PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

Focusing on Quality and Competitiveness

Roberta S. Russell / Bernard W.Taylor III

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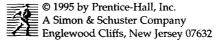
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To my children Travis and Amy Russell

To my parents

Jean V. Taylor and Bernard W. Taylor, Jr.

with love and appreciation.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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PREFACE

We embarked on this project to create a new text in production and operations management with several objectives in mind. First, we want the text to be eminently readable for the student—clear, concise, and organized. We want to include lots of features and examples to make the topics interesting. We want the concepts we describe to be logical and easily understood. We want to make efficient use of the English language to avoid drowning straightforward topics in a sea of verbiage. And most important, we want the student to feel excited about production and operations management because we live in an exciting time with many new, unique, and interesting changes occurring in manufacturing and service operations around the world. We hope and believe we have accomplished this objective but the reader must be the ultimate judge on this account.

A second objective is to make the text contemporary and comprehensive. There are many new and important changes taking place in production and operations management today, and we want to make sure that they are conspicuously integrated with the more traditional topics in POM. That is why we focused our attention on quality management and competitiveness as consistent themes throughout the text. We do not believe that quality is simply a recent trend, but rather a pervasive philosophy that impacts on and influences all the other topics and functions in production and operations management. Quality especially impacts on the ability of firms to compete in today's global market. As the student and instructor proceed through this text, they will see how decision making for all operations has quality as a consistent and ultimate objective. Traditional functions such as planning, product and service design, facility layout and location, scheduling, and job design are considered by operations managers based on how effectively they fit in with an overall program of quality management, and thus, how effectively they enhance the firm's competitiveness. In the oft-used term total quality management, or TQM, the key word is total. The pursuit of quality has become all encompassing in today's management of operations, and that totality of commitment is reflected in our text.

A third objective is to strike a balance between the quantitative and managerial (or behavioral) aspects of production and operations management. Too often in the past, POM texts have seemed to be simply a loose compilation of different quantitative techniques applied to various functional topics. In the contemporary world of operations management, the quantitative and technological aspects are probably more important than ever. However, the ability to manage people and resources effectively, to motivate, organize, control, evaluate, and particularly to adapt to change, have become critical to achieving total quality and to competing in today's international markets. Thus, throughout this text we seek to explain and demonstrate how the successful operations manager manages, and when quantitative techniques are applicable, how they are used to manage and make decisions.

We also have attempted to strike a balance between manufacturing and service operations in our text. Traditionally when one thought of operations man-

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agement it was in terms of manufacturing, and POM texts frequently reflected this bias. However, in the United States today there has been a perceptible shift in the economy toward service industries and away from manufacturing. Thus, managing service operations has become equally as important as managing manufacturing operations. In many cases, management techniques and processes are indistinguishable between service and manufacturing operations. However, in numerous other cases, service operations present unique situations and problems that require focused attention and unique solutions.

Another important objective is to have a well-organized text that flows smoothly and follows a logical progression of topics that places the different functions in operations management in their proper perspective. Although we have not formally subdivided our book into groupings or sections, it does have a logical organizational structure. The first two chapters introduce the subject of production and operations management and the environment for making decisions and managing operations. These chapters seek to place POM in a proper perspective and emphasize its importance in today's highly competitive world marketplace, as well as provide an overview of what is to come in the remainder of the text. The next two chapters focus on quality management from both the managerial perspective in Chapter 3 and the quantitative perspective in Chapter 4. These chapters set the tone and form the basis for our emphasis on quality management in the chapters that follow. Chapters 5 through 9 comprise a group that addresses the design of operations, while chapters 10 through 17 focus on operating functions. Thus, a logical flow is created from establishing the operating environment, to setting the quality program, to designing the operation to meet the objectives for quality, and finally to producing the service or product that will achieve the quality objectives and compete in the world market.

In order to help us achieve these objectives we have included a number of features in the text, which we will describe as follows.

