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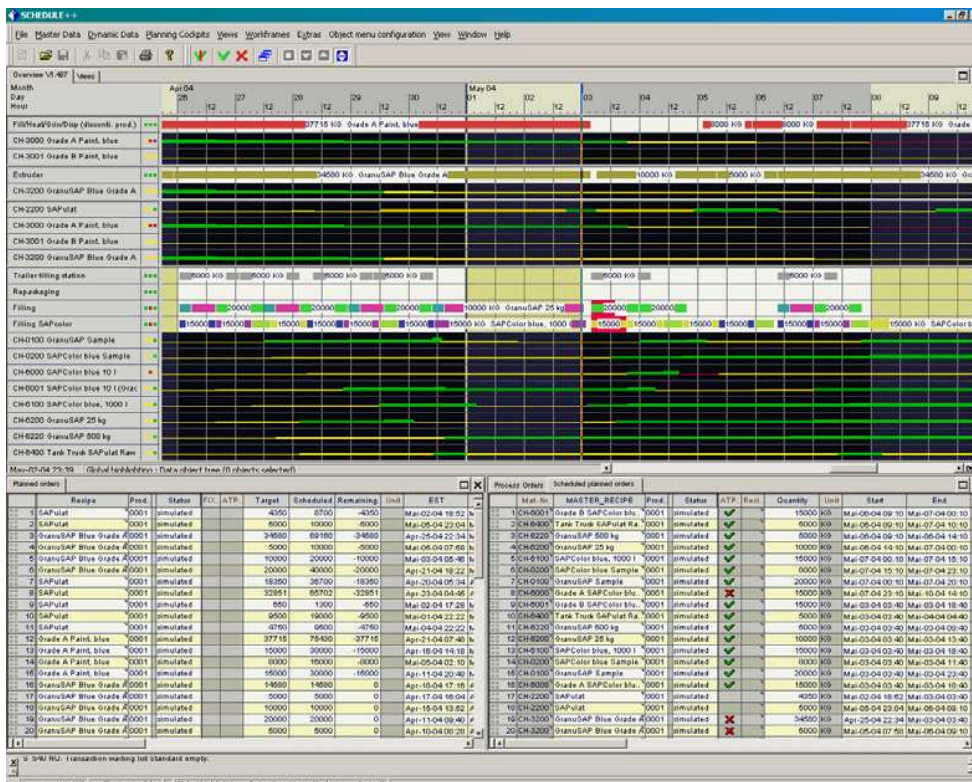
**www.orsoft.de**
**www.best-practice-solutions.com**

# Advanced Planning Board for SAP „BestPractices for Chemicals V1.470"

## Motivation

Company SAP has announced the release SAP BestPractices for Chemicals V1.470 on CEBIT 2004. The idea of BestPractices is to provide templates for a specific industry sector to mid-size industry customers that enable them to rapidly implement the ERP system SAP R/3.

SAP BestPractices for Chemicals V1.470 contains a plug-in that enables the connection of an Advanced Planning Board for SAP R/3 of the SAP SCM Partner „OR Soft Jänicke GmbH" to the R/3 system. For this purpose SAP delivers a building block for the plug-in with installation and configuration guide as well as a description of the business procedures for the advanced planning board as part of the SAP BestPractices for Chemicals package. OR Soft delivers a CD with a preconfigured demo solution of the Advanced Planning Board for SAP R/3, a program for analysing a production model and a setup program. You can explore the functions of the Advanced Planning Board for SAP R/3 using the tools provided on this CD and the demonstration data provided as part of the SAP BestPractices for Chemicals package. You can setup and configure the Advanced Planning Board for SAP R/3 for use with your own operational data as a SAP GUI extension after obtaining a license key from OR Soft.

The solution is licensed on a cost-by-workplace basis by OR Soft. The solution can go life and be used in a productive way within a matter of days using OR Soft telephone support.



User Interface of the Advanced Planning Board

# Purpose

The Advanced Planning Board for SAP R/3 allows to:

◆ schedule resource allocation capacity and material requirements simultaneously
◆ create technologically feasible process orders from planned orders
◆ modify and reschedule process orders in the planning board and visualize the results with regard to changed range of coverage and material availability
◆ carry out „what if" examinations based on a copy of the production model and create simulated data objects
◆ convert simulated objects into SAP R/3 objects
◆ get overview over MRP elements in spreadsheet-like grids
◆ permanently calculate and present planned future stock levels, material availability and range of coverage even for large scale data models
◆ carry out batch transactions

The advanced planning board supports the detailed production and execution scheduling (APS, MES) as well as the planning of the in-house supply chain. It can be used as a simplified user interface for the R/3 system with regard to production logistics. Additionally it can be used as a platform for individualisation of higher level functions.

# User Interface Elements

The following user interface elements are provided:

◆ Views combine various time-phased graphical displays for selected resources and materials, the standard includes:
  ◆ Gantt chart (displays bar graphs for the allocation of operations to resources on a horizontal time scale, enhanced with color coding and auxiliary text display for relevant data)
  ◆ Histogram (displays the stock changes of materials, tanks and containers on a horizontal time scale, with the possibility to take into account the storage capacity restrictions)
◆ Browser (displays most important fields of master data or transactional data in a grid-based, spreadsheet-type window with editable text cells, calculated text or graphic interpretation cells and functions for sorting, searching, filtering and selection of data objects).

# Business Procedures

The advanced planning board is normally run after the MRP has created planned orders and is used to schedule and reschedule planned orders and process orders.
For this purpose the advanced planning provides the following business process procedures:

◆ Schedule planned orders at basic dates and convert into process orders
◆ Reschedule scheduled planned orders and process orders
◆ Technologically feasible schedule and reschedule process orders
◆ Schedule planned orders interactively and convert into process orders
◆ Call of SAP R/3 Transactions from a bar graph or browser row

To implement more complex procedures or use other scheduling strategies you can upgrade from the Advanced Planning Board for SAP R/3 to the full-featured OR Soft SCHEDULE++ Scheduling Suite [provides planning cockpits, dynamic pegging etc.].

# Potential Benefits

Potential benefits of using the advanced planning board result from the easiness of getting an overview (transparency of the planned production process)and from the enhanced usability (scheduling and rescheduling of orders).

# Assessment

The planning capabilities of the R/3 system are enhanced without the need for additional infra-structure, terminology or data extension.