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SCHEDULE++

Integrated Supply Chain and Scheduling Add-on to SAP R/3

SCHEDULE++ is a sophisticated interactive planning system, specialised on process industries. It provides powerful optimisation, scheduling, forecast and collaborative planning features. SCHEDULE++ can handle complex and large production models as well as supply chains and works on the data of the leading R/3 system.

Benefits from SCHEDULE++ on the enterprise level are the optimisation of supply chains, integration of marketing, sales and planning departments and an improvement of planning and decision making processes. Benefits from OR Soft products on the shop floor level are higher accuracy in planning, the reduction of stocks and a better use of production capacities.

SCHEDULE++ at a Glance

- ◆ Optimised interface to SAP R/3 modules PP and PP-PI
- ◆ Add-on to SAP R/3 or standalone version (if SAP R/3 is not used)
- ◆ 100% working on SAP data objects (no separate database)
- ◆ Simultaneous & capacity resource handling
- ◆ High performance multi-user system
- ◆ Interactive and automatic scheduling
- ◆ Support of large data models
- ◆ Support of make-to-order scenarios and make-to-stock scenarios
- ◆ English and German versions supported. Other languages (Italian, Portuguese) on request.
- ◆ Highly configurable graphical user interface

Functional Description of SCHEDULE++

For the purpose of planning, scheduling, reporting and simulation, data from the leading system is downloaded to the add-on with the help of standardized interfaces. They are kept in optimised RAM structures of the add-on for better performance.

The SCHEDULE++ system visualizes the planning situation in Gantt charts and histograms. All relevant data for decision-making is displayed, technological restrictions of the production process are supervised, and conflicts are distinctly highlighted.

The SCHEDULE++ add-on to R/3 provides tools for simulative changes to a production plan. These simulative changes are only applied to SCHEDULE++ and not to the R/3 system. The results of these changes, like tank overflows or violations of technological restrictions, can be seen immediately. If the simulated data change was successful, it may be transferred to the leading R/3 system. In this way, the SCHEDULE++ add-on to R/3 enhances the possibilities of data manipulation. SCHEDULE++ expands the existing modelling features and planning functionalities of the leading R/3 system.

SCHEDULE++ process orders consist of information received from the bill of material and from routing. The process orders describe how and when the necessary processing units are utilized. In SCHEDULE++ it is possible to create (schedule), reschedule, and release process orders.

SCHEDULE++ supports the work and decision making process of experienced planners. SCHEDULE++ is a multi-user system. Several users can work independently on the same production model.

All information about data presented in browsers can be transferred to Microsoft EXCEL via a DDE interface. SCHEDULE++ can also generate various reports, e.g. the calculation of resource utilisation, order reports or the analysis of future material stocks (amount and value). The graphic user interface (GUI) of SCHEDULE++ can easily be configured to the user's individual needs.

Human machine interface

SCHEDULE++ is a window-oriented interactive scheduling and information processing system. Information is displayed in windows of various types that can be configured by the user. All features can be selected and carried out from the SCHEDULE++ user interface.

