

# Flow, Space and Activity Relationships II.

- Chapter 3 of the textbook
- Activity relationships
- Flow
- Space

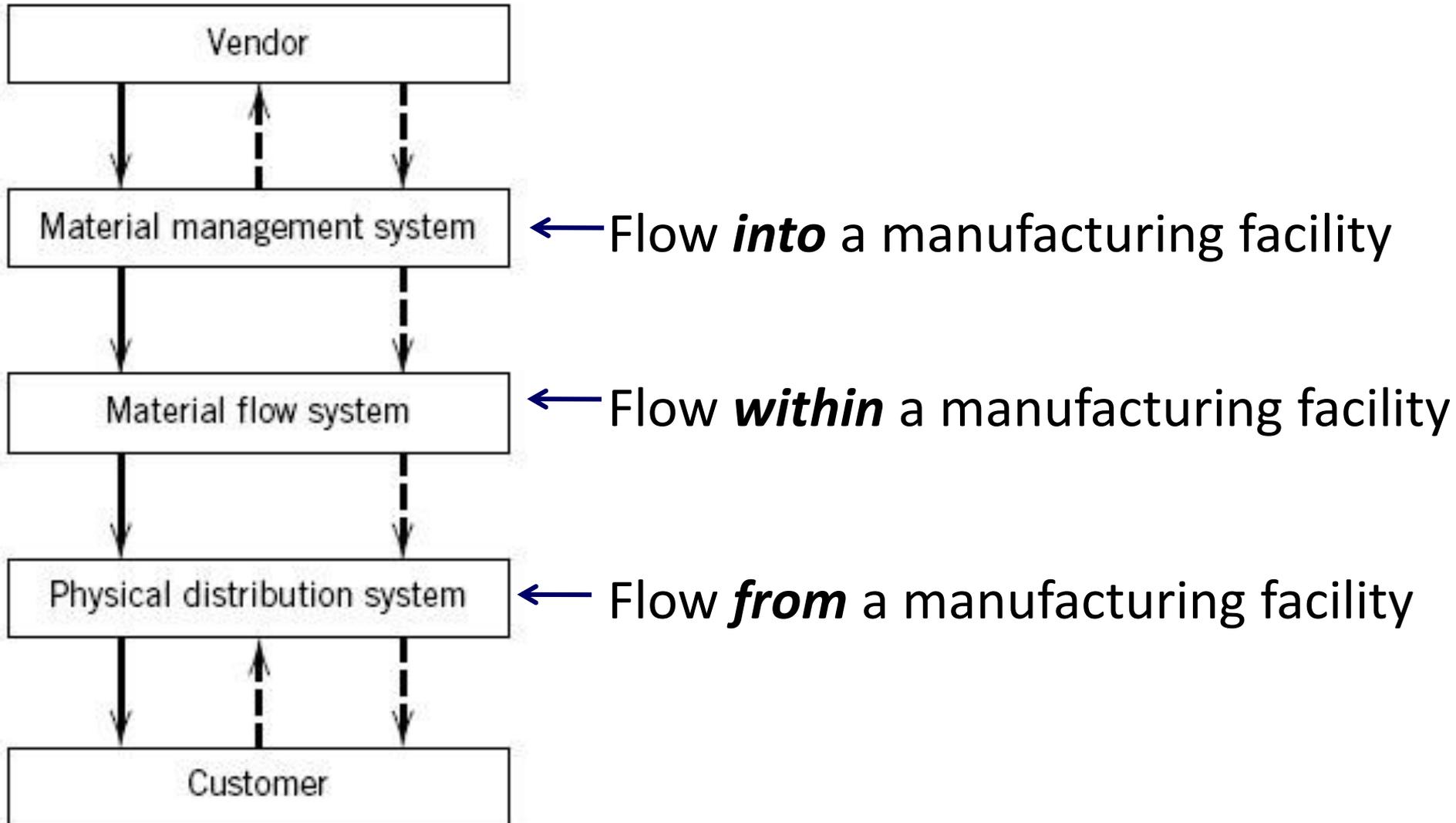
# Flow, Space and Activity Relationships II.

- Activity relationships
  - Activity relationships are the key input in facilities design
- Flow
  - Flow of materials, people, equipment, information, money, etc.
  - Flow patterns, flow measuring and graphical analysis of the flows
- Space
  - The amount of space required in the facility
  - Workstation specification, department specification and other space requirements

# Activity Relationships

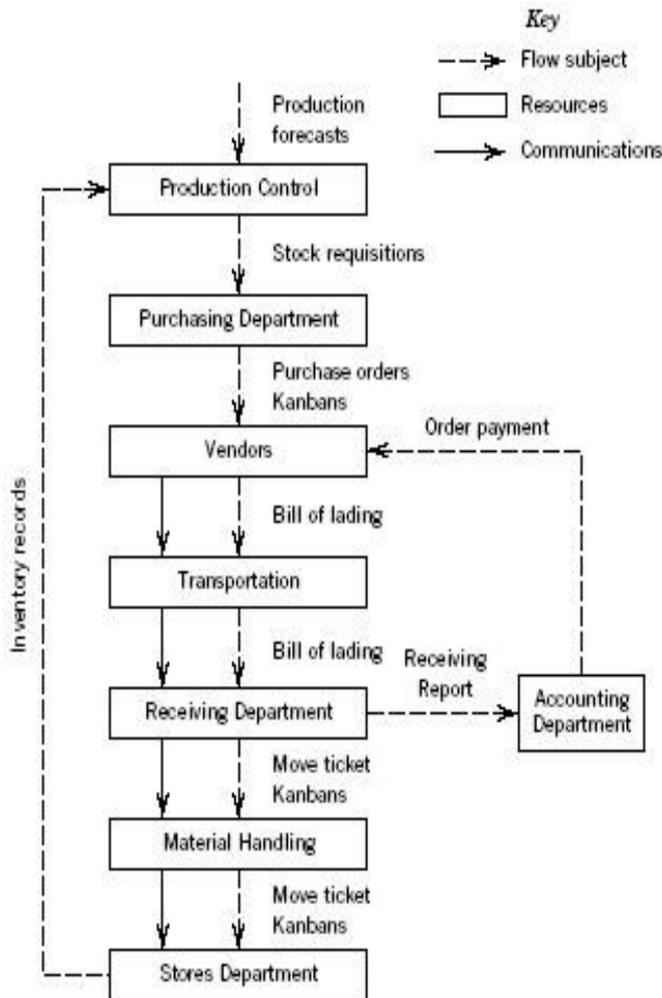
- Activity relationships are the key input in facilities design
- Defined by:
  - Flow relationships
  - Organizational relationships
  - Environmental relationships
  - Control relationships
  - Process relationships

