

FACTIVITY

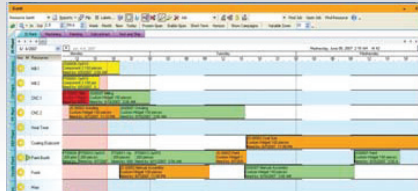
APS Module

Product Offerings

The FACTIVITY family of advanced planning and scheduling solutions offers different levels of features and functions that take you to new levels of production and inventory management that go well beyond the capability of ERP systems.

Our solutions start with basic finite scheduling that provides a much more realistic “execution” schedule with granularity to smooth out the capacity overloads. Beyond finite scheduling is an easy-to-use “electronic white board” for manual drag/drop of entire orders (jobs); or individual operations for attribute based “family” and “campaign style” line-ups that minimize set-up and change over and help accelerate product delivery. Additional functionality can be added that provide true Advanced Planning and Scheduling (APS) and Supply Chain Multi-Plant logistics to coordinate time phased material requirements at a single plant or across multi-plants.

The FACTIVITY solutions provide a fit for all size businesses and requirements. Whether you are planning manually, with a spreadsheet or through another system, FACTIVITY’s solutions cover production constraints (capacity), advanced inventory management capability and have add-on modules for real-time factory floor visibility and updates through easy-to-use touch screens on the factory floor.



APS Overview

FACTIVITY APS Module adds additional features and functionality over the finite capacity scheduling (FCS) solution from the FACTIVITY family of scheduling solutions.

FACTIVITY APS has scheduling techniques which allow you to select and create your own scheduling rules. It also has features for adding material constraints based on the Bill of Materials supplied to it from your ERP/MRP system.

FACTIVITY APS allows you to create your own scheduling line-up using the FACTIVITY Planning Board. In this way, almost any scheduling logic (including inventory shortages) can be manually “fine-tuned” to match unique demand changes. One key feature of this planning board allows automatic rescheduling of all operations of the routing (regardless of expediting or delaying) without extra manual and time consuming steps of “fixing” the planning board found in other APS products.

Inventory and Material Management

Unlike some of the current scheduling systems on the market, the FACTIVITY solution goes beyond material pegging and provides a comprehensive set of inventory and material management functions. FACTIVITY APS has functionality for dealing with material and shop order pegging. Often the APS is linked

to an ERP/MRP system that generates shop orders based on the current sales demand, inventory levels of parts and purchase/shop orders already launched.

FACTIVITY APS will automatically take these shop orders and link (peg) them together. Thus materials from one shop order may be used by one or more other orders. If the first order is delayed you will want all downstream orders to be delayed accordingly, or, perhaps, you may want the materials re-allocated.

Multi-Planner Collaboration

- Collaboration allows planners to work cohesively— any number of planners can schedule at the same time
- Planners simultaneously manage schedules for the operations they know best
- Freedom to schedule your way—by work center, department, facility, product line, or customer

Visual Scheduling Board

- Advanced scheduling features like overlap, storage constraints, and custom constraints
- All constraints are managed— schedule takes materials, machines, labor, and tooling into account
- Powerful Resource Gantt and Job Gantt with infinitely customizable activity labels
- Unlike other schedulers’ Drag-and-Drop tool, PlanetTogether has an exclusive “finite” Drag-and-Drop feature that allows users to easily move orders around and always respects all constraints while automatically moving other work out of the way
- Capacity Plan graph and grid for visualizing resource utilization and availability
- Bottleneck operations are highlighted in red to help see problems in advance

“What If” Impact Analysis

- Predicts outcomes quickly enabling informed decisions based on real and experimental schedules
- Lists all orders affected by any schedule change
- Graph and track schedule quality by using Key Performance Indicators
- Undo/Redo of user actions for safe valuation of alternatives
- Create multiple scenarios for comparing the main schedule against experimental schedules
- Delivers a truly usable decision support system

Powerful Optimization Engine

- Optimization rules drive efficient production every minute of everyday by scheduling based on your goals and your production requirements
- Slider-adjustable, resource-specific rules for balancing between any combinations of: due dates, priority, revenue, WIP reduction, setup time reduction, work remaining, and many more.
- JIT (Just in Time) scheduling to minimize Work-In-Progress inventory.
- Theory of Constraints scheduling with Drum-Buffer-Rope logic.

Forecasts Accurate Schedules

- Real-time updates allow schedules to always be current.
- Use printed schedules or live dispatch lists directly from your system on the shop floor.
- Simple single-operation jobs all the way up to many-to-many operation flows can be scheduled accurately.



100% Microsoft Architecture: SQL Server

- This platform has a long life ahead of it that is ready to grow with you and your business.
- Industry-standard technology that runs on 64 and 32 bit computer architectures and is widely supported by the software industry.
- Easy to extend, easy to support, and easy to use.

Execution with Factory Floor Updating

FACTIVITY offers its Shop Floor Module that help with visibility and control of the scheduled WIP. Whichever scheduling option is picked, FACTIVITY can provide an intuitive touch screen approach to updating the scheduling board.

Machine Monitoring (OEE) and Labor Management

Additional modules can be added to the FACTIVITY Shop Floor Module to allow direct reporting from the machines and labor reporting through the time/attendance modules. The machine and labor can be scheduled and tracked with “plug and play” modules than can be tailored by the user to match your company’s requirements.

Metal fabrication, plastic/composite, chemical, food & beverages, packaging, high-tech supplies, and other manufacturers have special needs for scheduling production operations to maximize resource utilization and meet customer demand while respecting a myriad of critical production constraints. These constraints in manufacturing can be handled by our scheduling software for effective planning.

The APS’ Advanced Process Manufacturing modules have the specialized capabilities to take these constraints into account automatically and/or to alert planners to the violation of constraints. In addition, it’s Microsoft .Net architecture allows for easy addition of custom constraints that are unique to your business for production of schedules that respect your real-world requirements. The result is maximum production output, reduced time lost to changeovers and a planning process that is easy to manage. ■

About FACTIVITY Inc.

FACTIVITY Inc. is a leading supplier of software systems for manufacturing companies. Since 1984, FACTIVITY has developed and supported hundreds of customers and clients through the implementation of package software systems focused on improving productivity and factory performance.