

JUST IN TIME (JIT)

By V.Ryan

'Just in Time' is a system based on efficient organisation, from receiving a customer order, the manufacture of the product on the production line and finally distribution. This system is often called 'lean manufacture'. Just in Time relies on a good, efficient working relationship between the supplier / suppliers, the manufacturer, through to transportation and distribution. If one of the links is inefficient, the entire system slows or fails, leading ultimately to customer dissatisfaction.

JIT - BASIC STAGES

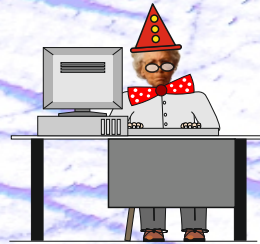
When an order for a batch of products arrives at the manufacturing company, it is dealt with quickly and processed by administrative staff.

Materials / components are ordered from a supplier or suppliers. Contractual agreements between the supplier and manufacturer, ensure that they arrive at the manufacturing plant within twenty four hours (or sooner).

As soon as the materials / components arrive, they are processed on the production line, so that the batch is manufactured without delay.

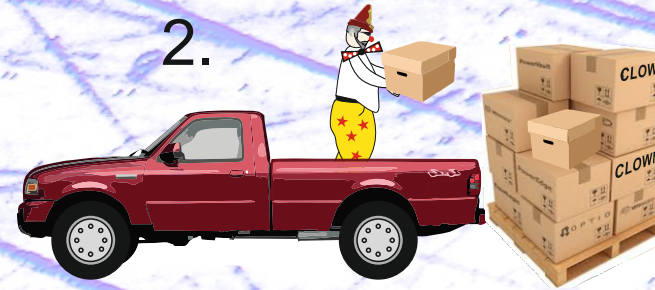
When the batch of products is ready, distribution to the customer takes place. Distribution is often subcontracted to a haulage company.

1.



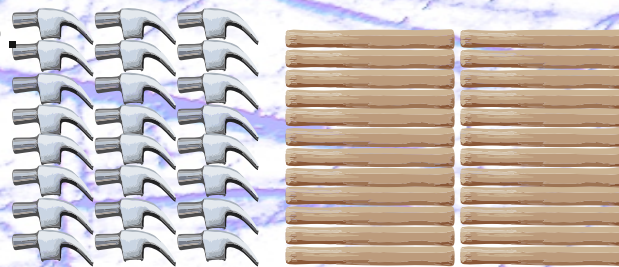
CUSTOMER ORDERS A BATCH OF PRODUCTS - COMPANY ORDERS QUANTITY OF PARTS/MATERIALS EQUAL TO NUMBER OF PRODUCTS REQUIRED

2.



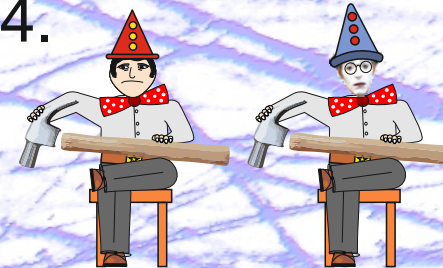
THE CORRECT NUMBER OF PARTS / MATERIALS ARRIVE AND UNLOADED

3.



PARTS/MATERIALS STORED FOR SHORT TIME UNTIL REQUIRED FOR THE PRODUCTION LINE

4.



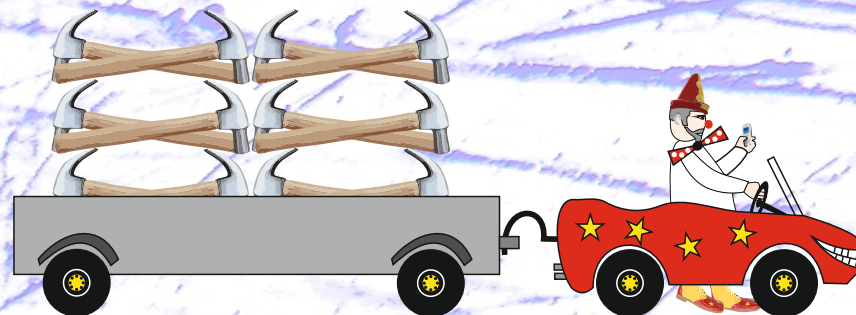
PARTS ASSEMBLED ON THE PRODUCTION LINE SHORTLY AFTER THEY ARRIVE IN STORAGE

5.



ASSEMBLED PRODUCT READY FOR DISTRIBUTION

6.



FINISHED PRODUCT DISTRIBUTED SOON AFTER ASSEMBLY

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