

**MODELING OF AUDIO SYSTEM ASSEMBLY LINE ACTIVITIES USING
SIMULATION**

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fulfillment of the requirements for the degree
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ABSTRACT

The manufacturing sector has become an essential sector in Malaysia. This sector needs to be efficient and sound in facing great competition. Reducing costs will ensure that manufacturing companies remain competitive in the market. This study was conducted in a manufacturing company that produces audio systems by using simulation technique. Simulation technique would help the management team in making the right decisions. The objectives of the study are to identify the problems arising in the system and to forecast the throughput based on several scenarios. The aim of these scenarios is to see the system performance. System performance is determined by looking at total output and cycle time. Besides that, the percentage of resource utilization, waiting time and queue time is also taken into consideration. After that, three scenarios were built in order to see the performance of the system after the throughputs are increased. ARENA@ software was used in modeling the system.

Keywords: Simulation, Manufacturing Systems, System Performance, Assembly Line

ABSTRAK

Sektor pembuatan merupakan sektor yang semakin penting di Malaysia. Persaingan yang hebat menyebabkan sektor ini perlu lebih efisien dan mantap dalam urusan pengurusan. Kos pembuatan perlu dikurangkan supaya dapat bersaing di pasaran. Kajian menggunakan teknik simulasi dijalankan di sebuah kilang mengeluarkan sistem audio. Teknik simulasi dapat membantu pihak pengurusan membuat keputusan yang lebih efisien. Objektif kajian ialah untuk mengenalpasti masalah yang terdapat di dalam sistem dan meramalkan output berdasarkan beberapa senario. Senario dijalankan untuk menguji keupayaan sistem. Keupayaan sistem ditentukan dengan melihat kepada nilai hasil dan kitaran masa. Di samping itu, peratusan penggunaan sumber, masa menunggu dan bilangan menunggu juga diambil kira. Kemudian, tiga senario dibangunkan untuk melihat keupayaan sistem apabila nilai output ditambah. Model ini dibina menggunakan perisian ARENA?

Kata Kunci: Simulasi, Sistem Pembuatan, Keupayaan Sistem, *Assembly Line*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Pages
PERMISSION TO USE	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF TABLES	viii
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem Statement	3
1.3 Objectives of Study	4
1.4 Method of Analysis	5
1.5 Scope of Study	5
1.6 Significance of the Study	6
1.7 Thesis Outline	6
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURES REVIEW	
2.1 Introduction	8
2.2 Simulation Modeling	9
2.3 Simulation Manufacturing	13
2.4 Benefits of Simulation Modeling	19
2.5 Pitfalls of Simulation Modeling	20
CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY AND PLANT LAYOUT	
3.1 Introduction	21
3.2 Phases in Simulation Study	22
3.2.1 Project Definition	22
3.2.1.1 Establish Objectives	22
3.2.1.2 Scope and Level of Detail	23
3.2.1.3 Data Collection	23
3.2.2 Model Building and Testing	24
3.2.2.1 Structuring the Model	24
3.2.2.2 Model Building	25
3.2.2.3 Model Verification	25
3.2.2.4 Model Validation	25
3.2.3 Experimentation	26
3.2.4 Project Completion	27
3.2.4.1 Documentation	27
3.2.4.2 Results Presentation	27
3.2.4.3 Implementation	27
3.3 Analysis Method	28
3.4 Plant Layout	29
3.4.1 Combining Front	31
3.4.2 Bottom Chassis Combine	31
3.4.3 General Inspection	32

3.4.4	Final Combining	32
3.4.5	Final Inspection	32
3.4.6	Finishing	33
3.4.7	Packing	33
CHAPTER 4: INPUT ANALYSIS AND MODEL DEVELOPMENT		
4.1	Introduction	35
4.2	General Information	36
4.3	Data Analysis	36
4.3.1	Combining Front	37
4.3.2	Bottom Chassis Combine	38
4.3.3	General Inspection	40
4.3.4	Final Combining	42
4.3.5	Final Inspection	43
4.3.6	Finishing	44
4.3.7	Packing	45
4.4	Model Development	47
4.5	ARENA® Software	47
4.5.1	ARENA® Modules	48
CHAPTER 5: MODEL GOODNESS		
5.1	Introduction	51
5.2	Model Verification	51
5.2.1	Model Verification via Performance Analysis	52
5.3	Model Validation	61
5.4	Output Analysis	62
5.4.1	Plant Throughput	63
5.4.2	Cycle Time	63
5.4.3	Resource Utilization	63
5.4.4	Waiting Time and Queue Length	64
CHAPTER 6: MODEL EXPERIMENTATION		
6.1	Introduction	65
6.2	Experimental Design	65
6.2.1	Scenario 1	66
6.2.2	Scenario 2	68
6.2.3	Scenario 3	69
CHAPTER 7: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION		
7.1	Conclusions	71
7.2	Discussions and Recommendation	72
REFERENCES		74
APPENDIX		76

