



USE CASE

Material Tracking in Production Logistics

Plan and control your supply processes with precision

Challenge

Shipping delays and material supply bottlenecks have become a routine part of production in many industries. This has profound ripple effects when production processes get out of sync, lines have to be stopped, and standstills loom. It also presents tremendous challenges to production planners, who must manage uncertainties in the supply chain despite often lacking the critical data needed to respond to bottlenecks proactively. That's why it's still common practice to err on the side of caution when giving ETAs for material shipments. Transport disruptions and other potential shipping delays are often overlooked when advance shipping notifications

are not shared with the ERP system. This reduces just-in-time or just-in-sequence strategies to a roll of the dice. What's lacking is cross-location, cross-enterprise communication tracking all inbound logistics events in real time and enabling predictive, data-driven production logistics.

Solution

An integrated solution consisting of a production planning system and supply chain control tower delivers the visibility you need for your inbound logistics. Complex algorithms make it possible to analyze and calculate production planning. The automation of process planning makes it possible to better sync processes, optimize capacities, and

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enhance on-time performance. The job of the supply chain control tower is to consolidate information and data from all parties along the supply chain and ensure end-to-end visibility across all modes of transport. Milestone plans show all events, including the responsible partner and the actual, estimated, and target dates. If there is any deviation in the transport as it unfolds, the control tower sounds the alarm and triggers an alternative plan for the remaining transport. Once the expected delivery dates are updated, this information is shared with the production planning system. This keeps production planners in the loop about critical delays so they can adjust their planning, and it automatically adjusts all downstream events.

Examples of how this solution benefits production planning:

- Identifies potential transport problems and analyzes impacts on scheduling and production processes
- Automatically updates ETA of material shipments for production
- Leverages updated transport data to modify the affected production orders

Result

The combined power of a production planning system and supply chain control tower delivers visibility across transport processes and greater flexibility in planning and managing production. Production planners get reliable data, giving them greater flexibility in how they do their jobs. The data-driven control of inbound logistics makes it possible to identify potential problems as early as possible and thoroughly analyze the impact on scheduling and production processes.

Augmenting production planning and control with validated supply chain data improves outcomes, since planners are always working in their systems with the latest shipping data. This gives them a critical head start to take countermeasures if any deviations occur and optimize production orders where necessary. Production runs more smoothly, costs come down, fluctuations in demand can be better managed—and above all, customers are happier.

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