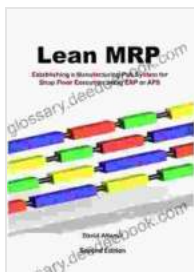


# Establishing a Manufacturing Pull System for Shop Floor Execution Using ERP or APS

Manufacturing businesses face increasing pressure to meet customer demand, improve efficiency, and reduce costs. To achieve these goals, many companies are turning to manufacturing pull systems to optimize shop floor execution. By implementing a pull system, manufacturers can create a more responsive and flexible production process that delivers products to customers on time and in full.

This article will discuss the benefits of implementing a manufacturing pull system and provide guidance on how to establish one using Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) or Advanced Planning and Scheduling (APS) software.

A manufacturing pull system offers several benefits that can help businesses improve their overall performance. These benefits include:



## Lean MRP: Establishing a Manufacturing Pull System for Shop Floor Execution Using ERP or APS by David Altemir

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- **Reduced lead times:** By only producing products when there is demand, manufacturers can significantly reduce lead times. This can help companies meet customer demand more quickly and improve customer satisfaction.
- **Improved efficiency:** A pull system helps to eliminate waste and inefficiencies in the production process. By producing only what is needed, manufacturers can avoid overproduction and reduce the amount of inventory on hand. This can lead to lower costs and improved profitability.
- **Increased flexibility:** A pull system is more flexible than a traditional push system, which allows manufacturers to respond more quickly to changes in customer demand. This can help companies win new business and grow their market share.

There are two main types of manufacturing pull systems:

- **Kanban:** Kanban is a Japanese inventory control system that uses visual signals to trigger the production of new products. Kanban cards are used to track the movement of materials and products through the production process.
- **Just-in-time (JIT):** JIT is a production system that aims to produce products just in time to meet customer demand. JIT requires a high level of coordination between different departments within a manufacturing company.

The following steps can be used to establish a manufacturing pull system using ERP or APS software:

1. **Define the customer demand:** The first step is to understand the customer demand for your products. This can be done by analyzing historical sales data, conducting market research, or talking to customers directly.
2. **Create a master production schedule (MPS):** The MPS is a roadmap for your production process. It outlines the products that need to be produced, the quantities needed, and the due dates. The MPS should be based on the customer demand.
3. **Create a production schedule for each work center:** The production schedule for each work center specifies the products that need to be produced, the quantities needed, the start times, and the end times. The production schedule should be based on the MPS and the capacity of each work center.
4. **Implement a pull trigger mechanism:** The pull trigger mechanism is a system that signals the production of new products. It can be based on kanban cards, JIT signals, or other triggers.
5. **Monitor the pull system:** It is important to monitor the performance of the pull system and make adjustments as needed. This can be done by tracking the following metrics:
  - Lead times
  - Efficiency
  - Flexibility

The right ERP or APS software can help you establish and manage a manufacturing pull system. When selecting software, it is important to consider the following factors:

- **Functionality:** The software should provide the functionality you need to implement a pull system. This includes features such as kanban support, JIT capabilities, and production scheduling.
- **Integration:** The software should integrate with your other business systems, such as your ERP or accounting system. This will help you to streamline your operations and improve efficiency.
- **Scalability:** The software should be scalable to meet the needs of your business. As your business grows, you will need software that can grow with you.
- **Support:** The software provider should provide quality support. This will help you to get the most out of the software and resolve any issues that may arise.

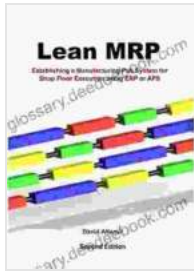
A manufacturing pull system can help businesses improve their lead times, efficiency, and flexibility. By implementing a pull system, manufacturers can create a more responsive and flexible production process that delivers products to customers on time and in full. ERP or APS software can help businesses establish and manage a manufacturing pull system. When selecting software, it is important to consider the functionality, integration, scalability, and support.

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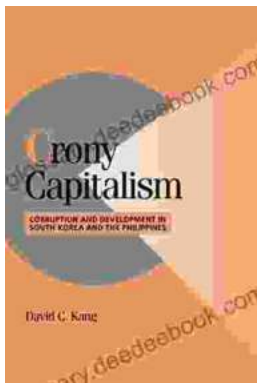


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