# Logistics system

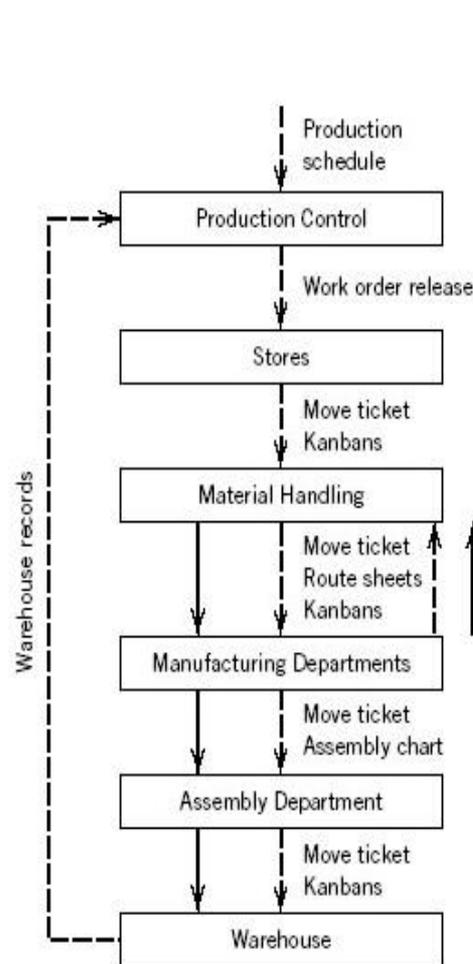


# Segments of flow

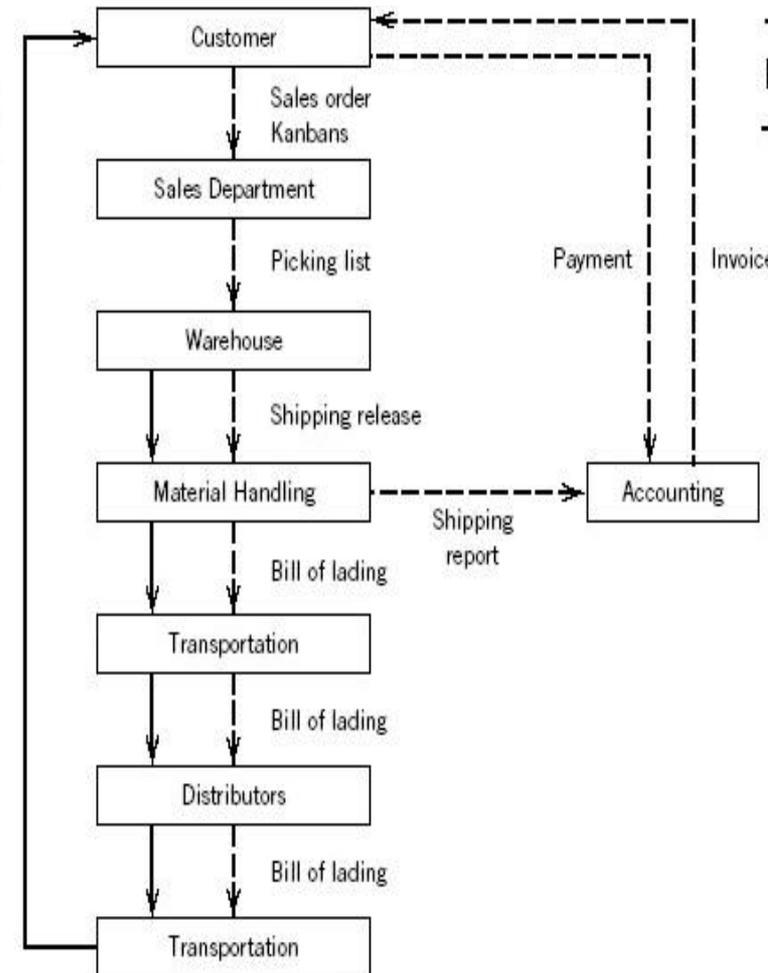
## Flow of materials INTO facility



## Flow of materials WITHIN facility



## Flow of products FROM facility



# Flow Patterns

Within the overall flow environment, a critical consideration is the pattern of flow.

- ***Flow within workstations***

- Motion studies and ergonomics considerations
- Flow should be simultaneous, coordinated, symmetrical, natural, rhythmical, and habitual

- ***Flow within departments***

- Is dependent on the type of department (product vs. process dept.)

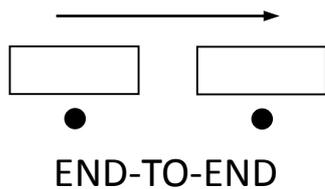
- ***Flow between departments***

- Used to evaluate overall flow within facility

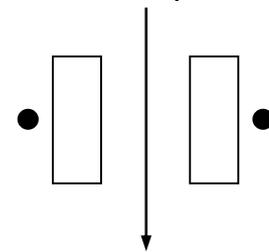
# Flow Patterns: Flow within Departments

- **Product departments flow:** in a product and/or product family department

1 machine/operator

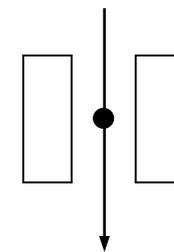


1 machine/operator



BACK-TO-BACK

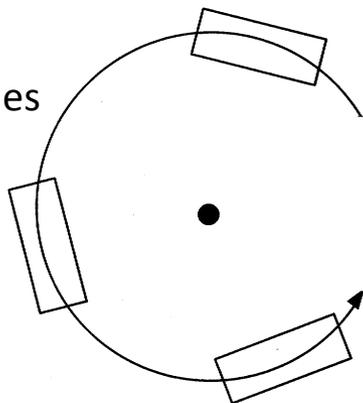
2 machines/operator



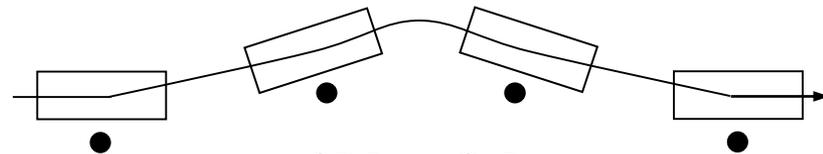
FRONT-TO-FRONT

More than 2 machines  
/operator

CIRCULAR



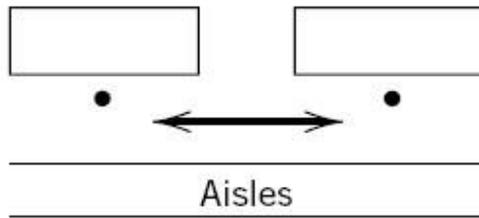
1 machine/operator



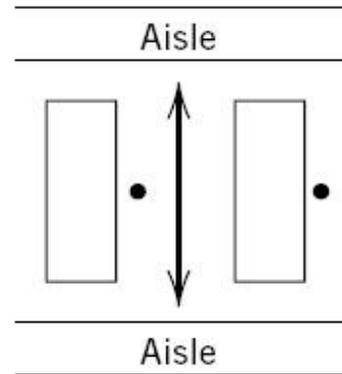
ODD-ANGLE

# Flow Patterns: Flow within Departments

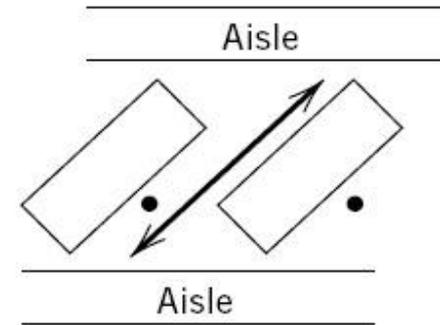
- **Process departments flow:** in a process department
  - Little flow between workstations
  - Flow occurs between workstations and aisles



PARALLEL FLOW



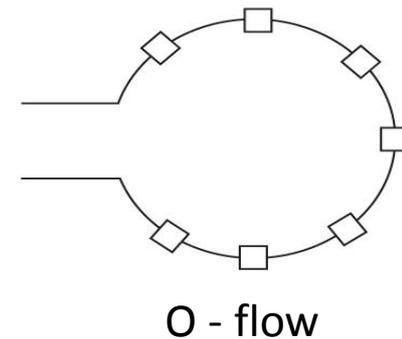
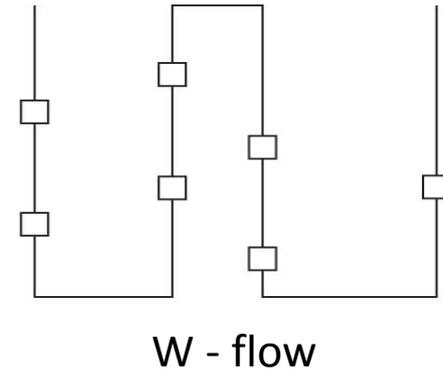
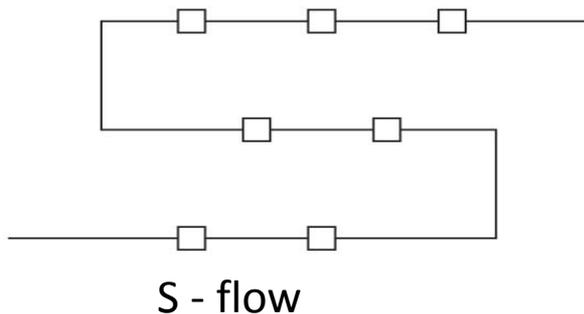
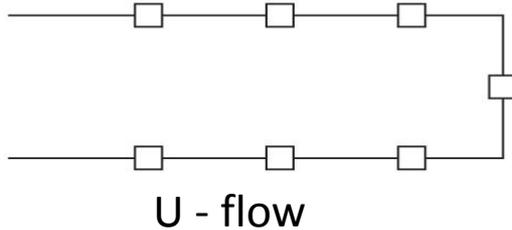
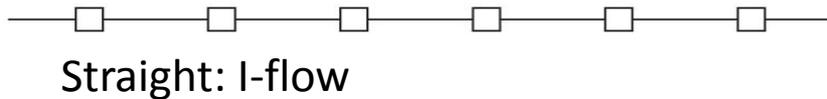
PERPENDICULAR FLOW



