
ICRON Advanced Planning & Scheduling in Brewing.

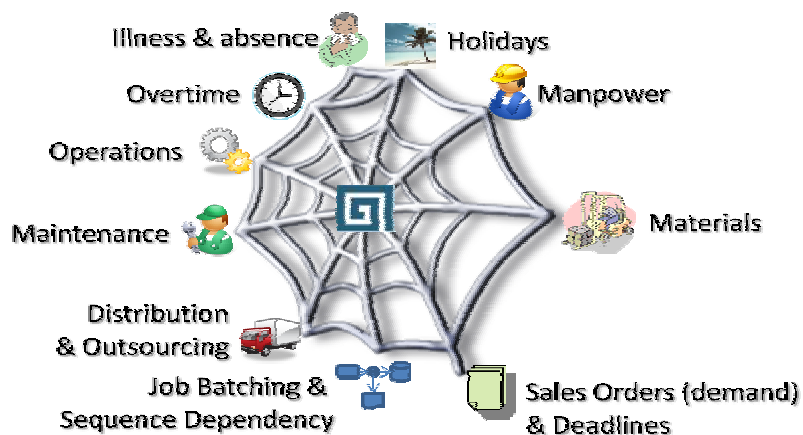
Brewing is a complex, demanding and exacting science, where second best is not an option.

Brewery management must cope with demand fluctuations and variations in materials quality and availability, whilst delivering the product on time, to the best quality standards and profitably.



ICRON Advanced Planning & Scheduling (APS).

ICRON APS is a secure, web-based, decision support tool. It sits as an umbrella over existing production, service, operations or supply chain systems. ICRON reads data from any digital source into memory (Memory Resident Server), continuously processes the data using mathematical programming and heuristics and, delivers charts, reports and data feeds to other systems and devices. The output provides optimised planning solutions based on the users' business model, priorities and objectives, taking full real-time account of constraints.



Brewery operations work like spider's web. All things are connected and a change in one area, affects all the others disproportionately.

The ICRON Advantage

ICRON is a robust comprehensive and fully automated solution, capable of replacing all manual planning processes in any operational environment. This reduces error and increases planning speed, which delivers responsiveness to uncertainty in demand and resource availability. Web functionality eliminates the need for dedicated hardware, provides a flexible and interactive user interface, enhanced graphics and, world-wide access.

Fast operation allows delivery of finished solutions and rapid rescheduling in a few minutes to seconds. This enables preparation of routine “what if” scenario analysis, delivering continuous Business Process Improvement (BPI). Quick implementation minimises operations disruption and allows easy future updating if business models change. This provides a long service life. Real-time, online feedback provides planning visibility to Planners and Management over all operations and eliminates parallel communications.

Why is ICRON different?

Contemporary planning software comprises basic core functionality, supplemented by a menu of customisation option. The problem with this approach is that no two breweries or distilleries are the same, or operate in the same way. So, it is impossible to predict every planning problem in every brewery and this leaves planning functionality that has to be performed manually (e.g. spreadsheets). This is slow, inaccurate and error prone, compromising planning effectiveness. In planning, it is 100%, or, it is nothing.

ICRON’s fast graphical modelling allows us to address every planning problem defined, delivering a system in which 100% of planning can be performed rapidly and automatically.

ICRON Functional Benefits.

Generation of optimised schedules considering:

- Job priorities and deadlines.
- Capacity & resource availability.
- Batching & sequencing of job lots.
- Work smoothing, providing:
 - Capacity generation.
 - Reductions in contracted / outsourced work.
 - Quality improvement.
 - Responsiveness and flexibility.
- Reductions in Total Operating Costs, typically 5 – 15%.

ICRON Individual Benefits

- For Management:
 - Improved decisions based on reliable, real-time data.
 - Can view future occurrences and avoid “fire fighting”.
 - Reduces total operating costs, typically by 5 - 15%.
 - Smoothed workflow reduces stress levels, improves job satisfaction and enhances work quality.
 - Can allow manpower rationalisation without reducing output capacity.

 - For Planners:
 - Elimination of data preparation allows focus on value added activity, e.g. identification of critical paths and bottlenecks and continuous Business Process Improvement (BPI).
 - Improved user experience.
 - Universal access.
 - Provides a more satisfactory and rewarding job challenge.
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