

# The Future

- **The Archetypical Planner**
  - trend toward the employment of engineers as planners
- **Integration of Customer Service into Planning –**
  - finite capacity planning systems must have models that allow planners to quickly simulate costs based on different levels of service
- **Emphasis on Methodology in Practice**
  - Improved methodologies and education will increase the chances of successful finite capacity planning in practice.

- **Testing of Models**

- There exists no specific information on how various commercial finite capacity planning packages perform under different conditions

- **Static Versus Dynamic Models**

- Though static planning systems have contributed a great deal toward the optimization of the supply chain, there exists greater potential for dynamic models applied across entire supply chains to reduce the costs of day to day operations.

- **Visualization**

- Improved techniques of visualization offer great prospects for increased understanding of complex systems

- **Combining Models**

- The process of combining models is more art than science
- The combination of models in practice is a rich area for future applied research

- **Auxiliary Models**

- ERP systems are so complex that there often exists the need to run smaller models with data from the ERP system to solve problems quickly

- **Capacitated Materials Requirements Planning**

- Virtually every MRP system installed assumes infinite capacity
- New research has demonstrated that it is possible to achieve capacitated MRP

- **User-Centric Computing**

- Trend toward user designed computer systems