



*Driving Business to
Peak Performance!*



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FREE Webinar**

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Pull Scheduling Case Study

The Issue - Massive shortages were continuously clogging the assembly line. Products were loaded to the line only to discover that components were missing. In a feeble attempt to keep production associates working, the master production schedule was constantly changing; often multiple times in a single day. It had reached the point where only a small percentage of the assemblies left the line completed.

The Results - To eliminate the chaos all this change was having on the assembly line and the supply base, we dramatically reduced the number of components being managed by our clients MRP system. Instead we opted for a pull system consistent with lean principals. The MRP database was still used to help manage the system, but KANBAN and other lean scheduling tools controlled supply. To improve the master production schedule, we commissioned a cross

How A-Takt (Flow principles) will Save Your Business!

by Brian Krichbaum



- Do you have cash flow problems?
 - **A-Takt!** inventory and **A-Takt!** accounts receivable
- Are you expediting parts from suppliers or finished goods to your customers?
 - **A-Takt!** your scheduling and ordering systems
- Are sales increases not reflected in an improving bottom line?
 - **A-Takt!** the waste built into your system

How efficient are my processes? Do they make money?

Recent studies show the average employee in America spends only 2 ½ hours per day doing value added work. You may read this statistic with incredulity... and you should. But it is still true! Take time to mentally review what you and your employees do each day. I'll bet that you will find it difficult to come up with 2 ½ hours spent on actual work.

How much time is spent expediting, fixing defects, searching for parts, dealing with problems created by someone else or waiting for information? Do you consider these activities work? You shouldn't! Because they are clearly waste.

If you work in the office or in production at a manufacturing company, a service or engineering company, or a retailer, a fundamental issue remains constant – you spend your time on various activities that provide little to no value to your customers. The reasons for this are numerous – but the solution can often be straightforward.

Are my lot sizes and work content efficient?

Somehow over the years we have become convinced that the most efficient way to complete work is in large lots. We complete our work and then wait for others to do their part. These hurry-up and wait systems create scheduling nightmares, so we often invest in high priced software solutions that force us to operate in a box that is convenient to the software supplier, but only compounds our problems. There is a better way! **STOP WAITING**; design your systems to operate in a condition of flow and then start fixing the problems that you identify.

A flow system works to directly satisfy customer demand by producing exactly what the customer wants when they want it. Eliminate the defects, always deliver on time, find problems and fix them and identify what it is that you provide that is valuable to your customers.

functional production planning team. They reviewed production schedules and component availability status one week ahead of actual production. Over the next six months, these solutions reduced line stoppages and significantly raised the completion rate.

The Point - Both simple and complex manufacturing systems will perform at a higher level when A-Takt principals replace the MRP scheduling systems. While computer based solutions can help you, knowledge of the product, utilization of our principals, and intelligent decision making cannot be replaced by MRP.

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Do my systems find problems and help show solutions?

Over the years, faulty systems have blinded us to the underlying issues which cause problems in our businesses. But we can't continue to operate in the same way. We now live and work in a global society, and if we are to remain competitive, we must have the best systems possible. Flow thinking develops your process to allow you to see where to focus improvement efforts.

A solution from MasterMind - A-Takt! - For improvement

At Mastermind Consulting Network, our [A-Takt! Process](#) guides clients through the steps necessary to develop and implement "Flow" in their organizations. We are ready to help you A-Takt! your issues.

To learn more, contact us for a free onsite visit at www.mastermindconsult.net or register for our [upcoming webinar](#).

Mastermind Consulting Network ☐ Phone: (517) 270-1340 ☐ www.mastermindconsult.net

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Mastermind Consulting
950 W. Monroe St.
Suite G100
Jackson, Michigan 49202
US

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