# Process automation MES systems

BS UNI studies, Fall semester 2024/2025

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# MES Systems (Manufacturing Execution Systems)

- Key Points: MES systems manage and control production processes in real-time.
  - They bridge the gap between business systems (like ERP) and operational systems (like SCADA/PLCs).
  - MES improves production efficiency, traceability, and quality.
  - Typical functions include production scheduling, inventory tracking, and quality management.
  - Integration with ERP systems allows seamless flow of information across production and business processes.

### Needs

#### Customers:

Demand top-quality products.

#### Manufacturers:

All can afford good tools.

#### Where are the challenges?

- High adaptability.
- Product variety.
- Short delivery times.
- High reliability of deliveries.

### • Consequence of getting closer to the customer:

Increased costs.

### Needs

#### Market Response

- Connectivity
  - Increased collaboration between manufacturers (globalization).
  - Purchasing simple components on the market, specializing in high-value segments.

#### Dynamics

- Large fluctuations in the market due to the rapid spread of information.
- Customers quickly change their habits.

#### Individualization

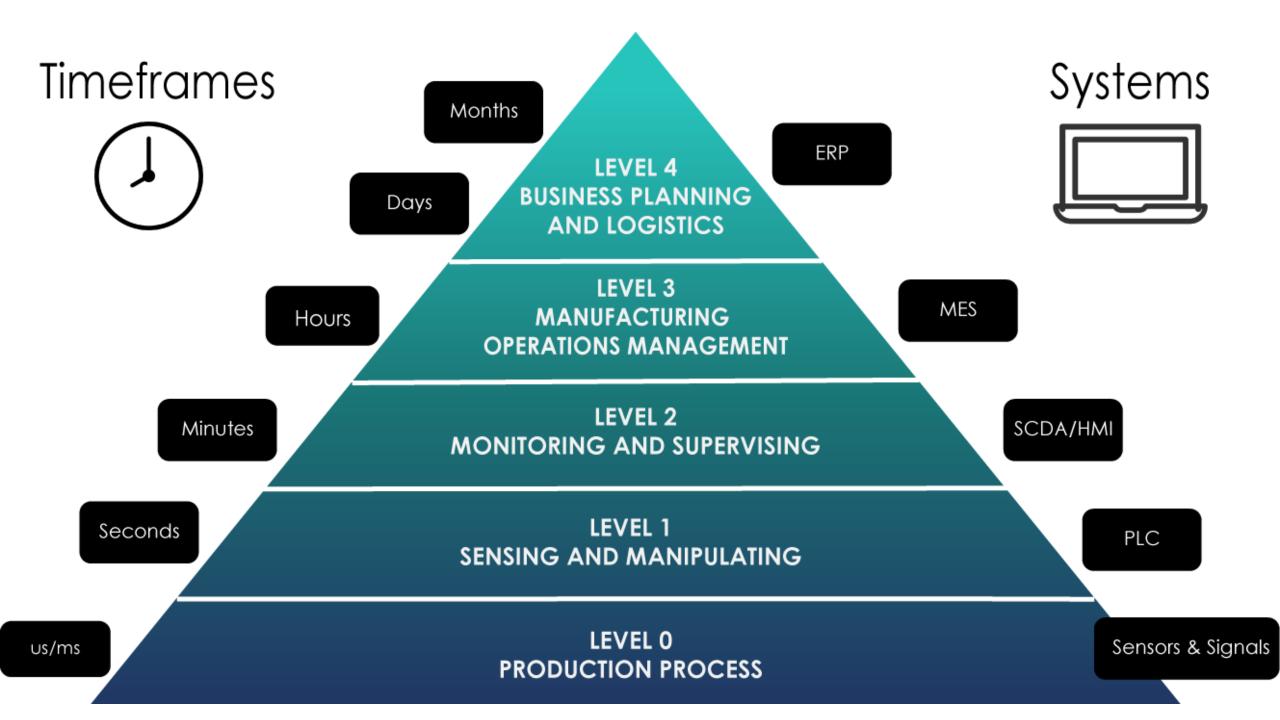
- Customers require products tailored to their needs.
- Results in a much greater variety of products.

#### The above reasons lead to:

- Increased complexity of production systems.
- Greater risks.

