Core Enterprise

The web – hosted demand planning system

Core Enterprise is our most inclusive software package, with the availability of interface capability with existing software, i.e. SAP, Excel, AS400 etc.

Core Enterprise is SFJ Systems' web-hosted demand planning system. It is delivering accurate long term and accurate daily schedules. With a full version control Bill of Material (BOM) it integrates well with any MRP system.

This demand planning software produces forecasts with a "red alert" approach. As information is received, internal algorithms constantly check data offering corresponding correction values to cope with fluctuations in demand.

The system holds resource shift patters, material requirements, ingredients, recipe data (BOM) and historical data is fully traceable.

Features:
Sales Forecasting
Capacity Planning
Demand Planning
EDI Order Handling
SKU and Manufacturing Database
Cost Module
Materials Requirement Planning
Daily Scheduling
SFDC Despatch and Transport Planning

How does it work?
Core Enterprise is a SQL system that is used to enhance ERP and production control systems. It is specifically designed to read EDI, sales orders, & forecast data and convert these into a manufacturing requirements ready for scheduling despatch. The forecasting module uses a graphical display at sub assembly and finish goods level, holding accurate stock figures for demand planning and daily scheduling. A direct link to the finite Core Scheduler will line balance and sequence by using many various scheduling algorithms.

Core Enterprise can be used and work with any financial systems like Sage, AS400 and SAP environments. SFJ has done some major work linking into SAP. The Core Enterprise System communicates the finite results back into SAP to form a closed loop system, made readily available to all users.

Because Core Enterprise is a web-based solution it can either be hosted by SFJ Systems on our web servers or deployed on the customer's intranet. During the initial stages of

implementation, SFJ Systems hosts the system to enable rapid debugging and understanding of the client's data.

SFJ Systems has developed the processes and logic used in Core Enterprise over the last 25 years working within the UK manufacturing market place. Core Enterprise contains the following modules:

1. **Master Data: Core Enterprise**

Master data is the reference data that is required for the calculations within Core Enterprise. This key business information includes customers' data, depots information, SKU data, production lines data (including resources), operation run rates, resource efficiencies and bills of materials. As well as storing all of the data required for production planning, Core Enterprise also has a SKU Specification Database. This is used to store specification data for individual SKU's

2. **Material Resource Planning (MRP)**

This module provides call-off MRP calculations that can be used to build buying plans for financial purchasing systems or for issuing material data to the shop floor. Using our structured bill of material (BOM) with multi product versions we can calculate MRP from any of the calculated outputs of Core Enterprise. MRP can be driven from forecasts, daily demand, Core schedule, SFDC or just a simple 'What If MRP' to help understand your BOM Data.

3. **Procurement of material**

The Procurement module uses the calculated MRP either daily or weekly and recalculates the days or weeks cover based on the available stock and ordered stock.

4. **Demand Planning**

Pre-Scheduling

Before a schedule of work can be executed, a number of calculations need to be performed on the data available. Weekly forecasts are refined into daily forecasts either automatically by using weekly customer split factors, or manually by account managers. These calculations are reconciled with the latest sales figures and any stock available from previous manufacture or suppliers are used to calculate the manufacturing requirement.

Forecast

Core Enterprise has an account manager driven forecasting system which allows for the manipulation of forecast demand at SKU and customer level. Core Enterprise can additionally incorporate a Daily Forecast Editor, which aims to solve issues of inaccurate forecast data by allowing planners to edit weekly forecasts into daily ones.

Planning Activities – Manufacturing Requirement

The planning activities section is the heart of Demand Planning in Core Enterprise. The manufacturing requirement calculation works out the requirement to make based on customer splits from the forecast and existing stock figures.

Planning Reports

The Planning Reports section contains some core functionality that users can use on a daily basis to highlight issues in daily production.

- Stock Control - allows users to view graph view of stocks availability and out of date issues in a one colour coded view. This screen also provides a great visibility marker of how well a company is performing.
- SFDC Check – this check uses a generated daily production plan which is uploaded to SFDC. Core Enterprise calculates when products are going out of life or out of stock.
- EDI Stock Check - used to quickly highlight if there is enough finished good stocks to satisfy the order requirements (after daily sales reports have been examined).

EDI

The EDI module is where all of the SKU daily depot sales are imported to. Core Enterprise stores this data at the lowest level (SKU – Depot Level) to enable consolidation and analysis further down the demand planning process.

Planning Board

The Planning Board is Core Enterprise's mechanism for long term capacity planning at resource and production hours' level. Using a colour coding system, users can quickly highlight when production is going to increase the required labour hours over the standards. This proves highly useful for long term labour planning and preparation for busy periods of production.

5. **Shop Floor Data Capture (SFDC)**

SFDC has two main functions;

1) To inform the shop floor what they need to make and when.
2) To allow the shop floor to record actual production information to facilitate KPI reporting.

SFDC 2 is the next level of shop floor integration and enables the shop floor staff to update and alternate the sequence of planned production with a 'drag & drop' functionality. This reduces the time delay between the shop floor identifying a production problem and the production planner having to reschedule and reissue the production plan to the shop floor.

6. **Scheduling**

The demand plan can be viewed numerically as a spreadsheet or graphically as a Gantt chart. The web enabled Gantt chart is part of the Core Scheduler and is multi user with drag and drop control. Different types of scheduling algorithms can be used to generate a schedule.

The Core Scheduler can be used integrated with Core Enterprise or standalone with manually entered data or spreadsheets.

If you would like to know more about how SFJ Systems can help your business, contact us on: 01225 775103 | marketing@sfjsystems.co.uk