



The Eton Systems Philosophy – what you see is less than you get

There are numerous production philosophies available to industries in all segments. When you as a leader in a producing company need to choose path, a lot of questions arise. After reading this document, we hope that you will have at least a few more answers.

Lean production, Kanban, Kaizen, Six Sigma etc. are all pull philosophies. Pull is dominant in modern day production, almost regardless of what product is produced. Main take-aways from pull systems are reduced work-in-progress and better control throughout the value-adding process.

A few decades ago, Toyota introduced Lean production to the world. Lean is a pull philosophy which purpose is to reduce waste in production. Waste in time, material, personnel, material, and so on. It's an easy philosophy to understand and most often see the benefits. However, it's easier said than done to incorporate in your production.

The results are many companies tend to focus on but a few issues. Too many cannot see the bigger picture. The investment is large as well. It is important to be able to see a clear improvement in operations to be able to stand up straight in the boardroom.

Almost all our partners have seen return on investment in 24 months or faster. A few even reached ROI in 3 months. The timeline depends on your starting point.

The philosophy you choose to incorporate in your production often depends on what symptoms you experience. If your sole purpose is to reduce waste, then Lean will probably be your choice. Lots of bottle-necks? Then theory of constraints will probably play a big role in your choice.

Instead of choosing one production philosophy that suits your business today. We suggest that you start thinking about abilities you need to maintain a modern and effective production in the long run.

Below we've listed some of the more frequent abilities our partners are looking for.

Do more with less

Utilize space – We've worked with production lines for many years. One of the most common reasons we get in contact with our customer is lack of space. Companies plan for expansion of their factory because they need to increase output or shorter time to delivery. When we visit these industries, we can often find ways to better utilize the layout of the factory. We realize that one size never fits all. Therefore, we will always perform an extensive study to figure out how to help YOUR production.

Transparency

An Eton System runs on our own software. This gives us the best possibilities for tailoring our solution to each individual partner – regardless of what type of production you run. We will make sure that the correct information reaches other vital systems to ensure that our partners can maintain an overview at all times. Our software is ready to be integrated with other business critical information systems. To make sure that you have the best solution – **for you**.

Traceability leads to control

All Eton Systems carriers have an RFID tag which allows for complete traceability for each unit that is going through your value-adding processes. You will be able to follow progress for each unique unit. This also means that you will be able to identify bottlenecks – and redirect material flow to maintain optimum output. We acknowledge that productivity may vary from day to day, for a number of reasons. Temporary staff covering for absentee colleagues to mention one. Therefore, we made it easy to control and manage material flow.

Buffer zones

Do you need to secure delivery capacity? Do you need a work-in-progress inventory? WIP inventory is always a cost, but in many cases it makes sense. Some of your customers might even demand that you keep a certain percentage of capacity in storage.

Inventory requires space. Space that might be hard to come by in a modern production facility. Floor space is scarce and extensive planning is often required to maintain a productive facility. So, why not keep the inventory on your production line? With the Eton System's buffer zone, you can keep inventory in the space above. And whenever you need a certain product, you just address the carrier's RFID tag and bring the material to the workstation you want.





Sequencing

Modern and efficient productions are driven by customer demand. The Eton System is designed to ensure that you can produce the products that are in demand at the right time. Buffer zones and loading stations are available to give you the ability to keep complete control of sequencing units in production. What this means in different industries differ a bit.

In an industrial setting you can produce any number of different products in the same production line. Let the Eton System take care of transporting products in the correct sequence. To the right workstation. At the right time. This also allows you to reduce use of forklifts and also lower risk of damaging materials.

In Garment production the Unit Production System allows you to create individually tailored garments to customers. With no set up time. After the fabrics are cut, all pieces to a specific garment are loaded in the same carrier. No more bundles. With this production system you can manage the sequence in which every individual garment is being created. From cutting to delivery.

Ergonomics

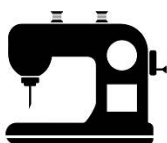
Work related injuries happen far too often. We should aim to give the best possible foundation for all our employees to have a long professional career. Free from injuries and pain, related to monotonous movements at work. If we focus on these problem areas, we will see a decrease in absence from work, both in the long and short run.

Products might not always be heavy or bulky. But repeated movements in positions that are putting stress on the body will eventually take its toll. Eton Systems is designed to help. Since all systems are designed to fit your production process, an optimal working position is included in our offering.

Just In Time

A key to higher productivity is to continuously have the right materials available, at the right time. A JIT management strategy strives to ensure that raw-materials to a specific product are delivered to a machine specific machine or operator at the right time. The Eton System and UPS automates this for you. Allowing your operators to focus on performing the value-adding tasks and perfecting operations. Companies apply these ideas to their production to increase productivity and reduce waste. Why shouldn't you?

The Eton System is designed to solve as many production problems as possible. At the same time. Do you want to know how your production can benefit from an Eton System?



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