#### Standardization of Integration

- 1980: CIM (Computer-Integrated Manufacturing).
- 1990: MES (Manufacturing Execution System).



### Standard ISA95

- Separation of Business and Production Processes
- Definition of Integrating Functions
  - Between business and production systems.
  - Between production systems themselves.
- Specification of Information for Exchange
- Improvement of Production System Integration by Defining:
  - Terminology.
  - Data structures.
  - Most common process models.
  - Transactions.
- Identification of Standard Integration Points



### Standard ISA95

#### Hierarchy of Levels:

- Level 4: Business Planning & Logistics
  - Plant production scheduling, operational management, etc.
  - ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) for enterprise resource planning.
- Level 3: Manufacturing Operations & Control
  - Dispatching production, detailed production scheduling, reliability assurance.
  - MES (Manufacturing Execution System) for production management.
- Levels 2, 1, 0: Control Systems
  - Continuous Control, Batch Control, Discrete Control.
  - SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system + HMI (Human-Machine Interface)
    + PLC (Programmable Logic Controllers) + measuring and execution components + basic technology.

#### Interfaces:

- Interface addressed in ISA 95.01 & 95.02 (linking Levels 4 and 3).
- Model addressed in ISA 95.03 (detailed modeling within Level 3).

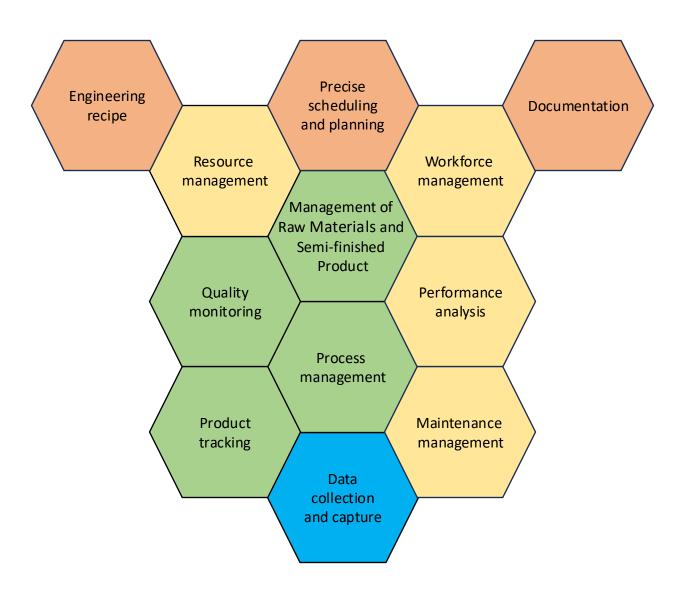
## MES functionality

Engineering

Tools

Products

Production process data



## MES functionality (1)

### **Data Collection and Capture**

- Monitoring, collecting, and organizing data about processes, materials, and commands
- Collecting and storing data from production systems (manual, automated)
- Displaying equipment and process status in real-time
- Reviewing past events (archive)

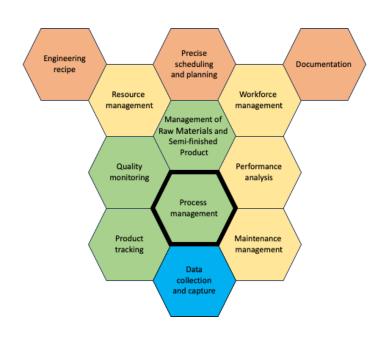




## MES functionality (2)

#### **Process Management**

- These functions focus on:
  - Managing machines and equipment
  - Linking operations between machines (sequential operations)
- Directing workflow according to planned and actual production activities
- Managing the production flow:
  - Tasks, orders, packages
  - Assigning tasks to specific production units
  - Sequencing tasks, with the ability to adjust order and priority (within allowable limits and resource availability)



# MES functionality (2)

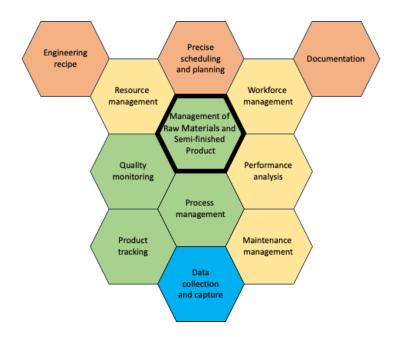
#### **Process Management**

- Monitoring production with automatic corrections (decision process improvement and enhancement).
- Alarm management:
  - Alerts personnel when a process goes outside acceptable tolerances.
- Monitoring the amount of work completed in the process, including correction or re-manufacturing if necessary.



