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APS system waySuite in use at **MAN Energy Solutions**

Production planning is now also AI-optimized



MAN Energy Solutions stands for the development, design, production, sales, and service of high-tech compression systems. In addition to systems for the power and chemical industries, the company's achievements include innovations such as the world's most acclaimed heat pump in Esbjerg, Denmark. The challenge for production planning: No series production, but rather many individual processes. For more

than a decade, the company has been using [valantic's advanced planning and scheduling \(APS\) system wayRTS](#). Thanks to IT-supported planning processes along the entire value chain – quotation, project management, engineering, production planning, procurement, HR planning, scheduling, supplier tracking, testing, and assembly – MAN Energy Solutions achieves exceptionally high on-time delivery rates.



Michael Budimir
Head of Bid & Order Planning,
MAN Energy Solutions Schweiz AG

“We have a large number of people, departments, and external partners involved in one product over a long period of time. Planning is complex, and deviations such as non-conformities, late deliveries or overstock or understock must be detected early and resolved quickly. The automatic optimization function significantly reduces the work we have to do.”

After supply chain problems: Search for further **optimization possibilities**

Supply chain problems necessitated a lot of replanning. The supply chain managers at MAN and valantic Supply Chain Excellence’s process and IT consultants therefore worked together to seek further optimization possibilities.

Three follow-up projects further improved planning processes:

1. AI-based automation of planning tasks
2. Workforce management with the wayWFM tool
3. Supplier cooperation with the wayCloud Platform

Automatically find and simulate solutions

Real-time simulation has always been the name-sake strength of wayRTS. It provides the ability to see instantly how actions affect backlogs, capacity bottlenecks, and inventory. Despite this important decision-making aid, planning at MAN Energy Solutions still required a lot of work. Therefore, another function of [waySuite](#) was introduced: [AI-based automation of planning tasks](#). SCM managers see great potential here, especially with regard to optimizing scenario simulations. valantic in cooperation with MAN therefore trained the AI in such a way that it correctly implements priorities for various planning horizons at MAN Energy Solutions. For example, the algorithms may overbook with varying amounts of capacity, depending on how far deadlines lie in the future. The software provides the user with comprehensible sug-

gestions and recognizes, for example, whether the increase in capacity through additional layers will also help optimize things.

This is how AI-based automation helps MAN Energy Solutions:

1. Fast, detailed simulations that enable informed make-or-buy decisions
2. Automatic clearing of backlogs
3. Recalculation of supply networks in a few minutes
4. Whitebox approach: The comprehensibility of AI suggestions increases confidence in automation as the system continues to learn



Fabian Strässle
Supply Chain Planner, MAN Energy
Solutions Schweiz AG

“Thanks to forward-looking and realistic planning, we not only improve our reliability with regard to delivery dates, but also increase our employee satisfaction.”

valantic's solution for HR capacity planning: wayWFM



When planning production capacities, MAN Energy Solutions had a weak point: Capacity planning for the availability of machines worked in principle, but it was always the case that their operation was not guaranteed at all since the planners did not have access to HR capacities. It turned out to be complex to plan with the necessary personnel because employees had different qualifications, working hours, overtime accounts, labor law requirements, vacation planning, continuing education, and sick leave. MAN Energy Solutions therefore introduced the [wayWFM HR management tool](#) at its plants in Zurich, Oberhausen, and Berlin. This waySuite component has interfaces to ERP and human resources (HR) software systems from which master data and information about the person-

nel to be deployed can be drawn. It receives capacity requirements for the workstations from wayRTS and automatically plans the personnel deployment based on this information. This way, qualifications, absences, and substitution rules are taken into account.

The benefits of staffing with wayWFM

1. People are at the heart of capacity planning
2. Scheduling of orders shows the utilization of the individual areas' labor pools
3. Complexity for supervisors and masters can be reduced
4. Better knowledge of capacities improves on-time delivery



wayCloud Platform collaboration platform

The latest project at MAN Energy Solutions was to set up the [valantic wayCloud Platform](#). It will share information from the planning system with external partners. The supplier portal for more than 1,000 suppliers unifies communication and improves transparency. Direct reporting of requirements and feedback on quantities

and deadlines makes it easier to integrate information into digital planning. Monitoring of dependent orders for pre-products and central communication of milestones for particularly complex products has further increased transparency in the supply chain.

