

Seiban

Trace activities and costs for any product line, batch or products, production “run”, or any other individual item or grouping.

Traditional MRPII system logic assumes that all inventory is available to satisfy any customer requirement and does not allow for the separation or allocation of specific materials, parts, or work in-process for customer-specific use. The ability to maintain separate customer identification or customer lots within the general population of parts and orders has traditionally been used in Contract and Project manufacturing environments. However, in today's customer-oriented world, this identification approach is very useful in providing clear identification and availability of materials for specific customer demand - even in an Assemble-to-Order, Made-to-Stock, or Repetitive manufacturing environment.

The Japanese Have a Word For It

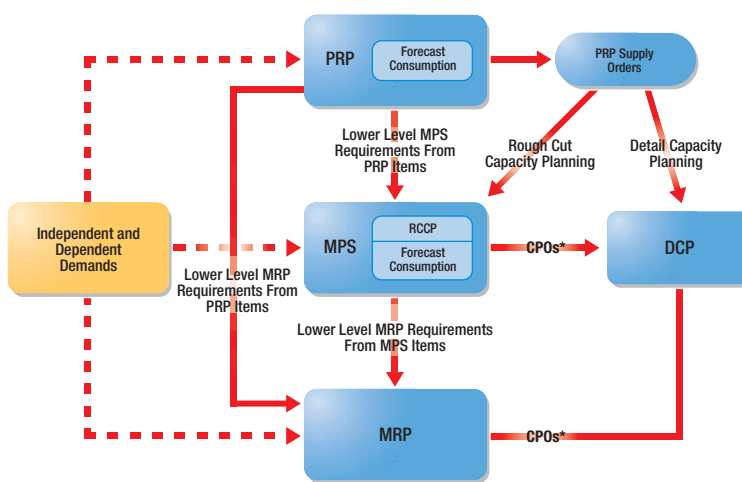
Separation of inventories is not uncommon in Japan where an identifying number is attached to all parts, materials, purchase orders, and manufacturing orders (all supply orders) that identify them as belonging to a particular customer, job, project, or product line. This identifying number is called Seiban from the Japanese word Sei meaning “manufacturing” (or production) and Ban meaning “number” - a manufacturing number.

The result is like having separate MRPs within the overall MRP process. In actual practice, there are, indeed, separate MRPs for each designated Seiban requirement performed right along with the “regular” MRP for non-Seiban requirements. Glovia simplifies and enables this process to take place through its interactive Seiban Workbench and PRP application.

Benefits of Seiban

Why would a company want or need to specifically pre-designate how and where inventory will be used?

- The customer might require it: This happens quite often today as manufacturers “build-to-order” in being more responsive and competitive.
- Enhanced visibility: If all stocks and activities are tied together through a common designator, retrieval of Seiban/job-specific information is instantaneous and infallible.
- Coordination and synchronization of all activities related to a Seiban/Job is greatly enhanced.
- Quick and easy retrieval of job-specific supply orders.



- Customer-order-line level visibility throughout the entire manufacturing process.
- Synchronized production scheduling, assembly, and delivery of products to customers as promised
- Customer-order-line profitability analysis
- Superior cost accounting through positive identification and tracking of all Seiban/Job related purchases, materials, and routing activities.

The Glovia Seiban Solution

glovia.com incorporates the Seiban principle within a larger resource planning application that can coexist, and is fully integrated with, traditional MPS and MRP approaches. This tool, called PRP, is designed to track Seibans, jobs, projects or contracts, gathering all related costs into a defined manner and making status, progress, and projected customer delivery information readily available.

The Glovia Seiban Workbench facilitates all management and maintenance of Seiban-related parts, orders, and activities. It provides a set of tools to:

- Establish initial dates based on order, contract, or project dates
- Generate projected supply orders
- Reconcile dates
- Plan and replan
- Process the exception messages generated (during planning and replanning) for specific demand requirements and supply orders
- Perform Impact Analysis
- Link to the online capacity check of Detail Capacity Planning (DCP)
- Link to the Glovia's Buyer Workbench
- Link to Glovia's Item Inventory On-hand Inquiry
- Link to Glovia's MRP / MPS Planning Inquiry

Glovia Seiban Benefits

The Glovia Seiban application provides many other benefits beyond quick retrieval of related information:

- The ability to plan and replan material items and service items and to manage these items through the use of Seiban identification numbers.
- The ability to perform impact analysis to see the effect of a change or potential change - because all other activities (both up and down the bill-of-material) are tightly linked to all others.
- The ability to perform detail capacity resource planning for an order.

- The ability to change the schedule for any item within the Seiban group and have the system (optionally) adjust the schedules for all other items, activities, and schedules by the same amount, keeping them in synchronization. This also applies to changes in the customer requirement or Master Schedule.
- Full integration with the Master Production Schedule (MPS) and Material Requirements Planning (MRP) meaning that Seiban planning and management work independently of, but in full coordination with the planning and management of non-Seiban items.
- The ability to track all costs associated with the Seiban and value-added activities including direct-purchased materials, work orders, services, and indirect costs.
- Improved inventory management through the ability to peg replenishments to requirements.
- Reduced inventory requirements because acquisition and replenishment can be tied directly to specific needs.
- The ability to perform multi-level planning. For material and service items, PRP explodes the associated BOM and plans the PRP items. Lower level MPS and MRP items are sent to the appropriate application (Master Production Schedule or Materials Resource Planning) for planning.

Glovia International

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