DIAGONAL FLOW

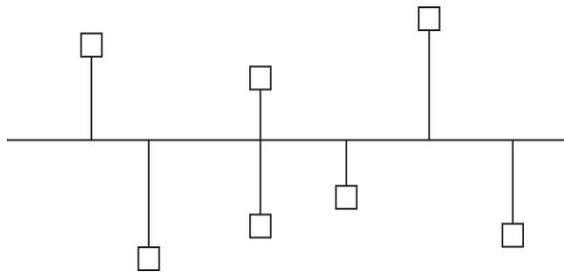
# Flow Patterns: Flow within Departments

- Flow within departments with material handling considerations → Line flow patterns

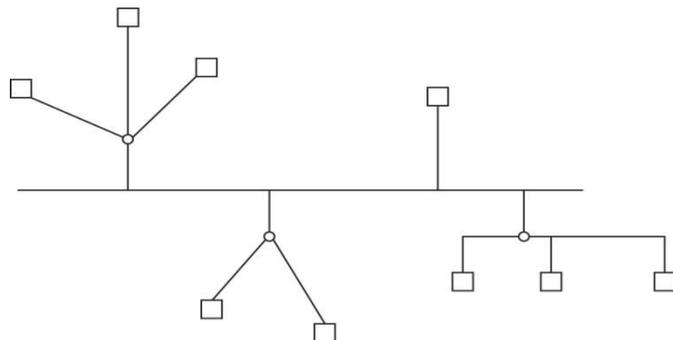


# Flow Patterns: Flow within Departments

- Flow within departments with material handling considerations → Spine, tree and loop flow patterns

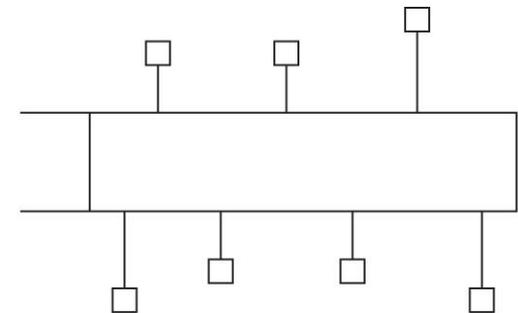


Spine flow pattern

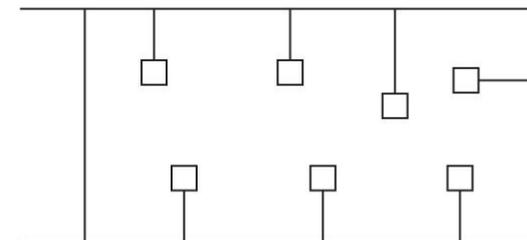


Tree flow pattern

Loop flow patterns:



Inner loop

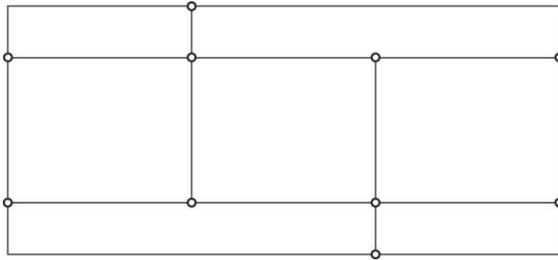


Outer loop

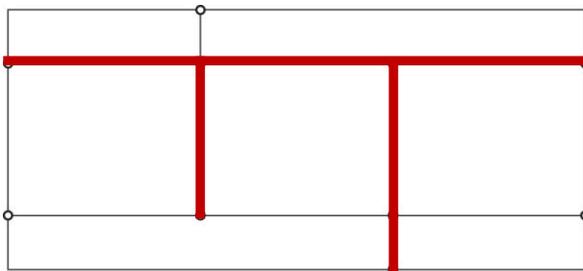


# Flow Patterns: Flow between Departments

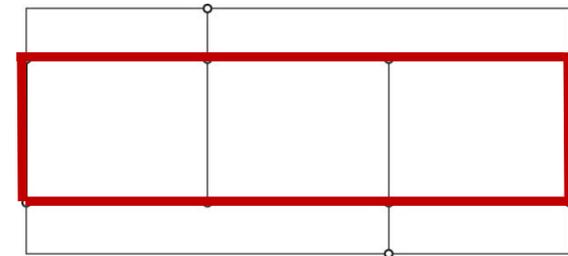
- Flow within a facility - pattern categories



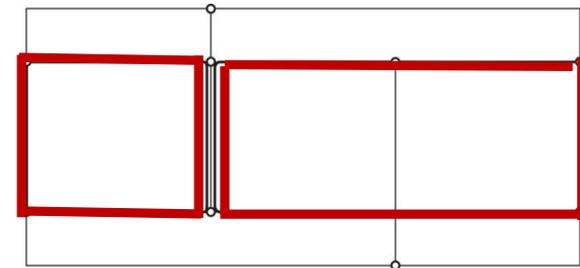
Conventional structure



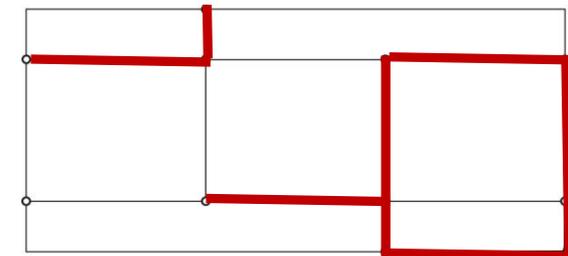
Spine structure



Loop structure



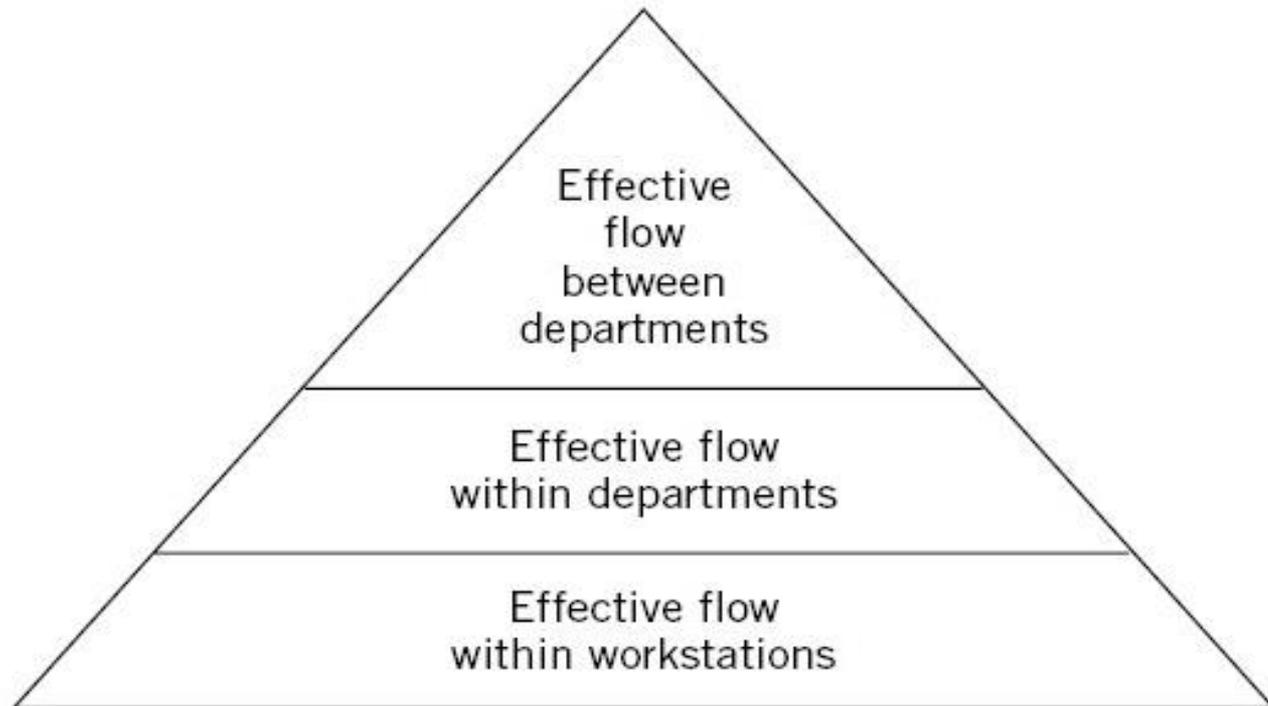
Tandem structure



Segmented structure

# Flow Planning

- The effective flow within a facility depends on effective *flow between departments*. Such flow depends on effective *flow within departments*, which depends on effective *flow within workstations*.



