

MRP and Kanban: Together Again for the First Time!

Presented by Don Guild from Synchronous Management

Hosted by APICS EATE Chapter: Everyone Welcome

Jan 10, 2012 @ 11:30 – 1:00

Registration: programs@apics-knoxville.org

Webinar Description

Most companies who attempt to implement pull/kanban struggle with several key issues, including:

- How do we right-size our supermarkets to get the best possible flow?
- How do we incorporate non-kanban requirements into our pull system?
- How do we resolve conflicts between kanban and MRP?
- What techniques are appropriate for signaling replenishment?

Supermarkets may be too large, resulting in production of unneeded items, or too small, resulting in stockouts. Non-kanban requirements cause unpredictable, spike demands on our resources. As a result, the expediting and firefighting continue, and inventory levels remain high – even with kanban!

Usually, kanban tells us to do one thing and MRP says another. But, we still need MRP for planning purposes. There must be a way for MRP and kanban to work together.

All too often cumbersome manual kanban techniques are put in place, the pull system deteriorates for lack of maintenance, is limited in its scope to only a few items, or we spend much non-value adding time making – and remaking - kanban cards!

This webinar focuses on answering all of these questions. You will learn what data to harvest in any MRP system to size and resize your supermarkets with ease. You will explore the application of automated pull techniques that provide visual control of all requirements without non-value-added manual effort. And, you will see how pull/kanban can be linked to your existing requirements planning system.

Specific learning objectives include how to:

- Size and resize kanban supermarkets using commonly available data
- Use batch sizing to link capacity and flow
- Select the best pull signal for each supplier – internal or external
- Level load critical suppliers to ensure requirements are met
- Include non-kanban demand in your pull system
- Control the flow of all requirements through work in process

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Don Guild, Biography

Don has over forty-five years in manufacturing. His twenty years in line management began with production line operations, progressing through shop supervision, scheduling and materials management, and operations management. His line experience also includes the implementation of automated enterprise resource planning and participative management systems.

After two years of consulting in the mid-1980's for Dr. Eli Goldratt, specializing in the application of finite scheduling techniques and constraints theory, Don founded Synchronous Management to focus on the hands-on application of lean techniques in purchasing, manufacturing, and distribution. As a consultant, he has broad experience in training and application of value stream mapping, pull/kanban systems, cellular manufacturing, plant layout, changeover reduction, and lean performance metrics.

His hundreds of clients have ranged in size from \$1MM per year to over \$1BB per year in annual sales. They include high-volume, repetitive production, engineering prototype shops, job shops, vertically integrated fabricators, and purchase-and-assemble shops. Industries include casting and forging, machinery, aerospace, biotechnology, electronics components and assembly, food processing and consumer products.

His pioneering work includes capacity-based lot-sizing techniques for changeover-intensive resources, make-to-order kanban for the non-repetitive job shop, and virtual pull for complex purchasing, manufacturing and distribution environments. Over fifty articles have been published by and about Synchronous Management and our clients, and Don has conducted hundreds of workshops and seminars for various professional societies and organizations.

Don's academic background includes Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts, Bachelor of Science in Law, Juris Doctor in Law, and Masters in Business Administration. He is a member of the Association of Manufacturing Excellence, and is certified on the Fellow Level by the Association for Operations Management (APICS). He is the author of the Pull/Kanban training program for the NIST-Manufacturing Extension Partnerships, and author of Pull/Kanban Systems training for the Lean Enterprise Institute. He is a faculty member of NIST-MEP and LEI, and a frequent speaker for AME, SME, and APICS.

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