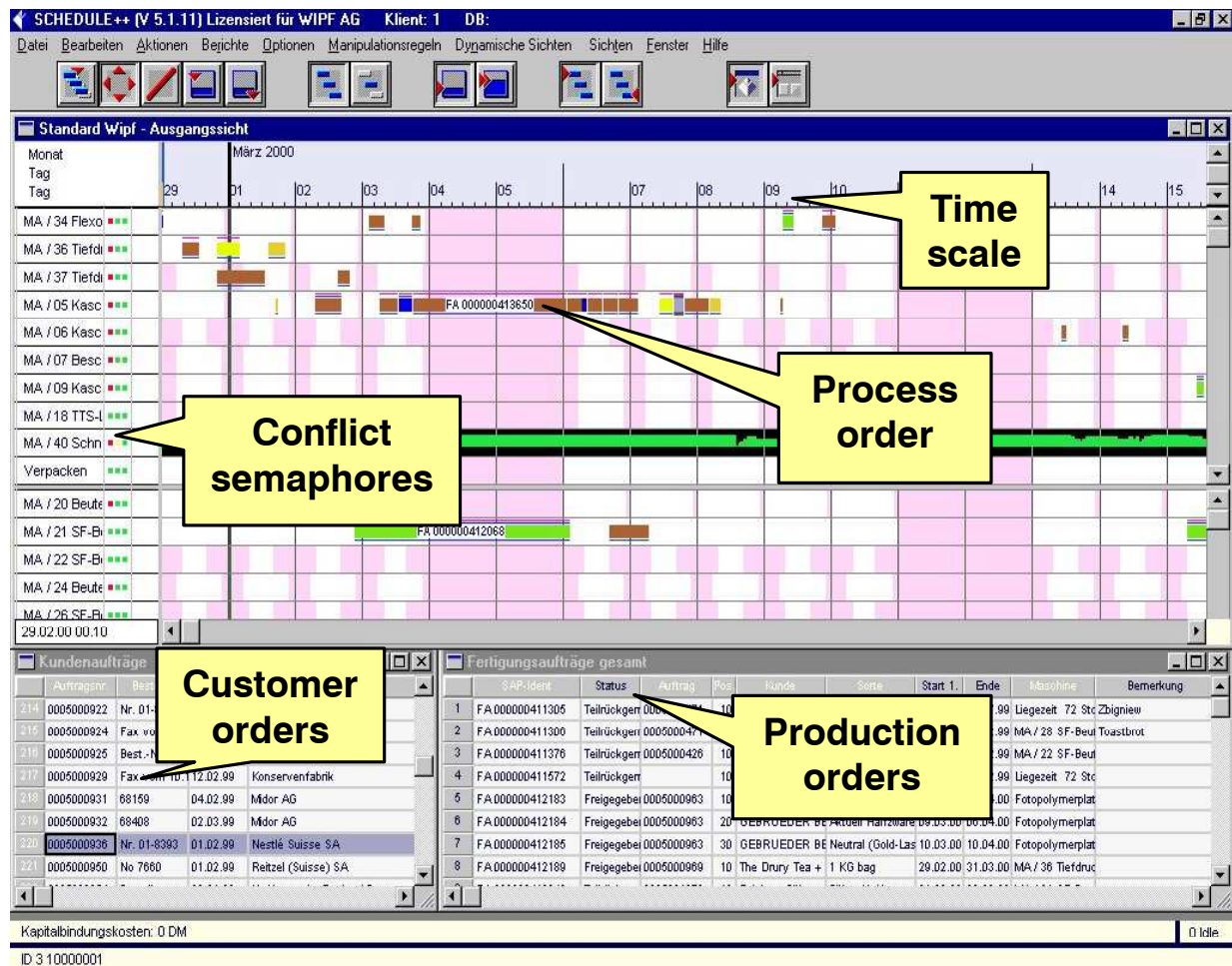


Fig.1: SCHEDULE++ Main Window with standard view for detailed planning

The SCHEDULE++ main window provides the user with a comprehensive summary of the scheduling situation. Resource utilization and availability are graphically visualized in scheduler windows, planned and process orders and data of other types is displayed in tabular form in browser editor windows.

With the main window of the user interface most of the scheduling actions can be carried out. The main window allows the selection of different work frames and views for the planning process.

The SCHEDULE++ main user interface is comprised of the following components:

- ◆ Graphical visualisation of the planning situation in *scheduler windows*,
- ◆ Tabular visualisation of planned order fulfilment in the *planned order window*,
- ◆ Tabular visualisation of scheduled process orders in the *process order window*,
- ◆ Tabular visualisation of all other data types in type-specific *browser* or *dialog editor* windows,
- ◆ Visualisation of quantities and other information about the scheduling situation at a given time in the *info line*,
- ◆ Possibilities for user interaction via various *menus* and the *toolbar*.

Main objects exchanged with SAP R/3

Following data objects from SAP are downloaded to SCHEDULE++:

Master data

- ◆ Resources / Work centers
- ◆ Calendars
- ◆ Resource networks and hierarchies
- ◆ Materials
- ◆ Product versions
- ◆ Routings (in case of PP-PI Recipes)
- ◆ BOM's
- ◆ Customers

Dynamic data

- ◆ Planned orders
- ◆ Production orders (Process orders) including subordinate structures like operations, sub operations, secondary resources, components and the allocation to operations and so on)
- ◆ Customer orders including subordinate items
- ◆ Purchase requisitions
- ◆ Purchase orders
- ◆ Other items from stock- and requirement list (configurable)
- ◆ Maintenance orders (Module PM)

Following data objects can be uploaded from SCHEDULE++ to SAP R/3

- ◆ Production orders
- ◆ Planned orders
- ◆ Purchase requisition
- ◆ Maintenance orders

Please note that SCHEDULE++ uploads information asynchronously. The advantage of this technology is that the user can work independently from the response delay of the SAP R/3.

Hard- and Software prerequisites

The standard SCHEDULE++ version is a Windows NT 32-bit application. The following hardware and system software is recommended:

- ◆ PC with Intel Pentium compatible CPU, 1 GHz processor or better
- ◆ 1 GByte RAM or more, depending on the data volume to be handled,
- ◆ 10 Gbyte hard disk with fast access or more (depending on other installed applications and the volume of data to be stored), support for long file names,
- ◆ 17 " SVGA monitor or better,
- ◆ Graphics card with a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 and 65K colours working with the selected operating system,
- ◆ CD-ROM drive for software installation,
- ◆ Network hardware and software,
- ◆ Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 operating system with Service Pack 4 (or higher) or Windows 2000. The user must have administrator rights for the software installation.
- ◆ Windows NT Resource Kit,
- ◆ SAP front-end 4.5B (or higher) for the SAP add-on,
- ◆ Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.xx and Microsoft HTML Help Executable (version > 4.73.8412) for the manual,
- ◆ Microsoft PowerPoint viewer for a training course,
- ◆ Microsoft Excel (complete installation with VBA support) for reports,
- ◆ Remote TCP/IP connection between OR Soft and the user PC for remote support.