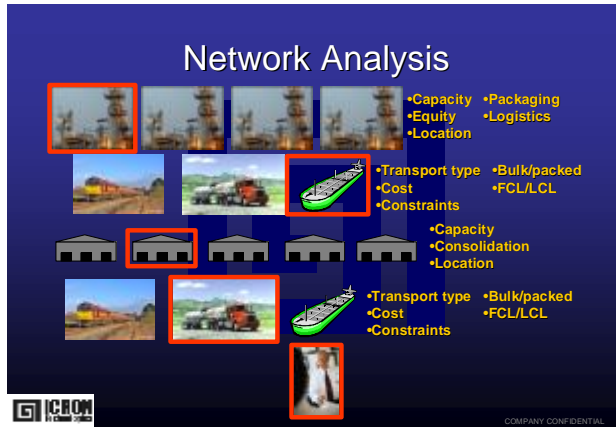


ICRON in the CHEMICALS INDUSTRY

ICRON NETWORK ANALYSIS

In a multi-site Chemicals Supply Network one of the most important keys to operating efficiency and profitability is knowing how much of which product to produce in each manufacturing plant, when and, what is the best route to market.

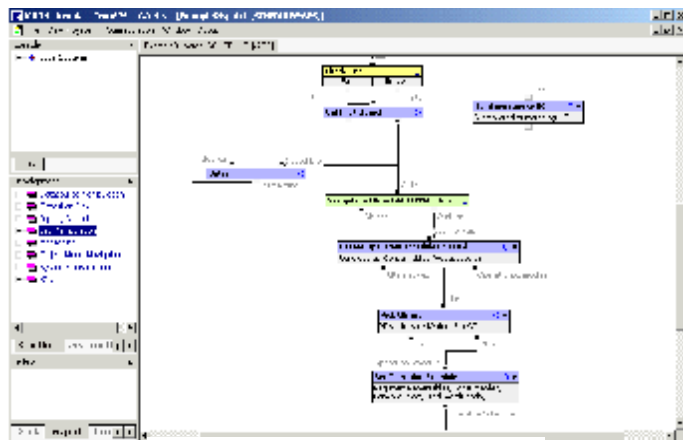


The Planning Challenge

Set against the complexities of fluctuating demand patterns, plant availability, plant equity, shipping constraints, tariffs and many more, the planning task is enormous. Many struggle to analyse the problem manually using spreadsheets and other tools. But the reality is that this is hopelessly slow and the planner is forced to make so many assumptions that the resulting plans are almost meaningless.

The Solution

The ICRON Network Analysis system is a uniquely powerful and flexible platform that can perform the required task with ease and speed, considering a very high level of planning complexity. The reason for this is that, unlike conventional code-based programmes which are rigid, inflexible and frequently very slow in operation, ICRON uses its unique Graphical Scheduling Algorithm Modelling System (GSAMS) to rapidly develop powerful planning algorithms to address clients specific needs and assign the most efficient mathematical solvers to deliver the right answers quickly.



ICRON Graphical Planning Algorithm

The ICRON Network Analysis system is well proven in the Chemicals Industry, providing a very reliable, fast and powerful solution to network planning.

ICRON CAPACITY PLANNER (CP)

In the Chemicals Industry, many decisions need to be made before all data required to make a detailed analysis are available. The ICRON Capacity Planner provides a highly accurate planning environment to support the following decisions

- Driving purchase plans for critical raw material, especially those with long lead times;
- Mid-term investment decisions based on forecasts for high level product families;
- Synchronising detailed schedules with blanket orders and forecasts within the same time frame;
- Handling capacity allocations based on mid and long-term customer orders, where accurate product definitions and/or specific shipment details are not known at the time of the decision.



ICRON ADVANCED PLANNER & SCHEDULER (APS)



This is ICRON's flagship product; an enterprise level, rules based, object orientated, finite-capacity planning and scheduling solution that offers a clear, cost-effective migration path to full-function supply chain optimisation. With its several components, the Material and Capacity Planner and Reactive and Dynamic Scheduler, it enables chemicals manufacturers to improve asset/resource utilisation at every node of the factory. The ICRON APS architecture is completely flexible and scalable. Companies can implement functionality at one or more sites as needed and easily adapt to future changes by user definable/readable algorithm flow-charts/diagrams.

The decisions that ICRON APS support are:

- § Production order release times
- § Optimum batch sizes and sequencing
- § Production routing and resource allocation
- § Materials synchronisation
- § Completion times
- § Logistics and Distribution synchronisation