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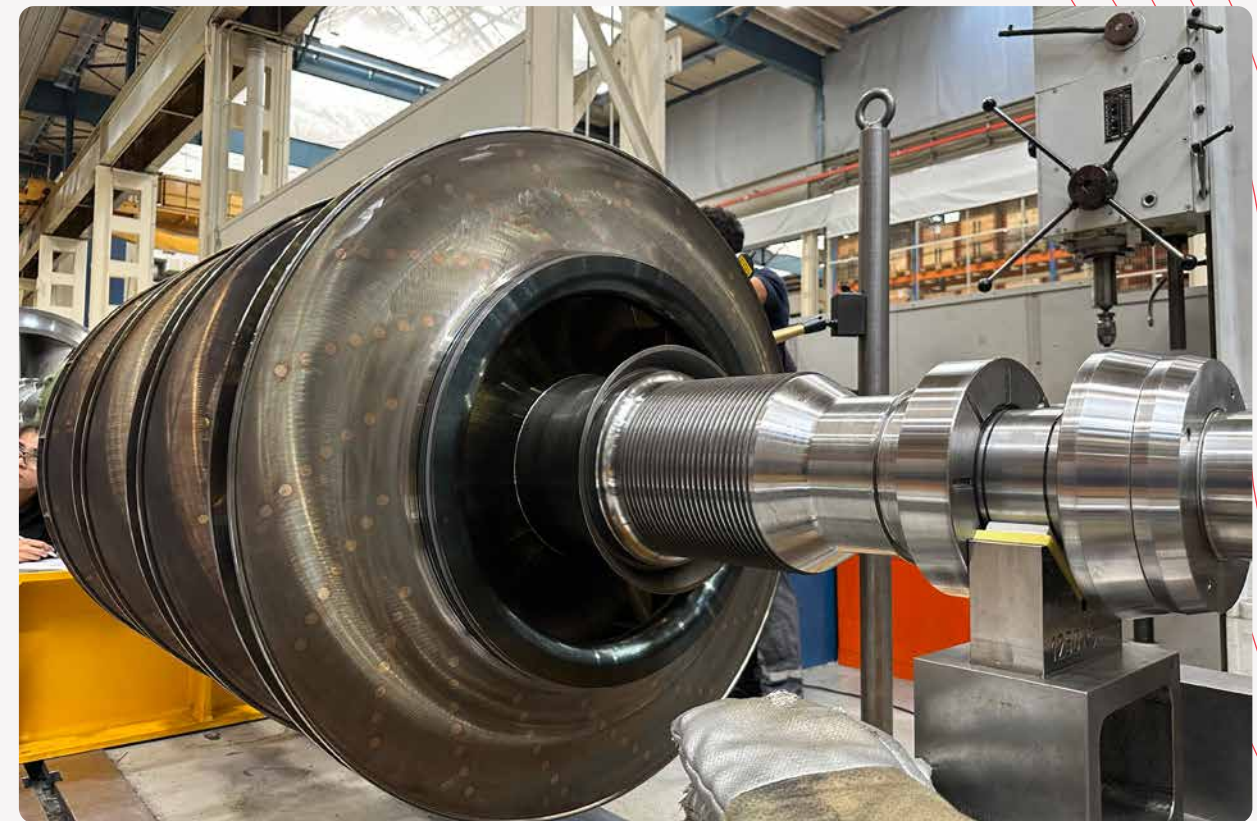
Velemir Stjepanovic
Supply Chain Planner,
MAN Energy Solutions Schweiz AG

“The needs analysis in wayRTS enables us to use resources better and in more sophisticated fashion and to optimize procurement processes, now also taking external partners directly into account. And by monitoring processing times and wait times, we have an early warning system with proactive disturbance quantity management. This makes our agile planning processes so effective.”

About MAN Energy Solutions

MAN Energy Solutions is paving the way to a climate-neutral global economy. Whether industrial production, energy or maritime economy: MAN thinks holistically and tackle tomorrow's challenges today – for sustainable value creation for the customers. The technology portfolio incorporates the experience of over 250 years of engineering tradition. MAN Energy Solutions is headquartered in Germany and employs around 14,000 people at more than 120 locations worldwide. MAN's customers also benefit from the global service center network of our after-sales brand, MAN PrimeServ.

www.man-es.com



About valantic

valantic is Number 1 for digital transformation and one of the fastest growing digital consulting, solutions and software companies on the market. valantic combines technological expertise with industry knowledge and the human touch. More than 500 blue chip clients rely on valantic, including 32 of 40 DAX companies and many leading international companies as well. With more than 4,000 specialized solution consultants and developers and net sales of approx. EUR 550 million in 2023(e), valantic is represented in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, and many additional international locations.

valantic features a unique structure, consisting of divisions, competence centers, and expert teams, which are always attuned precisely to companies' digitalization needs. From strategy to tangible realization. The company's range of services includes the areas digital strategy & analytics, customer experience, SAP services, smart industries, and financial services automation.

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