



SIEMENS



SIMATIC IT Preactor

Advanced Planning and Scheduling

siemens.com/preactor

Global Competition

The current trends in manufacturing are aimed at lowering inventory levels to reduce costs, while still being able to respond to shorter lead times and thereby satisfy customer demand. This forces companies to find ways to optimize production operations by reducing or eliminating non-value-added activities such as setup or waiting time. Highlighting potential problems allows action to be taken to balance demand and capacity.

Preactor products have been developed to meet this need. They are used by small and mid-size companies and large corporations to help meet demands made by their customers and beat the increasingly global competition.

Due to the flexible data model and scheduling logic Preactor products can be set up to meet a company's planning and scheduling needs no matter what they are.

What About My Existing Software?

Preactor products are designed to work alongside and facilitate, rather than replace,

existing systems. They can be tightly integrated with ERP, accounting and forecasting software, spreadsheets, MES and shop floor data collection systems.

Whether generating production plans that detail the task sequences for each resource by applying rules to load orders or producing long term capacity plans, the



products in the Preactor range provide the interactive drag-and-drop environment that modern businesses need in order to react efficiently to unexpected changes in demand and capacity and thereby maximize on-time deliveries.

Smarter decisions, better products

Visibility is Key

You need to see the impact of your decisions. This cannot be achieved with more generalized tools, such as a spreadsheet. Preactor helps to visualize the current load, see the impact of unexpected events, ask 'what if' questions, compare alternatives and all before the decision is made.

Who Uses Preactor?

Many companies, ranging from small and medium sized businesses to large corporations, employ Preactor as part of their global supply chain solution. These companies are located around the world. The software's flexibility means that it can be used by companies in almost every sector of manufacturing, services and logistics.

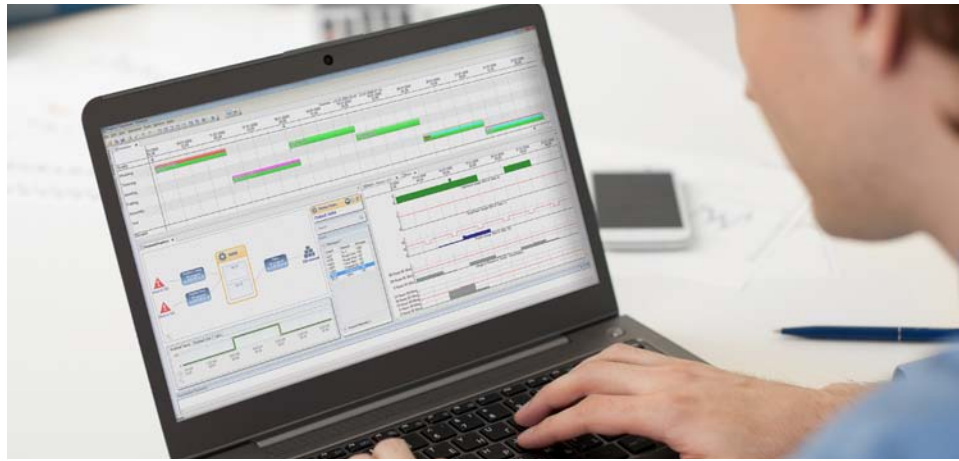
- Automotive & Aerospace
- Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals
- Consumer Packaged Goods
- Electronics & Electrical Equipment
- Food & Beverages
- Furniture & Wood Products
- Glass, Ceramics and Basic Materials
- Metals & Metal Fabricated Products
- Paper & Packaging
- Printing & Publishing
- Rubber & Plastics
- Textiles & Apparel
- Tooling & Precision Engineering

A Complete Family of Solutions

Preactor is not a single point solution. It represents a family of products that, although based on the same core code, have different levels of functionality and pricing so that you can select the system that satisfies both your needs and your budget. Upgrading to another product as your needs change is simple and easy. Products from the Preactor range can be used for long term strategic planning covering months and years ahead, medium term tactical planning with a few weeks planning horizon and for detailed sequencing and scheduling.

How Does Preactor Help Lean Initiatives?

Lean manufacturing is currently one of the buzzwords in industry, and quite rightly so. Most companies are under pressure to reduce costs while producing more, in shorter delivery times. All this has to be accomplished without an accurate indication of future demand and with lower inventories.



Lean manufacturing represents a cultural change at all levels of a company. Its prime objective is to eliminate waste in whatever form that it takes.

Independent international surveys, measuring on-time delivery performances and the improvement of throughput times, have proven that the most successful companies are those using lean scheduling software, such as Preactor. By connecting such systems to their ERP and shop-floor data collection, these companies are able to monitor the state of execution against plan.

Customization

Preactor is a highly customizable capacity planning and scheduling package. Fields and data tables in its Microsoft® SQL database can be added or changed. Unique sequencing rules can be created. Event driven communication scripts can be installed for tight integration with other systems across multiple sites. Its flexibility is unparalleled.

Both the planning and scheduling products can be configured in a number of different ways. Often, users have a single master system that communicates with one or more Preactor Viewers to share schedule information. Conversely, other companies employ multiple licenses across one or more departments, units or plants, with an automatic transfer of information from one system to another.

There is a network of more than 400 partners and solution providers around the world, providing software implementation and support for the Preactor product range.

Find out more

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