ascon-Planner



Finite capacity with Infor LN

More reliability, less trouble.

Does the following sound familiar?

- Planning against an infinite capacity?
- Start date in the past?
- Expediters rule the day?
- Dates, missing parts, machine allocation or utilisation are collected in isolated Excel lists without any feedback to the ERP system?
- No real transparency regarding the actual available capacity?
- Lots of effort needed to calculate any bottlenecks regarding resources?
- Buyers and planners drowning in acceleration messages?

The conventional MRP system plan independent requirements by starting from the requirement date and then calculate backwards from here, level by level. Provided the independent requirements (sales orders, forecasts) themselves do not have feasible due dates, they will create past dates for their order structure and an arbitrary capacity overload.

Thus becomes difficult for the end-user/operator to determine whether the desired deadline for a customer's order or the made-to-stock production is feasible.

This leaves many questions:

- When can we deliver?
- Will we deliver on time?
- Where are the bottlenecks in the order?
- What do we need to do first?

That's why you need an APS!

The only solution is an APS planner. The outcome:

- No more past due-date scheduling
- Capacity bottlenecks re-scheduled
- Availability of material checked
- Priorities taken into account
- Bottlenecks pointed out transparently
- Feasible production deadlines

A deadline is feasible when both the material and the capacity are available. Thus the important aspects take precedence over the less important!

Ascon plug-in converts LN to APS

LN-standard also belongs to the conventional ERP systems, which do backwards planning.

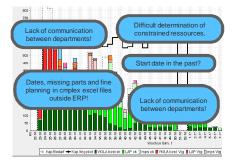
In contrast our fully compatible add-on asconplanner (as an APS in the Infor/LN environment) calculates all deadline dates backwards and forwards simultaneously in several stages against possible limited capacities and material.

This results in a comparison between the desired date and a feasible date.

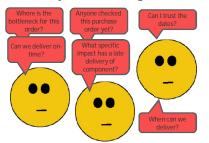
Priorities are taken into account, feasible production sequences are proposed and bottlenecks are pointed out transparently.

With a simple click the sales department can determine the feasible date directly when entering the sales order, which will have been checked against capacity and material availability in several stages.

Your daily challenge?



... many unsolved questions:



However, with ascon-planner:



TUNE YOUR INTERNAL SUPPLY CHAIN WITH THE ASCON PLANNER

Sales / Order Control Centre.-

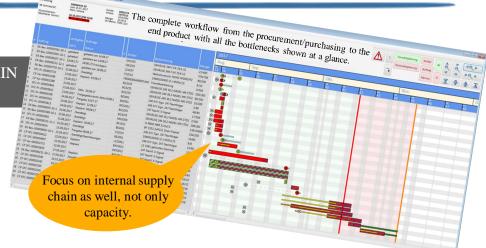
Determining the feasible deadlines and bottlenecks directly when accepting orders. Monitoring of deadlines and forewarning in case of deadline problems. Where is it the issue? Where are the bottlenecks? When will we be finished?

Purchasing / Procurement.

Specific indications regarding changes in demand, differentiating between direct/indirect demands for customer orders and stock orders. What has to be accelerated because of a customer order? Which purchased parts are a bottleneck for new customer orders?

Production Control.

Support realistic capacity planning, proposals for sequencing, urgency and backlog processing, monitoring instruments for on-time production, notification of impending material and capacity bottlenecks.



Sales order explosion as a Gantt-Chart.

In the form of a Gantt-Chart the collective order network shows the remaining oder processing until the final completion of the product including all the bottlenecks. In the chart tooltip the cursor activates the various resource data including information on the purchase order, production order, production proposals and much more...

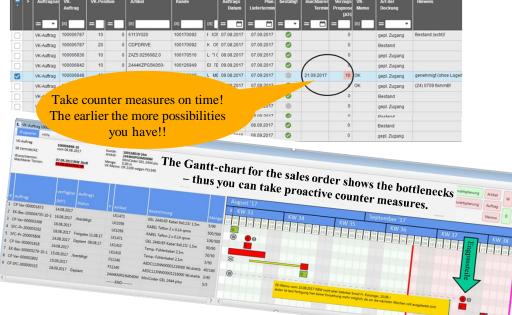
- Production order/production proposal on time or too late. The tooltip shows the order details.
- Capacity bottleneck with a delayed commencement of operations. The tooltip shows the relevant machine or department.
- Remaining run-time of a production order.
- Shows a memo text regarding a production or purchasing order (e.g. "not possible earlier").
- A Construction site sign shows that a work plan/ production schedule is still missing or that a signal code has been set.

