

Produce without rush

Top quality, guaranteed freshness, just-in-time delivery - and all of this at a favorable price. This only works if the companies use IT-aided production planning and control systems developed specifically for the food and beverage industry. Ideally, enterprises do not use stand-alone solutions, but a program integrated in their ERP system. Only the ERP system as a data turntable is capable of seamlessly incorporating all key company areas like procurement, inventory management, coverage planning and sales as well as the production defaults and the single production areas in the planning process. Other important criteria that a production planning system must meet:

- It ensures that raw materials, auxiliary supplies and operating materials are planned optimally and that the right raw materials are supplied with the right quality at the right time and at the right machines.
- The system facilitates high-level planning and detail planning.
- It plans the optimal production sequence so the orders are produced in such a way that the required set-up times are reduced to a minimum. This is particularly important in companies with many products. The important influencing factors for sequence planning are ingredients (allergens / GMO) as well as operational requirements. The sequences are default values that should be easily changeable, and the impacts on the production process should be identifiable immediately.
- The system must have flexible tools so it can fit in short-notice changes appropriately.
- It must be possible to deploy the system in small and large-scale planning environments.
- It ensures a constant high-capacity utilization at all manufacturing levels and in the individual departments. This will prevent overtime hours in one department, while the staff in another department is not working at full capacity.
- Maintenance orders must be considered in the planning too.
- It optimizes the internal inventory management.
- It must be adjustable to the planners and their way of working.

Software orchestrates the production: short-term, mid-term and long-term

Besides these “must-haves”, it is vital that the software provides several planning scenarios. Only then can it orchestrate the production in an optimal manner while leaving sufficient flexibility for the planners.

For example, production planning in the CSB-System supplies long-term, mid-term and short-term planning scenarios. This highly flexible planning tool enables to schedule, organize and control all production resources like man, machine and material, in an optimal manner even in difficult conditions caused by volatile order behavior and a vast variety of units. This secures the required freshness, optimal utilization of machine capacities, a higher throughput speed – and maximum delivery readiness. A customizable planning matrix presents a clearly structured overview of relevant information such as orders, available quantities, bills of materials, restrictions and procedures linked with time dimensions. Be it long-term, mid-term or short-term: planning is always based on the same program. Usually, the process has three stages: First,

the planning matrix is established. The planner or materials requirement planner can then revise the calculated production quantity. After that, the production plan is prepared for the next stages in the planning process. Every company defines itself, usually on product group basis, what it considers as long-term, mid-term or short-term production planning. The important thing is that the planner is supported with every time horizon.



Charging at the CSB-Rack

Dependencies become transparent - and costs are reduced

At the end of the planning process, only a few questions remain unanswered: The production orders are distributed automatically to the machines and lines in production and packaging,

the staff is assigned automatically in accordance with qualification and availability. So the perfect plan then? No, because basically it doesn't exist: public holidays, campaigns and finally the weather have a huge influence on sales, and thus directly on production planning.

In that case, it is good if the software not only includes historic data, but is flexible enough to modify planning. One of the biggest advantages of CSB-Production Planning is that it visualizes dependencies, which may be related to the manufacturing method, the utilized machine capacities, the staff or the products as such. A possible under or excess coverage as well as production delays can be identified quickly so that production management can take corrective actions in time. As a result, overtime work of the staff can be reduced, set-up times and unproductive times are minimized, and costs are cut substantially.

Further information and contact

CSB-System AG

Timo Schaffrath
Manager PR und Content Marketing
An Fürthenrode 9-15
D-52511 Geilenkirchen, Germany
Phone: +49 2451 625 430
Fax: +49 2451 625 291
Timo.Schaffrath@csb.com
www.csb.com