LEARNING FEATURES

Focus on Quality Management

Throughout the text, icons in the margins identify locations where we specifically discuss how the topic under discussion relates to, and is impacted by, quality management.

Global and Service Highlights

In addition to the icon, we also use several other icons throughout the text to highlight topics related to the global market or competitiveness, and to service operations. The icon is employed to identify global topics, specifically when we are discussing POM or a company in a country other than the United States; and the icon is used when we are talking about a specific service operation or company.

"Gaining the Competitive Edge" Application Boxes

These boxes are located in every chapter and supplement in the text. They describe how a company, organization, or agency uses the particular management technique or function being discussed in the chapter to compete in a global environment. There are more than 60 of these boxes throughout the text and they encompass a broad range of service and manufacturing operations, foreign and domestic.

Introductory Applications

Each chapter begins with a description relating the subject of the chapter to an actual application in a company. These applications are provided first to give the reader a realistic perspective of the topic prior to embarking on its discussion.

Photos

The text includes a variety of color photographs that enhance and complement the presentation of the written textual material. These photos accompany the introductory application that starts off each chapter, and they are located at other points of interest in the chapters.

Quantitative Supplements

The text includes three chapter supplements that address three of the more traditional and mathematically rigorous quantitative techniques used in production and operations management: linear programming, transportation solution methods, and simulation. These topics have been segregated from the normal chapters because in many instances students already will have studied them in a separate quantitative methods course. In addition, their study can be time consuming and often the instructor will prefer not to take time from the coverage of other important POM topics.

Margin Notes

Notes are included in the margins that serve the same basic function as notes that students themselves might write in the margin. They highlight certain topics to make it easier for the student to locate them, they summarize topics and important points, and they provide brief definitions of key terms and concepts.

Examples

Examples are liberally inserted throughout the text, primarily to demonstrate quantitative techniques and to make them easier to understand. The examples illustrate how the results of the quantitative technique may be used to help the manager make decisions. The examples are organized into a "problem statement" and "solution" format. We also make frequent use of real world applications, often citing the experiences of companies as they relate to individual topics.

AB:POM Computer Software

The computer software package that accompanies this text, AB:POM, is very user friendly. It is easy to understand and use, requiring virtually no preliminary instruction, although a tutorial on its use that describes its features is included in Appendix A. It is used whenever possible in the text to show how to solve example problems on the computer. Also a portion of the homework problems require computer solutions and are so designated by a personal computer icon in the margin. This text can also be packaged with QSOM or STORM software.

Summary of Key Formulas

Following the summary at the end of each chapter is a "Summary of Key Formulas" that provides a list of the most important formulas derived in the presentation of any quantitative techniques introduced in the chapter. These enable the student to turn to a specific location to refresh their memories about a formula without having to search through the chapter.

Summary of Key Terms

Following the "Summary of Key Formulas" at the end of each chapter is a "Summary of Key Terms." It provides a list of the most important terms for the chapter and their definitions. This list enables the student to access a specific location to refresh their memories about an important term without having to search through the chapter or marginal notes.

Solved Example Problems

At the end of each chapter just prior to the homework questions and problems, there is a section with solved examples that serve as a guide for doing the homework problems. These examples are solved in a detailed, step-by-step fashion.

Supplemental Items

The text is accompanied by a number of supplemental items that the instructor may wish to use in the course. These supplements include a set of videos that complement the textual presentation of material in a number of locations throughout the text. The locations where these videos might be used, and a description of each video, is provided in the Annotated Instructor's Edition (AIE) of this text. The AIE also includes teaching notes for the instructor, alternate examples to those examples provided in the text, and summaries of the videos that can be used in these chapters. Also included with this text is the Solutions Manual detailing answers to end-of-chapter questions, homework problems, and case problems; a Text Bank; and Transparency Masters. Other available supplements include a Study Guide and the books *Profiles of Malcolm Baldrige Award Winners, Profile of ISO 9000, Games and Exercises in Production and Operations Management*, and Cases and Readings in *Production and Operations Management*, all published by Prentice-Hall.

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