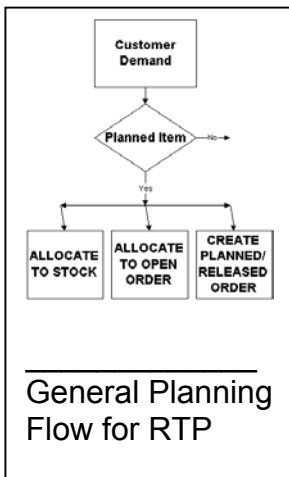# Real Time Planning™

RTP: Planning For The Real World

If slow, unreliable planning bogs down your purchasing and manufacturing and has you setting promise dates you can't meet, *Real Time Planning*™ (RTP) can solve your problems. RTP is a simple planning solution with benefits that include:
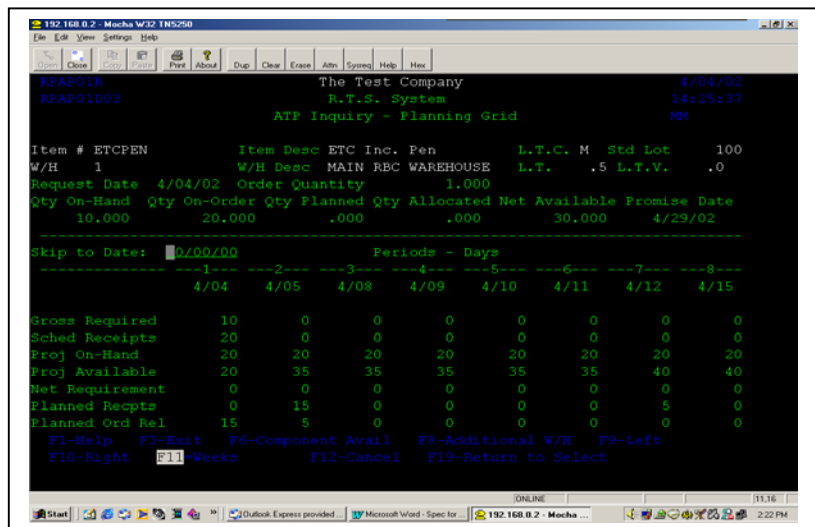
- Reliable promise dates for your customers.
- The ability to plan your needs in seconds-real time, down through all levels of the bill of material.
- Planning of customer, forecast, independent and dependent demands.
- Better Available to Promise (ATP) features that are either integrated into COM© or stand alone.
- Planned or automatically released replenishment orders.
- Reports that help measure and maintain data accuracy for bill of materials, routings, lead times and inventory balances.

Real Time Planning is easy to implement whether you are running MRP planning now or not. Best of all, it saves you time by automating the mundane, thus freeing up employee resources for more complex tasks.

General Planning Flow for RTP

How RTP Works

RTP uses APICS standards to simplify the planning process and make it more responsive to changing customer demands. It uses the same fields found in MAPICS XA's© Item Balance File maintenance.

With RTP, you can ensure that the base date (bill of materials, routings, lead times, and inventory balances) are accurate.

Available to Promise Inquiry – Planning Grid Display of Information.

RTP then determines how to handle each customer request. Requests are satisfied by (1) allocating available stock, (2) allocating available items from an open replenishment order, or (3) creating a planned/released replenishment order. RTP also can react to inventory adjustments entered into MAPICS XA$^{©}$, making sure that you meet the promise dates to your customers even if inventory records are inaccurate.

The Available to Promise Feature

The Available to Promise (ATP) feature within RTP can be integrated into MAPICS Customer Order Management (via a User Exit) or used alone. It calculates the earliest reliable promise date for an order quantity, the request date, and does the following:

- Calculates Net Available Inventory.
- Shows item information in a traditional APICS planning grid.
- Displays on-hand and availability information from other warehouses.
- Displays component item availability for an end item.

Future Enhancements

RTP users can expect the following enhancements by mid-2003.

- Capacity Management (January 2003). We will add labor and machine resource capacity constraints to the planning process and the ATP function.
- Windows-Based User Interface (June 2003). Access to planned order and capacity information, ATP Inquiry and base data accuracy information will be available using a Windows interface. The interface will use an Internet Browser (Microsoft Explorer and NetScape) to present the data to the user.
- Multi-Site Planning (June 2003). For companies with multiple warehouses and/or sites and warehouses that supply one another, RTP will automatically coordinate planned or released requirements between warehouses.

Reports

RTP contains several reports that help measure and manage the accuracy of the underlying planning data. More accurate data mean more reliable replenishment order requirements. Some of the reports include:

- Display of inventory record accuracy, as a result of cycle counting, by item/warehouse/location. This is based on standard APICS hit or miss theory and includes tolerance allowances.
- Comparison of standard routing times versus actual production times.
- Comparison of standard vs. actual production bill of materials.
- Comparison of standard lead times versus actual production lead times.

Integration Information

RTP is designed to work with MAPICS XA Release 4.0 or higher for PDM users only. EPDM users must be at MAPICS XA Release 6.0 or higher.

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