A Gantt-chart is directly accessible from various sessions. e.g. a sales order item is displayed with the info "will probably be completed 5 days too late". A mouse click on this line will open the Gantt-chart which transparently shows the bottlenecks. Thus you know what to do timely and maybe will still be able to save the order!!

-Automatic rolling resource planning.

After the MRP, the ascon-planner automatically revises the internal schedules/appointments. It plans rolling limited capacities and re-schedules operations if the delivery by the supplier is expected to be late. It checks all collective order networks and reports when it is foreseeable that a sales order will not be completed on time.

Anticipatory monitoring of delivery date forecasts for sales orders.



SALES MONITOR

In the sales monitor session the asconplanner shows all the open, not yet delivered sales items or the sales delivery schedules with their availability status (inventory, projected receipt, ...). It also shows a current default forecast should an item be delayed.

> In the given example, the cause of the delay is a purchased part which will be delivered much too late and this jeopardises the timely final assembly.

Forewarned is forearmed!

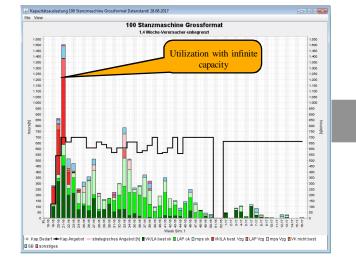
ascon-Planner

CAPACITY



Limiting Capacity

The tool does most of the work on its own. The operator/end-user only intervenes to correct. For each machine or department you have the choice of: limited capacity or unlimited capacity. You define such settings in the master data of the addon. The ascon planner then automatically takes into account the limitation in its planning run. You can even run different simulations parallel in the same installation with different planning settings. e.g. "What effect would a 3rd shift in department 4711 have?"



Unlimited capacity.

Unlimited capacity in the planner, nevertheless, eliminates all past dates. Past is Past! In each case the material availability is also checked. Variously coloured bars in the capacity chart denote which primary requirements generate the capacity utilisation: Sales orders or sales delivery schedules? Confirmed or unconfirmed sales orders? Foreseeably too late or probably on time? Or it shows only forecasts and stock orders to determine the safety stock levels.

In the capacity chart you can, of course, also switch between an exact daily or weekly based display.

> An automatic limitation of the capacity gives you a clear indication of your deadlines.

FAST FACTS

After a while, our customers experience over 90% internal on-time performance. Of course the tool alone does not achieve this by itself, the organisation must be streamlined as well.

More than 80 companies are using the ascon-Planner, with far more production facilities involved.

Limited capacity.

You decide which capacity will be limited. When the capacity is limited, then less important operations are automatically postponed, should this be required: e.g. a light blue bar in the chart denotes stock orders without a current demand, which are then moved to a later date in the event of a bottleneck. OR operations for unconfirmed orders automatically move behind those for confirmed orders. Of course the availability of materials is also taken into account. And the whole operation is propagated throughout the collective order network on several levels.

The dotted lines in the chart denote the actual capacity requirements. In this way the production supervisor can see whether additional work is necessary. A glance at the "unlimited capacity" chart then shows, which pegged order would benefit from an additional capacity. If these are just stock orders, the additional shift may not be worthwhile.



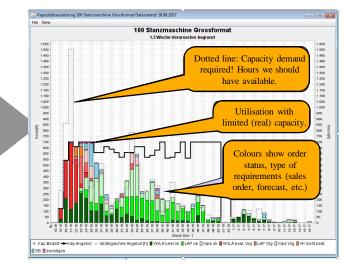
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The Human interaction is needed for special cases and manipulations.

