



EWM FOR PLANT SCENARIO



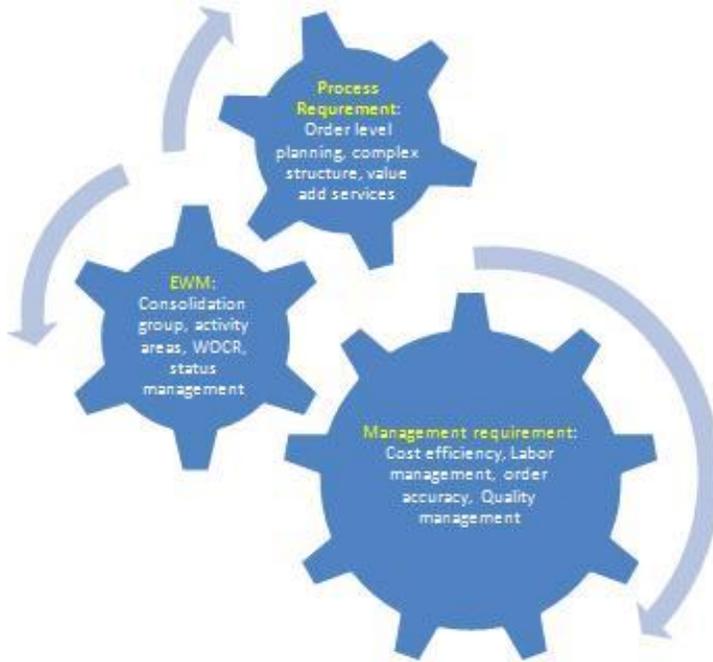
INTRODUCTION

The Warehouse Management solutions are traditionally used for granular level tracking of inventory and assisting inbound and outbound processes. EWM was rolled out to improve this solution for higher inventory turnover, multi geographical landscape of the system and complex warehouse processes. But our recent experience with EWM project, gave us an insight on how useful is EWM in assisting the Production process. First, let us understand why warehousing is important from the manufacturer's perspective.

In a repetitive manufacturing scenario, the on time availability is an important factor in success of assembly line production. But in specialized industries like Aerospace, it has very different and unique requirements.

1. The aero assemble parts are high value parts, which demand high level of stock accuracy.
2. The warehouse structure is highly complex than a normal warehouse. There are wide ranges of sizes of components, integrated electronic parts, specialized components that need controlled temperature storage etc. This is a challenging structure to be mapped during the organizational setup for system integration.
3. Business critical operations are carried out within warehouse, before the parts are sent to assembly e.g. electrostatic tests, stress test.
4. Stock quality is utmost important. If there is a small failure on field for any component, stock for that batch is purged from every location. Even if it is half assembled, it has to be removed from there. This requires detailed tracking of each part, process to purge it and send for rapid testing zone.
5. Every plane has its unique demand. So the warehouse process, picking and consumption have to be planned as per the model of aircraft. Owing to varied sizes and component characteristics, the picking strategies have complex logic.

These are few of the unique challenges that make this Industry stand apart from auto or retail Industry in terms of its business lifecycle. EWM may act as a gear between the process requirements and the Management objectives to offer an effective solution.



In the next part, we will discuss on the details of the EWM solution.

In the last part, we discussed about the different unique requirements of warehousing for specialized industries like Aerospace. This industry also faces some unique challenges which stand apart from Auto or Retail industry in terms of its business lifecycle.

1. EWM offers multiple BADIs that are useful in transferring the order critical parameters from Production order to Warehousing documents. This information can be effectively used in planning the picking, and value added activities within warehouse.
2. EWM specific features like consolidation group and activity area definitions can be intelligently leveraged upon, during warehouse order creation rules (WOCR), to optimize the warehouse operations. This is an advantage over other WM solutions.
3. When business wants to track the value adding activities within warehouse in detail, for efficient labor management, the VAS order process is an efficient way of doing this.
4. The process oriented and layout oriented control helps us closely map the business processes in the system. Exception handling at every step can be configured to suit the business response for such situations.
5. Stock identification during picking, would help us track the stock closely till it is issued. Batch/ Serial number management, with its integration to picking logic gives us a huge flexibility for product tracking and damage control during quality issues at any stage.
6. The central warehouse monitor acts as a cockpit for supervisor to control each and every activity within warehouse.

7. The post processing framework adds huge automation to the process, which also offers a unique power to handle the subsequent transactions with condition technique.

So what are the business benefits and how it is useful compared to other WM solution?

This only proves the dynamic applications that EWM can handle effectively. Understanding of the Industry processes and effective utilization of standard offerings of EWM can result into huge business value addition. Business process mapping close to real life Industry scenarios makes EWM a user friendly solution. EWM scores high on following points;

1. Seamless integration with SAP Production process and production critical data in SAP.
2. Flexibility in mapping complex processes through off the shelf solution, reducing the cost of ownership.
3. Close integration with Labor management at process and task level, which enables the management to gather data at granular level. This gives a higher control on the labor efforts management.
4. User friendly monitoring and alert system, with efficient exception handling, can save organization from overheads of additional labor for tracking. This also ensures that right stock with right quality is present at right time!

In conclusion, I feel that the EWM is equally effective for specialized industries with lesser inventory turnover, as compared to the Auto or retail Industry with huge order numbers. Large manufacturing firms can explore EWM as a suitable solution.



Stellium Inc.

10700, Richmond Avenue, Ste # 208, Houston, TX 77042, USA

T: 713-999-9080 | F: +1-832-849-1197

Stellium Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.

First Floor, Ferns Icon, Outer Ring Road, Doddanekundi

Marathahalli, Bangalore - 560 037, India.

T: +91 80 4922 4400 | F: +91 80 4922 4411

askus@stelliuminc.com