# MES functionality (3)

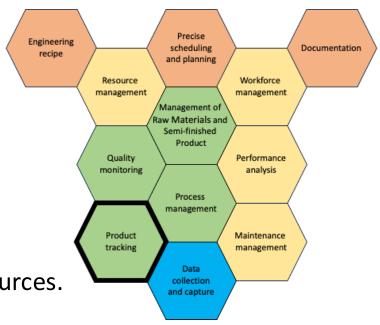
- Management of Raw Materials and Semi-Finished Products
  - Issuing commands for the movement of raw materials and semi-finished products.
  - Signaling work units to start production.



# MES functionality (4)

### **Tracking Products**

- Monitoring the status of orders and units.
- Creating a complete production history.
- Monitoring and tracking individual products:
  - Identifiers: order, package, product, supplier, revision, resources.
- These details must be accessible in cases of:
  - Defective quality, process changes, or identifying comparable products.
  - Recording information to allow tracking of semi-finished goods in final products.



# MES functionality (5)

#### **Monitoring Quality**

#### Recording/Analyzing:

- Properties of raw materials (incoming inspection).
- Products (outgoing inspection).
- Processes according to defined requirements.

#### Real-Time Analysis:

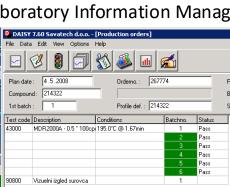
- Ensuring proper quality monitoring.
- Identifying problems that require special attention.

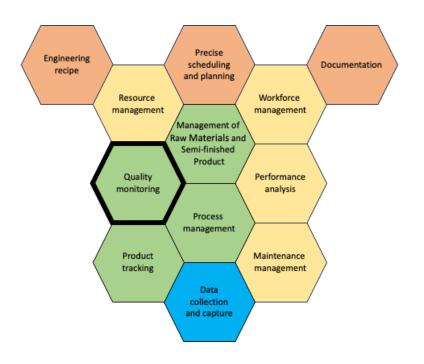
#### Recommending Corrections:

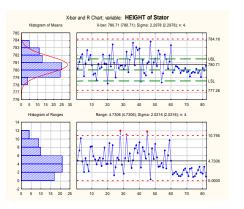
- Precisely determining the cause.
- Tracking correlations between symptoms, actions, and outcomes.

#### Statistical Quality Control:

- For raw materials and products: integration with LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System).
- Key metrics:
  - Average, standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ), process capability (Cp).
  - Cp = (USL-LSL)/ $6\sigma$  (minimum of 2).
  - U/LSL: Upper/Lower Specification Limit.







## MES functionality (6)

#### **Resource Management**

- Machines, tools, materials, other equipment, documentation, etc.
- Real-time status of resources.
- Reservation of resources based on scheduling and planning needs.
- Ensures equipment is properly configured for production.
- Tracks detailed history of resource usage.



## MES functionality (7)

#### **Workforce Management**

- Monitoring and guiding operators based on qualifications, work patterns, and business needs.
- Determining attendance and real-time status of personnel.
- Interaction with resource allocation to optimize tasks.
- Scheduling attendance based on needs.
- Precisely determining active work time/break time.
- Tracking worker or team performance for incentives.



## MES functionality (8)

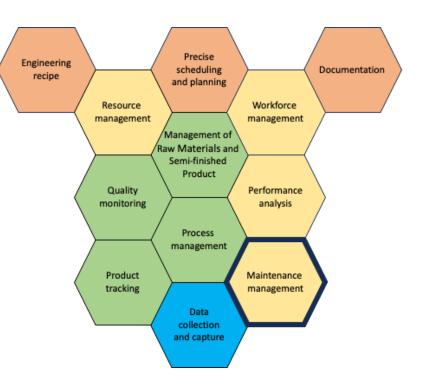
#### **Maintenance Management**

- **Planning and executing activities** necessary for maintaining equipment and tools in the factory.
- Ensuring the availability of tools and equipment.
- Scheduling and planning preventive inspections of equipment, as well as responding to unexpected issues.