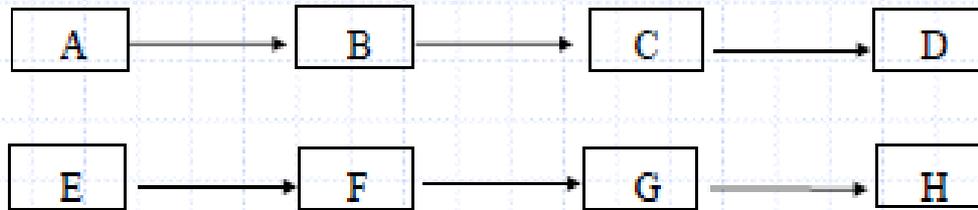
# Signs of a good general flow pattern

- A flow starts at receiving and terminates at shipping.
- Straight and short lines of flow
- Minimum backtracking
- Material is moved directly to point of use
- Minimum WIP
- Flow pattern is easily expandable, new processes can easily be merged in

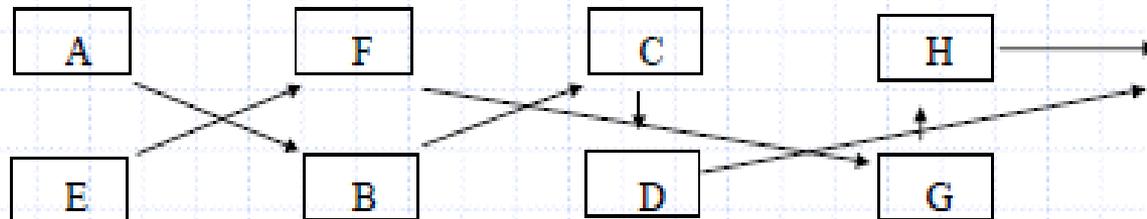
# Principles of effective flow

- Maximize directed (uninterrupted) flow paths

Example:

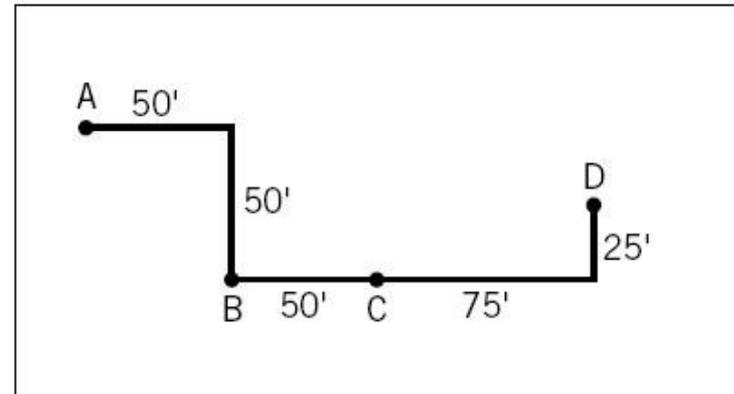


Versus



# Principles of effective flow

- Minimize backtracking: Backtracking increases the length of the flow path

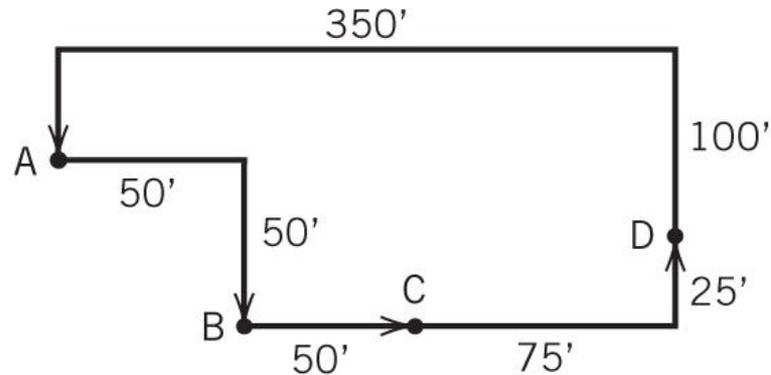


Flow Path A – B – C – D  
 $(50' + 50') + 50' + (75' + 25') = 250$  feet

Flow Path A – B – A – C – D  
 $(50' + 50') + \underline{(50' + 50')} + \underline{(50' + 50')} + 50' + (75' + 25') = 450$  feet

Backtrack Penalty

# Principles of effective flow



For path A – B – C – D

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total path} &= (50' + 50') + (50') + (75' + 25') \\ &= 250 \text{ feet} \end{aligned}$$

For path A – B – A – C – D

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total path} &= (50' + 50') + [50' + (75' + 25') + 450'] + (50' + 50') + 50' + (75' + 25') \\ &= 950 \text{ feet} \end{aligned}$$

Backtracking penalty

Effects of backtracking in a unidirectional loop flow system

# Principles of effective flow

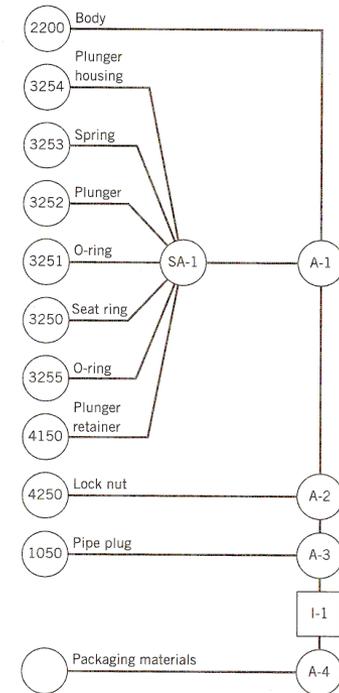
- Minimize flow
  - Deliver materials, information, or people directly to the point of ultimate use
  - Plan for flow between two consecutive points of use to take place in a few moments as possible
  - Combine flows and operations
- Maximize directed flow path
- Minimize the cost of the flow
  - Minimize manual handling (automate or mechanize the flow)
  - Minimize trips of empty carriers

# Measuring Flow

- *Quantitative flow measurement*
  - Large volumes of materials, information, a number of people moving between departments
  - In terms of amount moved or distance travelled
- *Qualitative flow measurement*
  - Very little actual movement of materials, information, and people flowing between departments
  - Significant communication and organizational interrelation between departments
  - In terms of the level of relationship between units (departments) in the organizations
- Usually both measurements are used

