Companies cannot hope to achieve truly competitive levels of productivity as long as they rely upon outmoded scheduling models. The key to minimizing bottlenecks, wasted resources, unpredictability, and customer alienation bred by traditional infinite capacity backward pass (ICBP) scheduling and achieving world class levels of performance, is adopting a finite capacity scheduling (FCS) system.

Finite Capacity Scheduling is the first comprehensive guide to understanding and implementing today’s powerful new FCS systems. Based upon the authors’ experiences modeling and installing more than 200 FCS applications, the book dispels common misconceptions about FCS and clearly explains why a well-integrated FCS system works as a natural complement to MRP/ERP systems. More important, it provides detailed guidelines for selecting, implementing, and using FCS technologies to help maximize resource use, decrease inventory cost, increase inventory turnover, improve customer service, and significantly enhance communication and coordination within the organization.

The book discusses traditional ICBP as a major obstacle to achieving modern levels of productivity, and why and how FCS can all but eliminate problems inherent to ICBP and transform virtually any manufacturing organization into a world-class competitor. This is followed by an in-depth review of major FCS methodologies, including job-based, resource-based, and event-based models, as well as new and emerging approaches, such as genetic algorithms. The remainder of the book is devoted to practical discussions of how to implement, manage, and measure the performance of FCS installations.

A complete guide to achieving world-class productivity, Finite Capacity Scheduling is must reading for distribution and logistics managers, operations managers, and scheduling and planning professional in all manufacturing industries.

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