

ICRON Advanced Planning & Scheduling for Lubricants Manufacture and Operations

Powerful and flexible Management Information Systems (MIS) technology for use in Lubricants Manufacturing, Supply and Operations environments. Offers low entry cost, fast ROI and long system life. Suitable for Network Planning, Aggregate Master Planning and Real-time Scheduling.

The lubricants business is competitive, complex and demanding. A good portfolio of products and service excellence are key to business success.

To sustain customer loyalty, the promise of product performance must be matched by excellence in the Supply Chain. And it is here that the greatest financial efficiencies are to be found. In fact, every dollar saved in the Supply Chain is worth up to 10 dollars in sales revenue at the bottom line.



ICRON offers the world's most powerful and flexible finite, object orientated, Advanced Planning and Scheduling MIS technology for lubricants manufacturers and marketers that plugs into existing systems to provide optimised performance in strategic planning and real-time operations throughout the Supply Chain, including full Raw Materials Control, all Manufacturing Operations, Finished Products Warehousing, Logistics and Distribution.



Key benefits include:

- § *Full visibility and real-time control over all operations at all times giving flexibility and good reactivity*
- § *Batch blend and sequencing optimisation using most appropriate resources*
- § *Minimisation of slops and dead stock*
- § *Reductions in cost of raw materials and finished product inventories*
- § *Improved purchase order and distribution management*
- § *Production smoothing and thus increase in capacity*
- § *Virtual elimination of stock-outs*
- § *Improved delivery forecasting leading to better Customer Relations*

What is wrong with my current MIS?

Most planning in the Lubricants Supply Chain is done using MRP functionality in the ERP platform. The problem is that such systems are blind to rapid changes in demand, customer priorities, maintenance, breakdowns, shifts, materials supply dynamics, etc. Planners have to compensate by holding more materials and finished products inventory than needed to be safe and, this costs money. Real-time planning generally has to be done outside the system and this is very slow, inaccurate and inefficient.

The result is a Lubricants Supply Chain that is inflexible, slow reacting and expensive, leading to eroded market competitiveness, reduced market share and reduced profitability.

ICRON closes all system gaps to deliver the prospect of world-class supply performance, leading to full confidence in customers and staff alike.

Not all planning systems are the same



ICRON is fundamentally different from all other planning platforms. No two Lubricants Supply Chains are the same. Customisation of traditional code scripted IT provides a “best fit” but not a “true fit” to the client’s processes and business model, compromising performance and accuracy.

Through its unique graphical planning algorithm modelling tool, ICRON provides additional benefits, including:

- § **Short implementation times**
- § **Definition and delivery of solutions to clients’ exact planning needs, giving speed and accuracy**
- § **Interfacing with any other system or electronic data source**
- § **Supply of updated information to any other system or produce any chart or report**
- § **Allows quick and easy algorithm updating as clients’ business model or needs change**

Easy connectivity and updating

Each ICRON pc is a web server, giving:

- § **Easy connectivity to data sources and other systems via LAN/WAN**
- § **Collaborative real-time scheduling capability for co-ordination with inter-dependent systems in any location**
- § **Remote web access to current ICRON reports from any internet point in any location**
- § **Simple / remote engine updates via self-installer files**



Distributed scheduling



Developing finished plans and schedules in complex environments requires processing of large data volumes and solution of multiple planning problems that have to be integrated to give the final answers. This can lead to very long processing times. The ICRON engine works in a modular or “distributed” fashion enabling the simultaneous processing of multiple problems and delivering fast results. The processing speed allows planners to work on multiple planning scenarios, to choose the best option and to contribute to continuous Business Process Improvements.

ICRON planning options

- § **Network Analysis:** Determination of optimum production location over a network of LOBPs and warehouses
- § **Capacity Planning:** Master Production Scheduling of plants over a determined time period
- § **Real-time scheduling:** Finite, real-time synchronisation of operations that can be updated rapidly as circumstances change