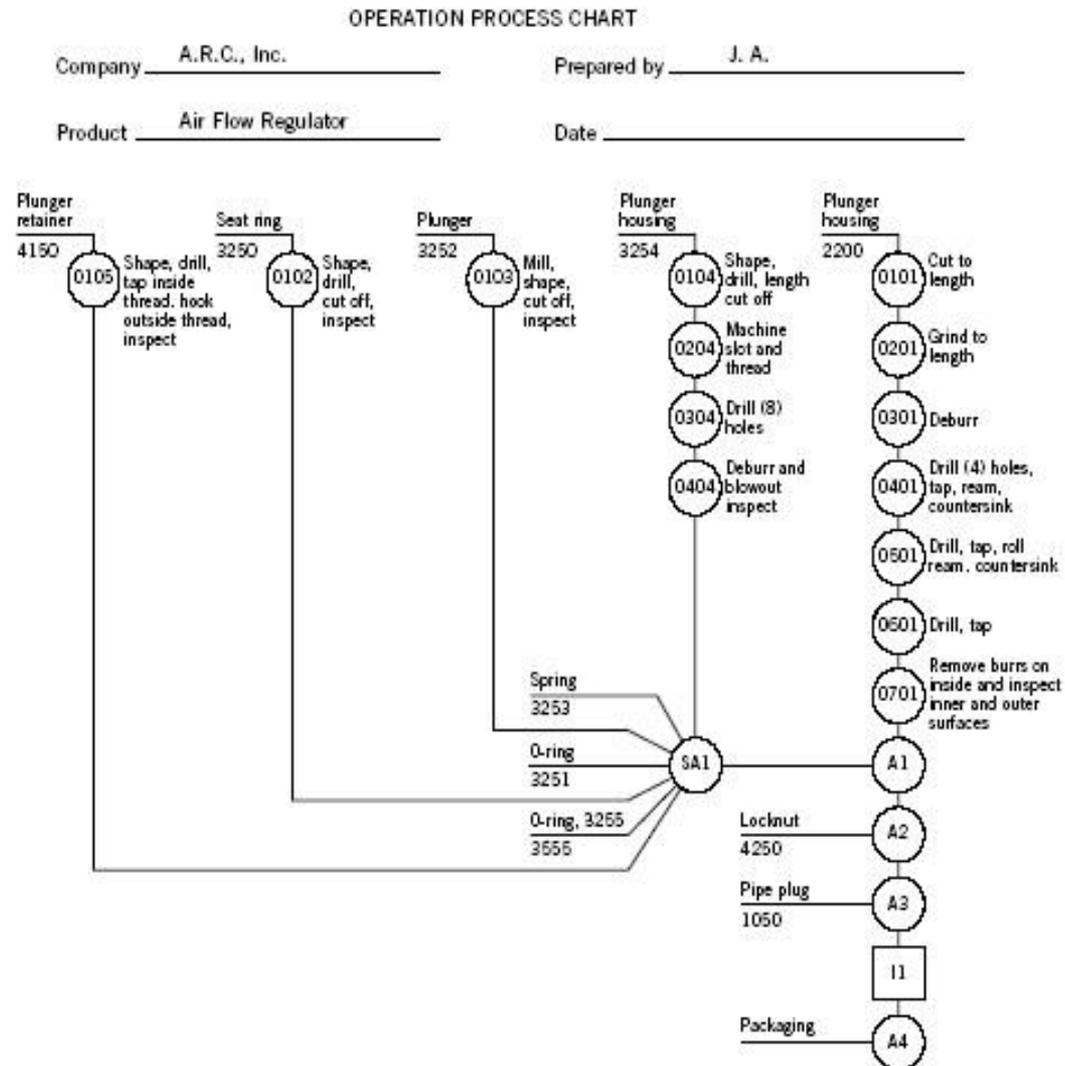
# Graphical tools for analysis and design of material flow system

- We already know:
  - Assembly chart
  - Operations process chart
- Facility planning specific tools:
  - Flow process chart
  - Flow diagram
  - From-to chart
  - Relationship chart
  - Relationship diagram



# Flow process chart

- Flow Process Chart is similar to Operations Process Chart



# Flow process chart

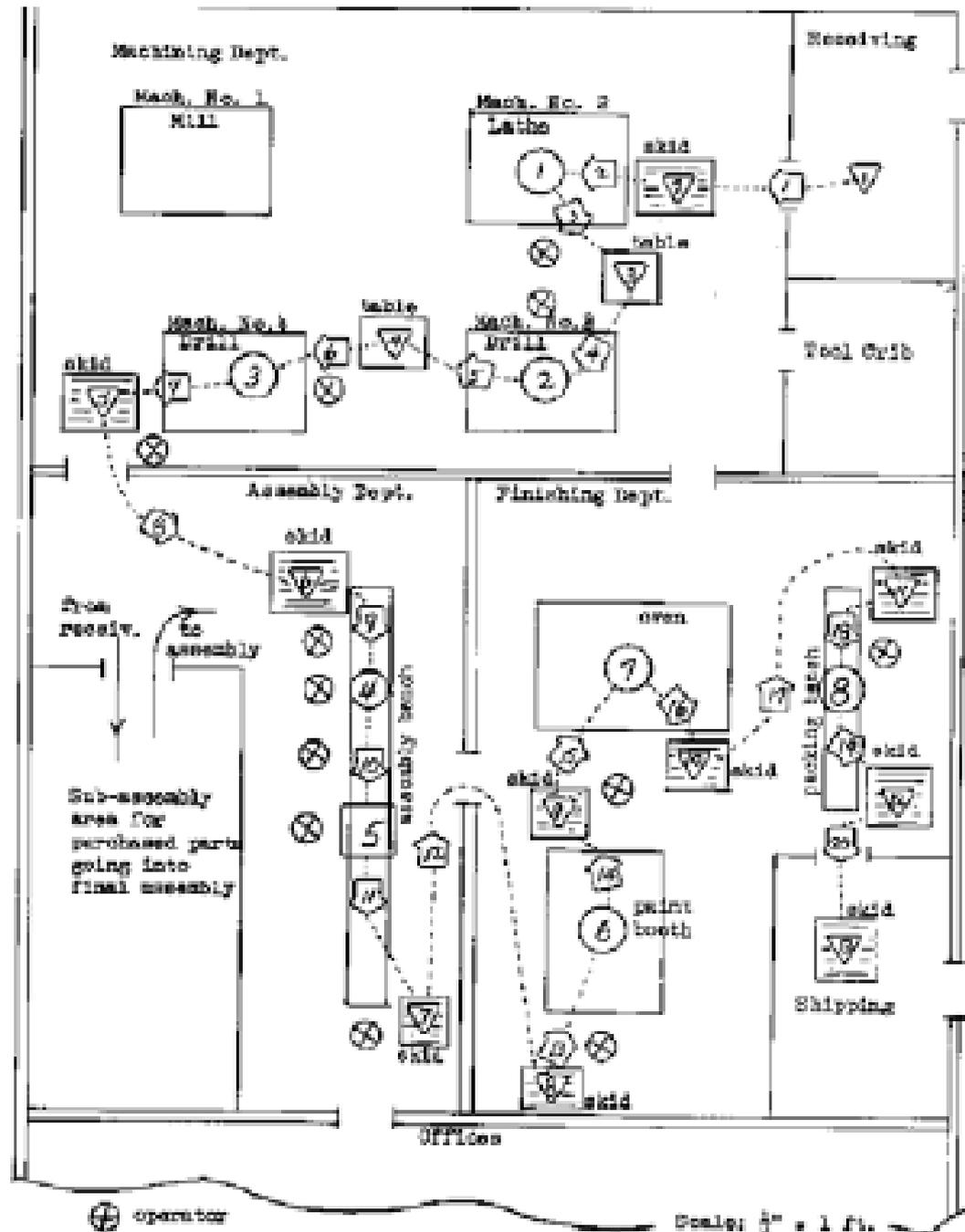
- Flow Process Chart is similar to Operations Process Chart
- It shows assemblies, operations, and inspections, but also material handling and storage.

| <u>Symbol</u>   | <u>Description</u>                                  |
|---|---|
|    | Operation, work on the part                         |
|    | Transportation, moving the part                     |
|    | Delay, temporary storage, usually at a workstation. |
|  | Inspection, quality control.                        |
|  | Combination operation and inspection                |
|  | Permanent storage                                   |



# Flow diagram

- Flow Diagram is a flow process chart spread over the layout of the corresponding area.