> The result of the automated continuous and rolling planning is a multi-tiered coordinated daily- or shift-sequence proposal for the execution of the various operations.

Plan-Import

The planning can either be printed as a processing list or transferred to the PDA (production data acquisition) or displayed on the screen, where it can be worked on and corrected manually.



FUNCTIONALITIES

Efficient functions support the production planner semi- or fully automatically

Interactive graphic rescheduling

Those who do not have so many orders can also modify the sequence suggestions from the ascon planner interactively via a planning board using drag & drop. The planning board presents the production planner with information on material availability or possible alternative machines, or even information on how urgent the order is and whether a customer is waiting for it.

Single-item production, small batches, variant production

The diverse algorithms support part production at machine level, assembly and group production or even line production; automatic planning for companies with very many small orders or also semi-automatic planning in areas with fewer but larger production orders.

Capacity hierarchies

Capacity hierarchies can be created on any number of levels, as simply as "parts lists". At each level, ascon then displays utilization charts or even a planning board to visualize the occupancy.

Alternative capacities

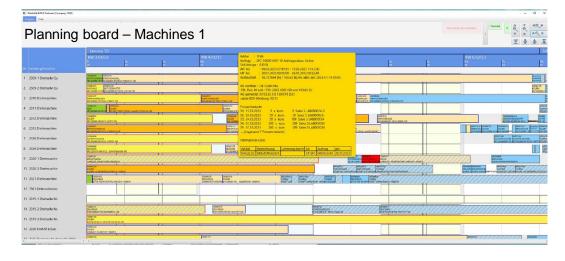
Depending on the workload, the program automatically selects permissible alternative machines in order to distribute the operations to the correct machines.

Sequence planning

Depending on the capacity type (machine, assembly group...), the ascon planner automatically occupies a machine sequentially, for example, so that the operations do not overlap.

Setup Optimization

The program can read setup-relevant criteria from the LN database for a capacity and bundle the operations in a setup-optimal way. Each machine or work group has its own criteria and logic. In the capacity allocation, ascon displays the setup criteria clearly in tabular form.



Capacity preview

At each capacity hierarchy level, ascon presents a visual capacity utilization preview for the entire area. Capacity countermeasures can thus be taken at an early stage.

Planning of machines AND personnel or personnel pools

Based on available capacity and planned attendance, the Planner shows the personnel requirements OR limits the scheduled orders, depending on personnel availability.

Frozen Zone

While in the further future the expected capacity utilization changes and develops dynamically depending on the incoming orders, the production planner may demand a steady planning in the near future. This is defined as a "frozen zone" for each capacity. In the frozen zone, the ascon planner then no longer automatically changes the processing sequence.

Tool availability

The ascon planner can also take tool or NC program availability into account in its planning.

Capacity Preview – Machines 1

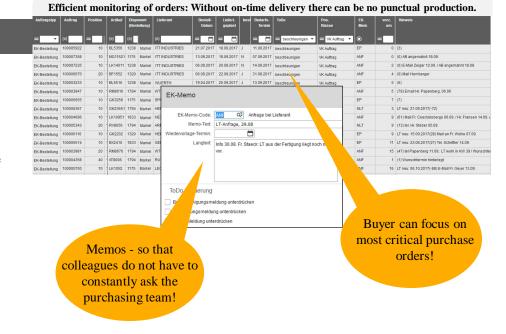
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PURCHASING MONITOR

The procurement monitor was created to keep track of purchasing and procurement. It shows all open purchasing order items in an easy-to-read list.

"Show me all my order items, which I should expedite by at least 4 days because of sales requirements and which I have not yet processed." This is the filter which then selects the correct and important items from the sum of data. There will be no more acceleration-message "tsunamis"! Thus colleagues don't constantly have to ask the purchasing team.

