
MES Solutions for Small and Mid-Sized ETO/Project-based Manufacturers

The benefits of effective production planning & scheduling

1. Improved on-time delivery
 - increased customer satisfaction
 - plans and commitments for new orders can be made with greater confidence
 - avoids the “domino effect” of delays on future projects
2. More efficient utilization of staff
 - highlights under/over allocation of staff in advance, providing opportunity to reallocate tasks/resources for improved productivity
 - avoidance of unplanned overtime
3. Enables efficient, on-time scheduling of purchases
 - reduced inventory by buying only when materials are needed (JIT)
 - reduced production delays from stock-outs/materials shortages
 - avoid higher freight costs for rush delivery of late purchase orders
4. More accurate cash flow planning and forecasting
 - accurate scheduling of customer progress payments
 - purchasing schedule provides basis for planning/forecasting vendor payments
5. Identifies production bottlenecks
 - highlights bottlenecks in advance allows for early corrective action
 - allows for planned rather than forced overtime or outsourcing
6. Gives advance warning of problems
 - indicates when project is going off track and automatically calculates impact on delivery dates
 - provides opportunity to fix problems before it's too late
7. Improves monitoring and communication of production activities
 - automates process for creating task schedules for production staff
 - provides clear goals for management and staff
 - provides accurate progress updates for sales department, production management and customers
 - monitors adherence to quality control checks/sign-offs
8. Encourages thinking and planning for best results
 - provides basis for critical path management
 - provides an effective production planning tool and critical information for sales and operations planning (S&OP)
 - enables “what if” analysis for planning or when changes are contemplated
 - leads to improved processes

• Summary •

**Improved productivity
Increased throughput
Reduced costs
Reduced inventories
= Increased profit**