# From-To Chart

- From-To Chart measures the flows between departments
- It resembles mileage charts

| To<br>From        | Atlanta, GA | Boston, MA | Chicago, IL | Dallas, TX | New York, NY | Pittsburgh, PA | Raleigh, NC | San Francisco, CA |
|-------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Atlanta, GA       |             | 1037       | 674         | 795        | 841          | 687            | 372         | 2496              |
| Boston, MA        | 1037        |            | 963         | 1748       | 206          | 561            | 685         | 3095              |
| Chicago, IL       | 674         | 963        |             | 917        | 802          | 452            | 784         | 2142              |
| Dallas, TX        | 795         | 1748       | 917         |            | 1552         | 1204           | 1166        | 1753              |
| New York, NY      | 841         | 206        | 802         | 1552       |              | 368            | 489         | 2934              |
| Pittsburgh, PA    | 687         | 561        | 452         | 1204       | 368          |                | 445         | 2578              |
| Raleigh, NC       | 372         | 685        | 784         | 1166       | 489          | 445            |             | 2843              |
| San Francisco, CA | 2496        | 3095       | 2142        | 1753       | 2934         | 2578           | 2843        |                   |

Figure 3.29 Mileage chart.

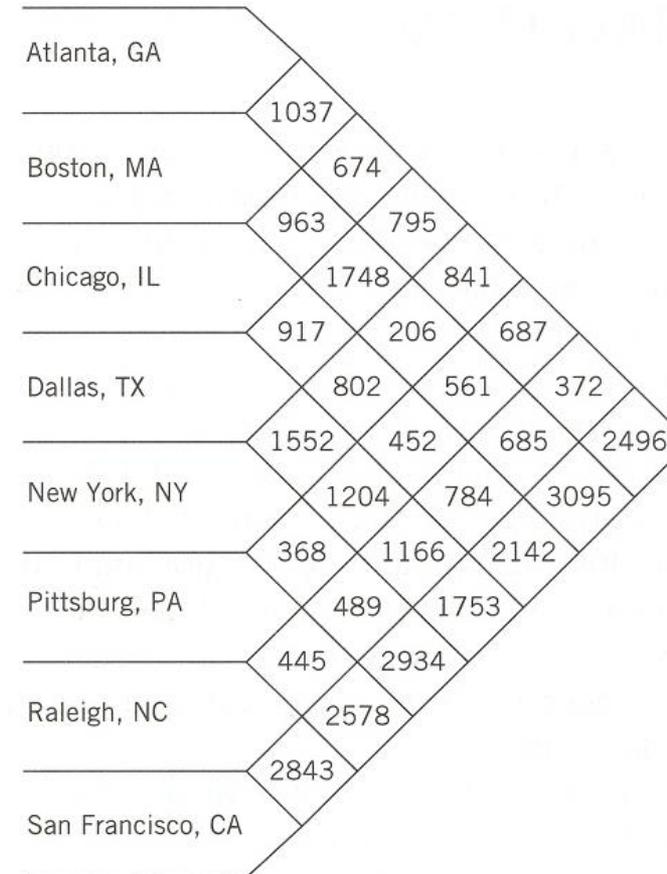


Figure 3.30 Triangular mileage chart.

# From-To Chart - procedure

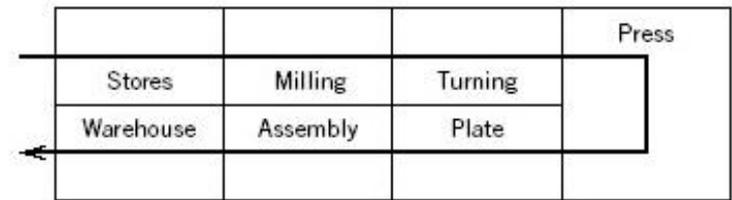
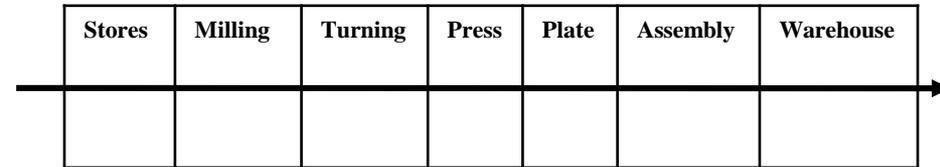
- **List all departments** down the row and across the column following the overall flow pattern.
- **Establish a measure of flow** for the facility that accurately indicates equivalent flow volumes.
  - If the items moved are equivalent (size, weight, value, risk of damage, shape), the measure could be the number of the trips
  - If the items moved vary, then ***equivalent items*** may be established so that the quantities recorded in the From-To Chart represent the proper relationships among the volumes of movement.
- **Record the flow volumes** in the From-To Chart based on the flow paths for the items to be moved and the established measure of flow

# From-To Chart - simple

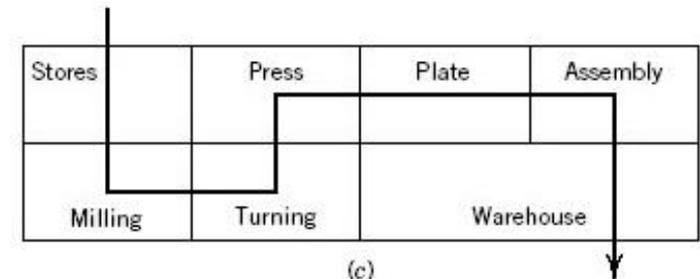
|           | Stores | Milling | Turning | Press | Plate | Assembly | Warehouse |
|-----------|--------|---------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-----------|
| Stores    | –      | 24      | 12      | 16    | 1     | 8        | –         |
| Milling   | –      | –       | –       | –     | 14    | 3        | 1         |
| Turning   | –      | 3       | –       | –     | 8     | –        | 1         |
| Press     | –      | –       | –       | –     | 3     | 1        | 1         |
| Plate     | –      | 3       | 2       | –     | –     | 4        | 3         |
| Assembly  | 2      | –       | –       | –     | –     | –        | 7         |
| Warehouse | –      | –       | –       | –     | –     | –        | –         |

**From-To Chart**

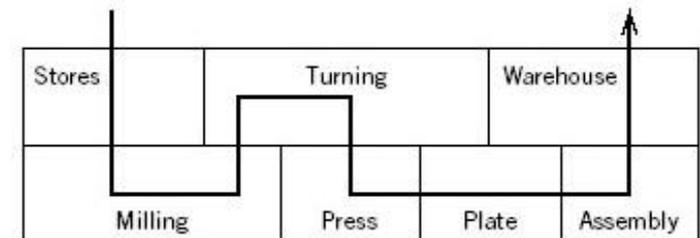
**Possible alternative layouts:**



(b)



(c)



(d)

# From-To Chart – Example with equivalent items

| Component | Production Quantity | Routing   |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| 1         | 30                  | A-C-B-D-E |
| 2         | 12                  | A-B-D-E   |
| 3         | 7                   | A-C-D-B-E |

Components 1 and 2 are equivalent with respect to movement, but component 3 is almost twice as large as 1 or 2

Component ID#      Total shipment

| From \ To |   | Component ID# |             |    |             |             |
|-----------|---|---------------|-------------|----|-------------|-------------|
|           |   | A             | C           | B  | D           | E           |
| A         | ① |               | 30          |    |             |             |
|           | ③ |               | $2(7) = 14$ | ②  | 12          |             |
|           |   |               | 44          | 12 | 0           | 0           |
| C         | ① |               |             | 30 |             |             |
|           | ③ |               |             |    | $2(7) = 14$ |             |
|           |   | 0             |             | 30 | 14          | 0           |
| B         | ① |               |             |    | 30          |             |
|           | ② |               |             |    |             | $2(7) = 14$ |
|           |   | 0             | 0           |    | 42          | 14          |
| D         | ③ |               |             |    | $2(7) = 14$ |             |
|           | ① |               |             |    |             | 30          |
|           |   | 0             | 0           | 14 |             | 42          |
| E         |   | 0             | 0           | 0  | 0           |             |

Components 1 and 2 are of the same size

Component 3 is twice bigger than the other two

# From-To Chart

|           | Stores | Milling | Turning | Press | Plate | Assembly | Warehouse |
|-----------|--------|---------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-----------|
| Stores    | –      | 24      | 12      | 16    | 1     | 8        | –         |
| Milling   | –      | –       | –       | –     | 14    | 3        | 1         |
| Turning   | –      | 3       | –       | –     | 8     | –        | 1         |
| Press     | –      | –       | –       | –     | 3     | 1        | 1         |
| Plate     | –      | 3       | 2       | –     | –     | 4        | 3         |
| Assembly  | 2      | –       | –       | –     | –     | –        | 7         |
| Warehouse | –      | –       | –       | –     | –     | –        | –         |



