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# Decision support models for production ramp-up: a systematic literature review

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Pages 6637-6651 | Received 27 Feb 2015, Accepted 11 Jun 2015, Published online: 15 Jul 2015

 Cite this article  <https://doi.org/10.1080/00207543.2015.1064185>



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## Abstract

Production ramp-up is a critical step in the life cycle of a new product, and efficiently managing ramp-ups is a key to business success and market leadership. To support the planning of ramp-ups in practice, researchers have developed decision support models in the past that help to solve problems that arise during the ramp-up phase, such as lot sizing, the assignment of workers to workplaces or the determination of the capacity of the production equipment. Decision support models for production ramp-up typically consider the specific characteristics of this phase, such as uncertainty, growth in demand, worker learning or imperfect production processes. The aim of this paper is to provide a comprehensive overview of decision support models for production ramp-up and to identify areas where more research is needed. First, the paper develops a conceptual framework of production ramp-up by categorising typical planning problems and process characteristics of the ramp-up phase. Secondly, a systematic literature

review with a focus on mathematical planning models for the ramp-up phase is conducted. The analysis shows that various decision support models that help to realise an efficient production ramp-up exist, but that there are still many opportunities for future research in this area.

Keywords:

- ramp-up
- production start-up
- decision support models
- systematic literature review

## Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

## Acknowledgement

The authors are grateful to the anonymous reviewers for their constructive comments that helped to improve an earlier version of this paper.

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