

2 - Push and Pull Systems

These are approaches to production that control the way manufacturing activities are planned. Push systems are forecast driven. They push materials to the next level of production irrespective of time and availability of resources needed to perform the work. Pull systems are order driven, where materials are pulled to the next level only against orders.

Push-based systems

A demand forecast from marketing sets the basis for aggregate planning. This results in the master production schedule (MPS), a detailed schedule of how production would be taken up product-wise. The detailed material requirements plan (MRP) is computed considering the bill of materials (BOM), inventory data and capacity. The MRP engine releases purchase orders to suppliers and work orders to the production floor. Materials procured from the raw materials warehouse are routed and pushed through work centers to produce finished products.