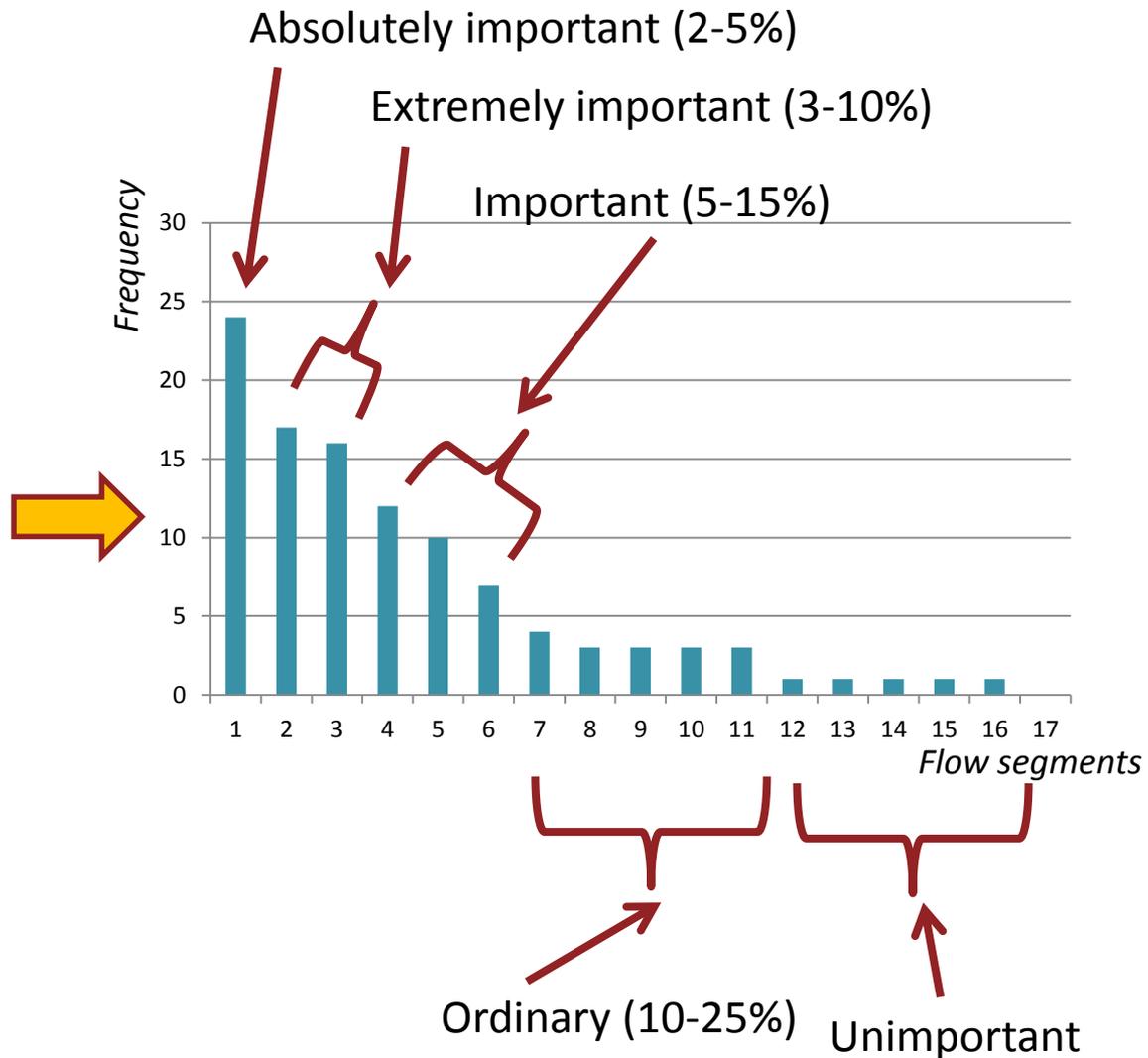
## Frequency table

| Flow segments | Departments        | Frequency |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1             | Stores-Milling     | 24        |
| 2             | Stores-Turning     | 12        |
| 3             | Stores-Press       | 16        |
| 4             | Stores-Plate       | 1         |
| 5             | Stores-Assembly    | 8+2=10    |
| 6             | Milling-Plate      | 14+3=17   |
| 7             | Milling-Assembly   | 3         |
| 8             | Milling -Warehouse | 1         |
| 9             | Turning- Milling   | 3         |
| 10            | Turning-Plate      | 8+2=10    |
| 11            | Turning-Warehouse  | 1         |
| 12            | Press-Plate        | 3         |
| 13            | Press-Assembly     | 1         |
| 14            | Press-Warehouse    | 1         |
| 15            | Plate-Assembly     | 4         |
| 16            | Plate-Warehouse    | 3         |
| 17            | Assembly-Warehouse | 7         |

# Frequency table

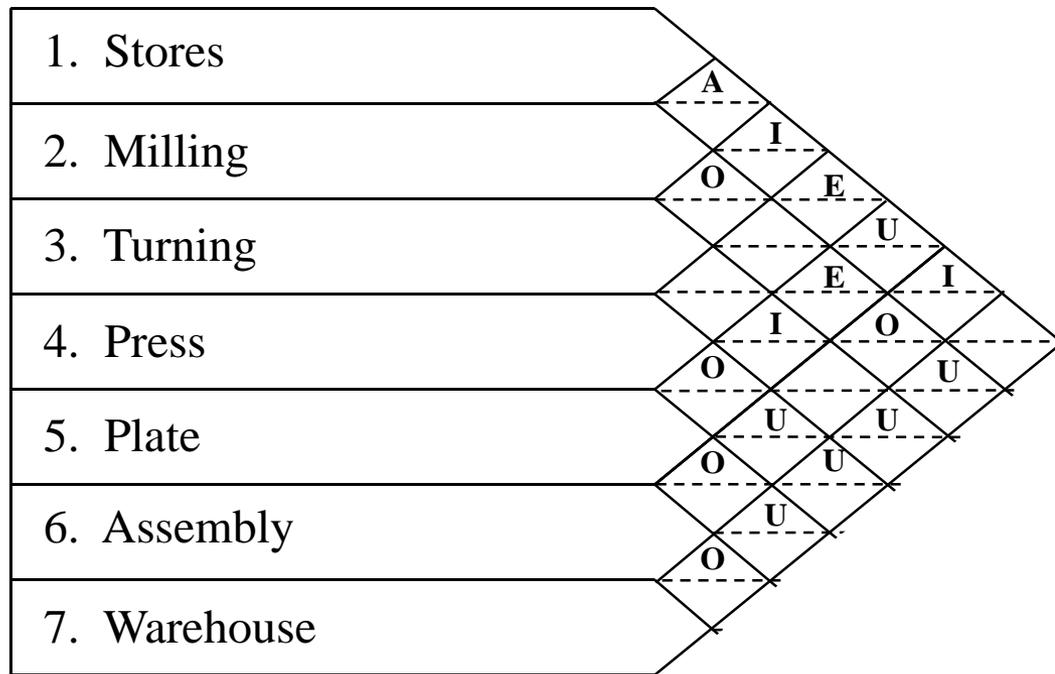
| Flow segments | Departments        | Frequency |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1             | Stores-Milling     | 24        |
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| 3             | Stores-Press       | 16        |
| 4             | Stores-Turning     | 12        |
| 5             | Stores-Assembly    | 8+2=10    |
| 6             | Turning-Plate      | 8+2=10    |
| 7             | Assembly-Warehouse | 7         |
| 8             | Plate-Assembly     | 4         |
| 9             | Milling-Assembly   | 3         |
| 10            | Turning- Milling   | 3         |
| 11            | Press-Plate        | 3         |
| 12            | Plate-Warehouse    | 3         |
| 13            | Stores-Plate       | 1         |
| 14            | Milling -Warehouse | 1         |
| 15            | Turning-Warehouse  | 1         |
| 16            | Press-Assembly     | 1         |
| 17            | Press-Warehouse    | 1         |

