces DOC, Excel, or text reports. **AutoNest** saves the reports so the client can later feed them back into the ERP system. **NOTE:** Some ERP systems can read and parse **AutoNest** reports to get feedback on orders. The client must implement this via the client ERP, not via **Metalix**.