

Re: MANUFACTURING SOFTWARE

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- *From:* "Michael A. Terrell" <mike.terrell@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Joerg wrote:

Michael A. Terrell wrote:

We had three people in the stockrooms pulling all parts for each job. The parts and paperwork were put into an antistatic tray and moved in the computer from planning to production. If each assembler pulled their own parts there would have been 75 people in each other's way. ...

No problem. We had a chat about that and the individual managers agreed to keep foot traffic lean by urging their folks not to go all at once. Typically only 2-3 people from each department would actually show up in the stock room. I had a talk with the stock room clerks to see how they liked the new pulling scheme. "A lot", they said, citing mostly the absence of huge carts during a major kitting session.

That never really happened. Parts were pulled as the work orders came out of the stockroom printer, with the worst lag being one working day. Top level work orders had the days required to complete each job, and the MRP system generated each days run of lower level work orders. The work orders were printed by stock number, so one person could fill all the similar orders at once. On the rare occasion they got behind, one of the people in incoming inspection would help for a couple hours. All the carts were lined up in the order they were needed, and only a couple hours work at a time. Then someone from planning would take a couple empty carts and trade them for ones loaded with work orders that were ready for Assembly. We had about 200 carts and 25 "Mules"