LIST OF FIGURES

		Pages
Figure 3.1	Plant Layouts	30
Figure 4.3.1 (a)	Cst Mecha Assembly	37
Figure 4.3.1 (b)	Fixing Cst Mecha to Front Cab	37
Figure 4.3.1 (c)	Pass CD Changer/Top Cab/Side Cab	37
Figure 4.3.2 (a)	Breaking PWB	39
Figure 4.3.2 (b)	Combine Display PWB	39
Figure 4.3.2 (c)	Screw Display PWB	39
Figure 4.3.2 (d)	Button Click Sound	39
Figure 4.3.3 (a)	Tuner to Tape Record	41
Figure 4.3.3 (b)	CD Spring to Tape Record	41
Figure 4.3.3 (c)	MP3 Inspection	41
Figure 4.3.4 (a)	Side Cab Combine L/R	42
Figure 4.3.4 (b)	Top Cab Combine	42
Figure 4.3.5 (a)	Tape Inspection	43
Figure 4.3.5 (b)	Tuner Inspection	43
Figure 4.3.6 (a)	Accessories Preparation	45
Figure 4.3.6 (b)	Finishing Goods	45
Figure 4.3.7 (a)	Packing 1	46
Figure 4.3.7 (b)	Packing 2	46
Figure 4.3.7 (c)	Packing 3	46

LIST OF TABLES

	Pages
Table 4.1 Distributions for Combining Front	38
Table 4.2 Distributions for Bottom Chassis Combine	40
Table 4.3 Distributions for General Inspection	41
Table 4.4 Distributions for Final Combining	42
Table 4.5 Distributions for Final Inspection	44
Table 4.6 Distributions for Finishing	45
Table 4.7 Distributions for Packing	46
Table 5.1(a) Estimator Yield for Combining Front	54
Table 5.1(b) Estimator Yield for Bottom Chassis Combine	54
Table 5.1(c) Estimator Yield for General Inspection	55
Table 5.1(d) Estimator Yield for Final Combining	55
Table 5.1(e) Estimator Yield for Final Inspection	56
Table 5.1(f) Estimator Yield for Finishing	56
Table 5.1(g) Estimator Yield for Packing	57
Table 5.2(a) Values for Combining Front using Little's formula	58
Table 5.2(b) Values for Bottom Chassis Combine using Little's formula	59
Table 5.2(c) Values for General Inspection using Little's formula	60
Table 5.2(d) Values for Final Combining using Little's formula	60
Table 5.2(e) Values for Final Inspection using Little's formula	60
Table 5.2(f) Values for Finishing using Little's formula	61

Table 5.2(g)	Values for Packing using Little's formula	61
Table 6.1	Resource Utilization, Waiting Time and Queue length for Scenario 1	67
Table 6.2	Resource Utilization, Waiting Time and Queue length for Scenario 2	69
Table 6.3	Resource Utilization, Waiting Time and Queue length for Scenario 3	70

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

Malaysia, once known as an agricultural country has now been transformed into an industrialized country, with more than one-third of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) emanating from the manufacturing sector. Since 1987, manufacturing has overtaken agriculture as the leading growth sector of the economy. In terms of exports, manufacturing provides about 80% of Malaysia's total trading, and is now the engine of growth for the economy (www.matrade.gov.my). It has become the main agenda of the manufacturing sector to produce cost effective products so as to stay competitive in business. One of the actions taken is to increase efficiency at production lines and encourage greater productivity. Simulation is a technology that could lead to the achievement of this aim.

Simulation is one of the most powerful tools available to decision-makers responsible for the design and operation of complex processes and systems (Shannon, 1998). The idea of simulation applies to many fields of study such as manufacturing, medical, business and economy. One of the largest application areas for simulation modeling is that of manufacturing systems, with the first uses dating

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