

Are High Production Costs Affecting Your Bottom Line?

Find out how Visual Planner can help

Q. Direct Material Costs too High?

Did you know every time you change or modify your production plans it costs you money? Not only does this add to your production planner's workload, it also results in procurement problems. When your Procurement Manager reacts to each production change, your direct material costs will increase.

- A. When you use Visual Planner to plan your production, your plans are less likely to need modification. This means your procurement team can plan their purchasing to take advantage of best prices and availability, quantity of materials and lower cost deliveries. This means your Procurement team can manage their time more effectively and reduce your direct material costs as well.

Q. Overtime Payments Increasing Your Labor Costs?

Ever thought your production planning could be the reason for your high labor costs? When your workload is not properly planned, your plant can't work at full capacity. Your labor force isn't productive and when you have deadlines to meet, they have to work overtime. Sound familiar?

- A. With Visual Planner, you can schedule your workload efficiently. You can respond quickly to changes or problems such as machinery breakdowns. That way, you can keep your labor force doing what they are paid to do - work! When you use Visual Planner, deadlines can be met, without the need for costly overtime and crisis management.

Q. Does Meeting a Deadline Cost You Money?

When your production gets behind schedule, do you have to bring in more staff to meet your deadlines? If this is you, there's a solution.

- A. When you plan your production with Visual Planner, you can test your ideas before expediting them on the shop floor. That way, you can be sure your workforce is kept busy and productive and smooth out those production peaks and troughs.

Q. Does Your Production Planning Take Too Long?

Are you spending too much time on production planning and scheduling? It is a laborious and costly task, especially when you have to make modifications or changes to your schedule.

- A. Now you can plan your production schedules in minutes instead of hours with Visual Planner. This allows you to try out alternatives, develop better schedules and policies. What's more, Visual Planner gives you the flexibility to make changes, track performance and make all the adjustments you need - fast!

Q. Is Unnecessary Wastage Costing you Money?

Did you know rushing to meet customer demand can cost you money in high levels of waste? When your production isn't properly planned, short cuts are taken which result in poor quality goods, and your scrap and rework costs increase.

- A. When you generate your schedules with Visual Planner, your production plans are much more efficient. This results in increased efficiency and better quality product: all of which saves you money.

Q. Are Costly Stock Levels Crippling Your Cash Flow?

What sort of affect do your stock levels have on your cash flow? If you are holding high levels of expensive stock because it is the only way you can meet demand, it's costing you money.

- A. This can be avoided with Visual Planner. Because Visual Planner helps you accurately predict what stock you need and when you need it, you can react quickly to meet demand. The need for 'safety' stock is reduced, meaning you have less money tied up in unnecessarily high levels of completed product.

Q. Maintenance Costs Going Through the Roof?

If your machines and productivity are affected by frequent breakdowns, it could be poor maintenance scheduling which is costing you money. Without efficient production planning, it is hard to plan an efficient maintenance schedule.

- A. Help is at hand – Visual Planner can also help you coordinate your routine maintenance. This means you will achieve greater machine up-time and costly and troublesome breakdowns will be reduced. Not only will your costs reduce, your machinery will last longer and your maintenance staff will thank you for it!

Q. Could Your Production Planner Lower your Transport Costs?

Does your production planning causes you to miss deadlines? If so, you probably have to rely on faster, more expensive means of transportation to get your goods there on time.

- A. Visual Planners' reliable production plans mean you can make delivery promises you can keep! When you operate make-to-order production, you can schedule your transportation more efficiently. This means you will have plenty of time to deliver your goods and can take advantage of lower cost transportation methods.

Q. Can Your Procurement Costs be Reduced?

If your ordering patterns fluctuate, you are in danger of increasing your procurement costs. This means you can't take advantage of benefits such as lower prices for larger orders, or lower delivery charges. If you're putting pressure on your purchasing department in this way, you could be paying more in hidden costs.

- A. However, with Visual Planner to generate good schedules and react effectively to changes, your ordering practices will become more consistent. Not only can you reduce your direct purchasing costs, you can also reduce your administration costs and increase your purchasing efficiency.

Q. Capital Equipment Costs Breaking the Bank?

Is your equipment and machinery working to its full capacity? If not, to achieve greater productivity you might have to resolve the problem by investing in more capital equipment. This is a costly solution to solve a simple problem.

- A. Visual Planner will help you make your existing machinery and capital equipment more productive. By developing better production schedules, all of your capital equipment is earning its keep. So, when you do need to buy costly equipment, it's for the right reasons, not just an expensive solution.

Q. Can you Keep Your Promises?

If you are losing customers because you can't meet your promised delivery schedules, you are losing more than money. If you can't accurately predict when your orders will be completed, your company reputation will suffer too.

- A. When you use Visual Planner, you can accurately predict your production capacity and its impact on your delivery schedule. In addition, your Customer Service and Sales and Marketing Departments can also see the schedules in real time, which means they won't be making promises you can't keep either.

Q. Do Your Lead Times Give You a Competitive Advantage?

If your lead times are poor, it's likely you will be losing business to your competitors. Without efficient production planning, your lead times will slip and your customers might be tempted to go elsewhere!

- A. Using Visual Planner's flexibility, you can work around problems, produce reliable plans and shorten your lead times. This means your customers' expectations will be met and exceeded and you gain the competitive advantage, leading to new sales and increased revenues.

Visual Planner ... solving your manufacturing problems

For more information on Visual Planner:

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