

Module 1

Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies

Term

Batch manufacturing

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

A type of manufacturing process in which sets of items are moved through the different manufacturing steps in a group or batch.

Module 1

Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies

Term

Break-even analysis

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

A study of the number of units or amount of time required to recoup an investment.

Module 1

Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies

Term

Break-even point

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The level of production or the volume of sales at which operations are neither profitable nor unprofitable; the intersection of the total revenue and total cost curves.

Module 1

Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies

Term

Capacity planning

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The process of determining the amount of capacity required to produce in the future. This process may be performed at an aggregate or product-line level [...], at the master-scheduling level [...], and at the material requirements planning level [...]. See: capacity requirements planning, resource planning, rough-cut capacity planning.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**

Capacity strategy

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

One of the strategic choices a firm must make as part of its manufacturing strategy. There are three [of these that are] commonly recognized: lead, lag, and tracking. A lead [...] strategy adds capacity in anticipation of increasing demand. A lag strategy does not add capacity until the firm is operating at or beyond full capacity. A tracking strategy adds capacity in small amounts to attempt to respond to changing demand in the marketplace.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**

Continuous manufacturing

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

A type of manufacturing process that is dedicated to the production of a very narrow range of standard products. The rate of product change and new product information is very low. Significant investment in highly specialized equipment allows for a high volume of production at the lowest manufacturing cost. Thus, unit sales volumes are very large, and price is almost always a key order-winning criterion. Examples of items produced by [this type of] process include gasoline, steel, fertilizer, glass, and paper. Syn.: continuous production.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**

Contribution margin

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

An amount equal to the difference between sales revenue and variable costs.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**

Cost-volume-profit analysis

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The study of how profits change with various levels of output and selling price.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Disintermediation

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The process of eliminating an intermediate stage or echelon in a supply chain. Total supply chain operating expense is reduced, total supply chain inventory is reduced, total cycle time is reduced, and profits among the remaining echelons are increased.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Fixed cost

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

An expenditure that does not vary with the production volume; for example, rent, property tax, and salaries of certain personnel.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Four Ps

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

A set of marketing tools to direct the business offering to the customer; include product, price, place, and promotion.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Functional strategy

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

A strategy that is built from the business strategy for various business functions such as finance, marketing, and production. See: strategic planning.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Insourcing

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

Using the firm's internal resources to provide goods and services. See: make-or-buy decision.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Job shop

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

1) An organization in which similar equipment is organized by function. Each job follows a distinct routing through the shop. 2) A type of manufacturing process used to produce items to each customer's specifications. Production operations are designed to handle a wide range of product designs and are performed at fixed plant locations using general-purpose equipment. Syn.: jobbing. See: intermittent production, project manufacturing.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Lag capacity strategy

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

Not adding capacity until the firm is operating at or beyond full capacity. This keeps unit costs minimized by working at full capacity, but does not satisfy total demand.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Lead capacity strategy

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

Adding capacity to a resource in anticipation of increased future demand. This is done to ensure the ability to satisfy market demand when increase occurs.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Licensing

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

Paying a fee for permission to manufacture and sell a product created by another.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Line manufacturing

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

Repetitive manufacturing performed by specialized equipment in a fixed sequence.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Logistics

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

1) In a supply chain management context, it is the subset of supply chain management that controls the forward and reverse movement, handling, and storage of goods between origin and distribution points. 2) In an industrial context, the art and science of obtaining, producing, and distributing material and product in the proper place and in proper quantities. 3) In a military sense (where it has greater usage), its meaning can also include the movement of personnel.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Make-or-buy decision

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The act of deciding whether to produce an item internally or buy it from an outside supplier. Factors to consider in the decision include costs, capacity availability, proprietary and/or specialized knowledge, quality considerations, skill requirements, volume, and timing.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Marketing strategy

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The basic plan the marketing function expects to use to achieve its business and marketing objectives in a particular market. Includes marketing expenditures, marketing mix, and marketing allocation.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Operational plan(s)

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The set of short-range plans and schedules detailing specific actions. Operational plans are more detailed than strategic and tactical plans and cover a shorter time horizon. See: operational planning, strategic plan, tactical plan.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Operations strategy

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The total pattern of decisions that shape the long-term capabilities of an operation and their contribution to overall strategy. [This] should be consistent with overall strategy. See: strategic plan.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Project manufacturing

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

A type of manufacturing process used for large, often unique, items or structures that require a custom design capability (engineer-to-order). This type of process is highly flexible and can cope with a broad range of product designs and design changes. Usually uses a fixed-position type layout. See: batch (fourth definition), continuous production, job shop (second definition), process manufacturing, project, repetitive manufacturing.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Sales mix

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The proportion of individual product-type sales volumes that make up the total sales volume.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Surge capacity

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

The ability to meet sudden, unexpected increases in demand by expanding production with existing personnel and equipment.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Total cost curve

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

1) In cost-volume-profit (breakeven) analysis, [this] is composed of total fixed and variable costs per unit multiplied by the number of units provided. Breakeven quantity occurs where [this] and total sales revenue curve intersect. See: break-even chart, break-even point. 2) In inventory theory [and for an inventory item, this] is the sum of the costs of acquiring and carrying the item. See: economic order quantity.

Module 1*Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies***Term**
Tracking capacity strategy

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

Adding capacity in small amounts to attempt to respond to changing demand in real time in the marketplace. This approach may satisfy total demand and help minimize unit costs, but it can be difficult in some situations to add incremental amounts of capacity, especially if the facility has no more space available.

Module 1

Section D: Functional and Operational Strategies

Term

Variable cost

APICS CPIM Learning System

© 2025

An operating cost that varies directly with a change of one unit in the production volume (e.g., direct materials consumed, sales commissions).