

DIGITAL INDUSTRIES SOFTWARE

Plant Simulation Foundation

Simulate, visualize, analyze and optimize production systems and logistics processes

Benefits

- Improves productivity of existing facilities
- Reduces investment in planning of new facilities
- Decreases inventory and throughput time
- Optimizes system dimensions, including buffer sizes
- Lowers investment risks through early proof of concept
- Maximizes manufacturing resource utilization

Summary

Plant Simulation in the Tecnomatix portfolio is part of the Siemens Xcelerator portfolio, the comprehensive and integrated portfolio of software, hardware and services. Plant Simulation Foundation is software to enable the modeling, simulation, visualization, analysis and optimization of production systems and logistics processes. Using Plant Simulation Foundation enables you to optimize material flow, resource utilization and logistics for all levels of plant planning, from global facilities and local plants to specific production lines.

In times of increasing cost and time pressures in production along with ongoing globalization, logistics is a key factor in a company's success. The need to deliver on time and in sequence, introduce lean manufacturing principles, plan and build new, sustainable production facilities and manage global production networks requires objective decision criteria to help management evaluate and compare alternative approaches.

Features

- Create simulation models (up to 500 objects) for experimentation and optimization of production systems by changing object parameters and importing data
- Graphical outputs for analysis of throughput, resource utilization, automatic bottleneck detection, Sankey diagrams and statistics
- Energy analysis tools for calculating and optimizing energy usage
- 3D online visualization and animation based on the ISO-standard JT format

Plant Simulation Foundation helps create digital models of logistics systems so you can explore system characteristics and optimize their performance. The digital model not only enables you to run experiments and what-if scenarios without disturbing an existing production system, but it can be used in the planning process long before the real system is installed. Extensive analysis tools, statistics and charts let you evaluate different manufacturing scenarios and make fast, reliable decisions in the early stages of production planning. Plant Simulation helps:

- Detect and eliminate problems that otherwise would require cost- and time-consuming corrective measures during production rampup
- Minimize the investment cost of production lines without jeopardizing required output
- Optimize the performance and energy usage of existing production systems by taking measures that have been verified in a simulation environment prior to implementation

Modeling and simulating manufacturing processes

Plant Simulation Foundation helps you build well-structured, hierarchical models of production facilities, lines and processes. This is achieved through powerful object-oriented architecture and modeling capabilities that enable you to create and maintain highly complex systems, including advanced control mechanisms.

The intuitive, context-sensitive ribbon menu user interface (UI) of Plant Simulation Foundation follows Microsoft UI standards, making it easy to get familiar and productive with the software quickly. Simulation models based on components from application object libraries can be dedicated to specific business processes, such as general assembly and automotive or electronic manufacturing processes. You can choose from predefined resources, order lists, operation plans and control rules.

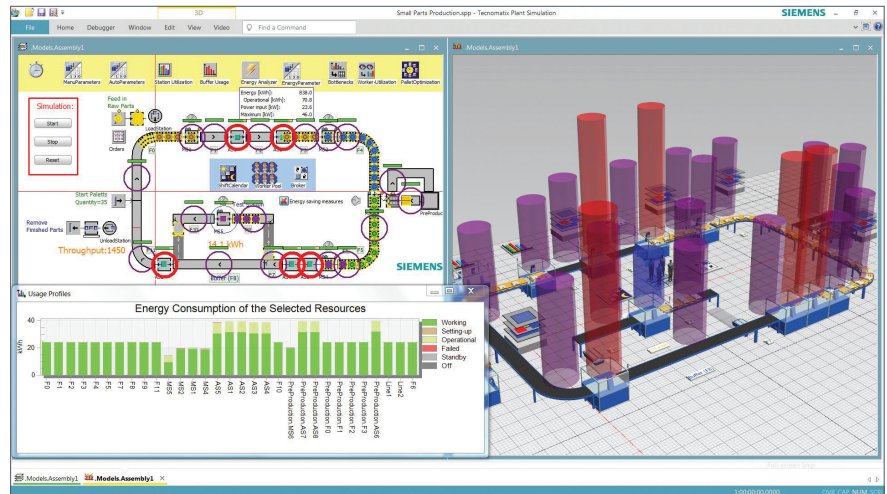
Complex and detailed simulations can be handled, understood and maintained much better than in conventional simulation tools by using Plant Simulation Foundation architectural advantages such as encapsulation, inheritance and hierarchy.

Simulating and analyzing system performance

Plant Simulation Foundation models are used to optimize throughput, relieve bottlenecks and minimize work-in-process. The simulation models take into consideration internal and external supply chains, production resources and business processes, allowing you to analyze the impact of different production variations. Statistical analysis, graphs and charts display the utilization of buffers, machines and personnel. You can use extensive statistics and charts to support dynamic analysis of performance parameters, including line workload, breakdowns, idle and repair time and proprietary key performance factors.

Model visualization

In addition to the highly efficient 2D model view of Plant Simulation Foundation, models may be visualized in a 3D virtual environment using included libraries or your own computer-aided design (CAD) data. The result is impressive 3D virtual models that are synchronized at all times by the simulation engine, allowing you the flexibility to choose the appropriate method of visualization without compromising simulation and analysis needs. Plant Simulation supports the JT™ data format for 3D visualization, an International Standards Organization (ISO) standard, and Siemens Digital Industries Software advanced graphics technology to enable efficient loading and realistic visualization of large 3D simulation models.



Context-sensitive ribbon menus and energy analysis tools make it easy to assess production system energy usage.

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