

Chapter Review

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Types of Production

Objectives...

- 1 distinguish between types of production and production systems
- 2 explain jobbing production
- 3 list the key characteristics of batch production
- 4 list the key characteristics of mass production

Key Terms

Batch manufacturing flow shop processes

a type of manufacturing process where items are moved through the different manufacturing steps in groups, or batches

Jobbing processes

Organized around a fixed sequence of activities and process steps, such as an assembly line to produce a limited variety of similar goods or services

Mass processes

processes that deal with high variety and low volumes, although there may be some repetition of flow and activities.

Production process

processes that produce goods in high volume and relatively low variety. the way that businesses create products and services

15. This brief chapter has sought to describe the main features of the basic types of production systems – jobbing, batch and mass production. Jobbing production refers to the production of unique or ‘one-off’ items, made to order. These items may be small or large, and they are produced under the appropriate conditions at a given time, rather than conditions which are standardised. Both planning and control are difficult to achieve in this form of production. Batch production refers to the production of standardised units in batches, or lots. Only when a batch has completed one process can it be moved to the next. Batches may be produced to order, or for stock. Batch production can be relatively well planned and controlled, but queuing problems may arise when batches are ready to move on to the next operation. These problems can be overcome by utilising assembly lines, i.e. Moving over to a mass production method. Mass production refers to the production of vast quantities of product units in a flowline process, where each flows smoothly from one operation, or process, to the next until completion. Where the mass production of continuous processes is concerned, the method is called flow production or process production. Mass production methods call for detailed planning and sophisticated control procedures. There is very little scope for the exercise of skills by the workforce, and the flowline layout has been challenged in several quarters.