• Archiving errors and their analysis for better diagnostics and faster resolution of problems

(predictive maintenance).





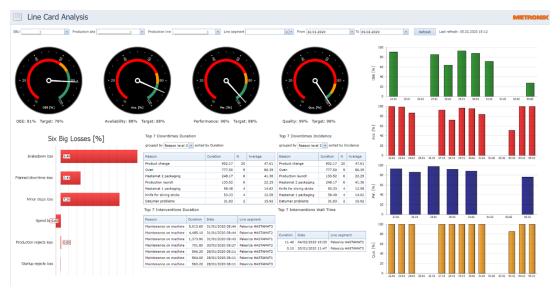
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# MES functionality (9)

#### **Performance Analysis**

- Comparison of measured production results with set goals.
- Aggregation of collected data:
  - Production cost,
  - Manufacturing time (cycle time),
  - Resource utilization,
  - Alignment with the plan,
  - Statistical analysis/control,
  - Line availability (MTBF, tool change time),
  - How much is missing to reach theoretical capacity limits.
- Comparison of current and historical values.
- Immediate notifications:
  - Employee motivation.



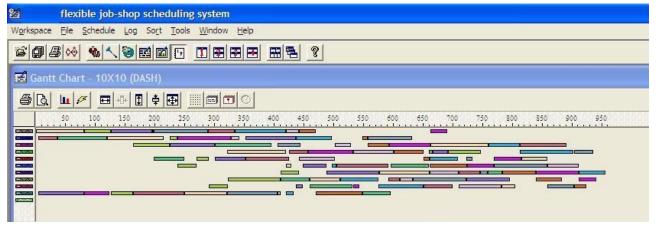


# MES functionality (10)

#### **Detailed Scheduling and Planning**

- Optimization of production.
- **Determining the sequence and timing** of activities, considering resource capacity.
- For **production line setup**, the following must be considered:
  - Priorities,
  - Equipment: characteristics, features, and rules (sequence),
  - Product features: shapes, colors, etc.
- Good task scheduling must recognize:
  - Overlaps and parallel operations
  - Alternative possibilities.
- Feedback loop.
- Ability to adjust plans based on the state of equipment and resources.



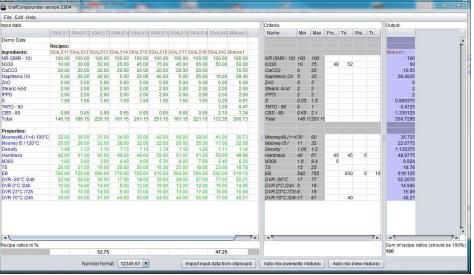


## MES functionality (11)

### Recipe Engineering

- Mapping orders to a detailed list of tasks required to manufacture the product.
- Version control for recipes.
- Finding similarities between recipes.
- Optimization: improving and cost reduction.





# MES functionality (12)

#### **Documentation**

- Managing information about products, processes, and orders.
- **Keeping records and forms** for traceability purposes:
  - Raw materials, intermediates, products, equipment.
  - Work instructions, recipes, drawings, standard procedures, changes.
- Maintaining current valid documents and forms:
  - Operators can use them as guides during production processes.
- Communication during changes.
- Control and integrity of regulations:
  - Environment, health, safety, corrective actions.





# Example: pharma industry

## Advantages of using MES

#### **Better Utilization of Production Capacities:**

- Reduced production lead times
- Lower inventory levels
- Reduced preparation and production costs
- Decreased waste

#### **Products:**

- Flexible production
- Improved quality
- Accurate delivery times
- Traceability

#### **Data Analytics:**

- Data consistency (no manual entries)
- Process optimization
- Analysis of losses

### MES Tools

#### Manufacturers:

- Enterprise Information Systems
  - Modules for SAP R3
- Supervisory Systems
  - Technomatix (Siemens)
- Independent Solutions
  - MePIS (Metronik)
  - LIMES (Litostroj)
  - Zenon (COPA-DATA)
- Most functionalities are not fully supported
- Configuration:
  - Similar to supervisory systems

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