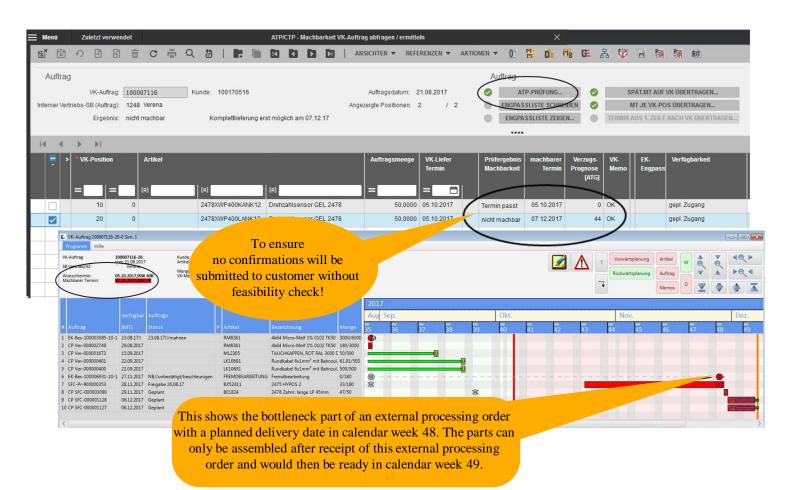
If the process cannot be accelerated, the responsible buyer makes a note in the purchasing-memo and thus suppresses a further acceleration message. The purchasing-memo then pops up again in the relevant sales order in the Gantt-chart.



SALES ORDER ENTRY WITH ATP/CTP CHECK

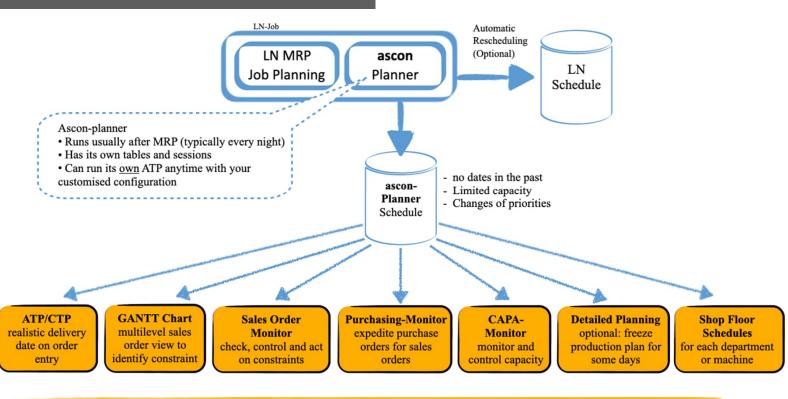
After entering the complete sales order in LN you have the option to progress to the ascon ATP/CTP session by just pressing the button "ATP".

This results in a feasible date for each sales line, which has been checked on various levels against capacity and material. Even simulated production proposals are generated automatically and orders are rescheduled accordingly. Too late? With one click you will be able to see the responsible bottleneck in the Gantt-chart. In this way "countermeasures" can be initiated quickly, or the customer is informed of the newly determined deadline.





INTEGRATION INTO THE COMPANY



FULL INTEGRATION ADVANTAGE

Common environment and technology within LN

In contrast to "docked-on third party software" such as the dedicated control centre, external APS or MES systems, the ascon-planner allows a continuous resource planning from the sales and distribution to the assembly and purchasing providing the operator with a completely transparent overview of the schedule and status of every item. All this happens <u>within</u> the LN environment for all end-users.

- No complication and duplication of the IT environment through additional systems, data bases, interfaces, user-interfaces and system administration.
- No useless follow-up costs for the overhead system.
 - Considerably lower project costs with virtually identical benefits.
 - Quicker return on investments,
 - Tailored to the SME sector (Small and Medium Enterprises)
- Faster introduction. Rapid prototyping. Prompt project completion.
- The test installation is executed in your LN-live environment using your real-time data!
- The first results are obtained only a few hours after the installation.
 Of course the project implementation and training is part of the package.

- Full integration into the LN user interface.
 Fully transmort overview of all deadlines.
- Fully transparent overview of all deadlines in the internal supply-chain.
- The training of the users is quick and has a high rate of acceptance because they already are proficient in the LN surface.
- This package is a fully compatible add-on to the Infor/LN system.
- The release compatibility of Infor/LN is fully retained.
- The installation time is only 30 minutes!
 - Interested? Contact us!

More than 80 companies trust ascon solutions.



Contact



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