2THINK

Spec Sheet

Advanced Order Planning

Overview

For many complex manufacturers, the Order Promising (CTP / ATP) capability is manual and time consuming. For all the effort, the end result is suboptimal, both to the customer and operationally. Trade offs are made between cost and performance. Based on the realities of today's dynamic manufacturing companies 2think has created an Advanced Order Planning solution that generates aggressive schedules that minimize costs supply chain wide and *provide the reliability, speed and flexibility that customers desire.*

Advanced Order Planning Value Proposition

Advanced Order Planning (AOP) synchronizes customer demand with fulfillment in real time

AOP is truly unique in that it addresses downstream inefficiencies by performing upstream planning that delivers what the customer desires, Speed, Reliability & Flexibility, based on current, actual performance metrics provided by those who know best – operations planning. Significant benefit will be found in the following areas:

Reliability AOP evaluates all bottlenecks and delivers a schedule based on current performance metrics, not static lead times and/or "rules of thumb". The result is highly reliable order delivery

Speed By utilizing real time material and capacity information combined with it's unique business logic, AOP finds opportunities to significantly improve time based performance.

Flexibility Built in to AOP is the capability to quickly make changes on the fly, fully understanding the impact on operations and the customer.

Inventory Raw, WIP and Finished Goods inventory levels are all reduced by better synchronizing demand with execution. The right parts at the right place at the right time eliminates "Just in Case" Inventory.

Level Manufacturing Schedules AOP generates level production schedules based on real time capacity analysis utilizing data easily provided by operations. Eliminates the need for "Just in Case" capacity. Operations planning becomes proactive not reactive.

Time to Schedule Time to schedule orders is measured in minutes and seconds with most orders not requiring any manual intervention. Comprehensive analytics provide simple and quick exception resolution within the system.

Expediting AOP planning utilizes actual material and capacity availability and therefore does not over commit purchasing and operations.

Order Management Costs In many cases order promising can be handled by a single individual with the impact on supporting functions greatly reduced.

Platform for Continuous Improvement AOP provides visibility to "cause and effect" which can be utilized to effectively pinpoint waste and determine the most effective means for removal.

Advanced Order Planning

Target Market

AOP is architected to support Engineer / Make / Assemble to Order manufacturers that can benefit from a real time, dynamic CTP / ATP capability. Furthermore, AOP is designed to synchronize multi line orders that enable fulfillment to quickly and reliably ship complete orders. Many manufacturers are adept at producing products but struggle with order consolidation.

AOP's "roots" are in the Office Furniture industry where 200 – 500 order line items are not uncommon.

Target Audience

Operations Controlling costs and improving performance are current imperatives for the VP of Operations. AOP tackles these opportunities head on.

Finance With an ROI of 3 to 6 months and reduced working capital generated by office / plant efficiencies and reduced inventory combined with a low risk implementation, CFOs should take notice.

Sales / Customer Service When the customer demands more than good product at a fair price, improved Reliability, Speed and Flexibility may be the answer.

ERP System Touchpoints

AOP is architected to leverage and enhance the manufacturer's existing investment in their ERP system. Furthermore it does not require modification to Order Management. Manufacturing Scheduling or Purchasing /MRP functionality with which it is integrated. It derives it's capacity parameters from operations using basic Lean metrics. No expensive middleware is required for integration to the host ERP system.

During implementation, AOP can be run in parallel with the existing process eliminating "go-live" risk.

Technology

Environment:	Client / Server
Graphical User Interface:	Microsoft Visual Basic
Database:	Microsoft SQL Server
Server OS:	Microsoft Windows NT, 2000, 2003
Client OS:	Microsoft Windows 95, 98, NT, 2000, XP
ERP Integration:	Standardized for each ERP platform, Middleware not required

Cost

AOP application cost is $50,000 - $150,000 depending on company size.
Implementation time is 1 – 3 months, with costs ranging from 50% to 100% of application cost depending on complexity and level of support required. ROI is 3 – 6 months.

About 2think

2think's mission is to create high value manufacturing and supply chain solutions through the integration of Lean thinking, process innovation and technology that are customer focused, slash lead time, bulletproof reliability and service and financially optimize the enterprise.

2think helps manufacturers get the most out of their supply chains with integrated services – consulting, software and implementation - and a network of highly skilled support professionals.

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