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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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