# Frequency chart



# Relationship Chart

- Relationship Chart measures the flows qualitatively using the *closeness relationships values*



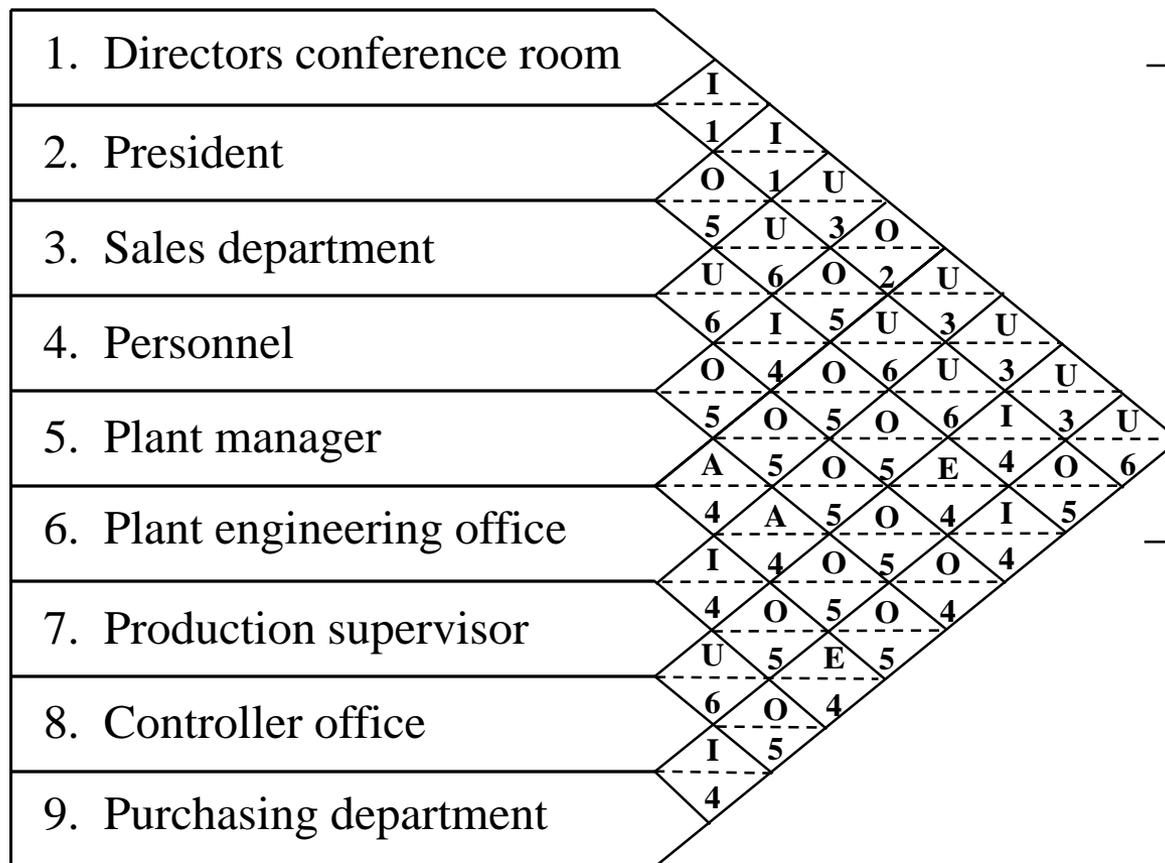
| Rating | Definition           |
|--------|----------------------|
| A      | Absolutely Necessary |
| E      | Especially Important |
| I      | Important            |
| O      | Ordinary Closeness   |
| U      | Unimportant          |
| X      | Undesirable          |

# Relationship Chart

- Due to the great variety and multiplicity of relationships involved, it is advisable to construct separate relationship charts for each major relationship being measured:
  - material flow
  - personnel flow
  - information flow
  - organizational, control, environmental, and process relationships, etc.

# Relationship Chart

- Relationship Chart may include the closeness values in conjunction with *reasons for the value*



| Code | Reason                  |
|------|-------------------------|
| 1    | Frequency of use high   |
| 2    | Frequency of use medium |
| 3    | Frequency of use low    |
| 4    | Information flow high   |
| 5    | Information flow medium |
| 6    | Information flow low    |

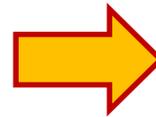
| Rating | Definition           |
|--------|----------------------|
| A      | Absolutely Necessary |
| E      | Especially Important |
| I      | Important            |
| O      | Ordinary Closeness   |
| U      | Unimportant          |
| X      | Undesirable          |

# Relationship Diagram

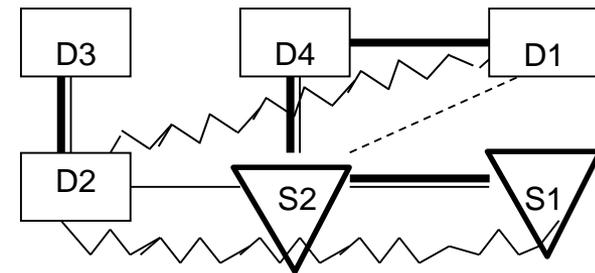
- Transformation of the proximity relationships to a spatial organization of departments

Relationship Chart

|           | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | S1 | S2 |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Dept.1    |    | X  | U  | E  | U  | O  |
| Dept.2    |    |    | A  | U  | X  | I  |
| Dept.3    |    |    |    | U  | U  | U  |
| Dept.4    |    |    |    |    | U  | A  |
| Storage 1 |    |    |    |    |    | A  |
| Storage 2 |    |    |    |    |    |    |



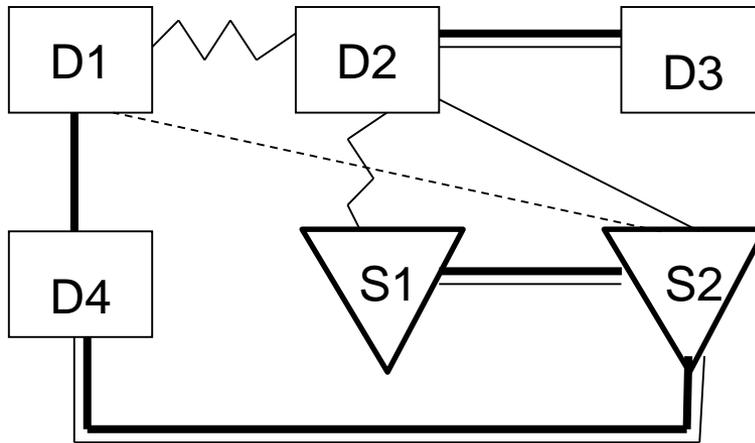
Relationship Diagram



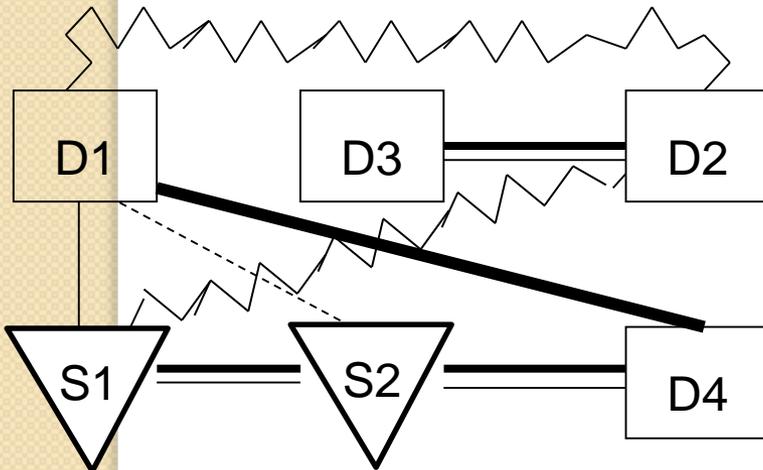
| Value | Closeness Priority   | Line Code |
|-------|----------------------|-----------|
| A     | Absolutely important |           |
| E     | Specially important  |           |
| I     | Important            |           |
| O     | Ordinary             |           |
| U     | Indifference         |           |
| X     | Undesireble          |           |

# Relationship Diagram

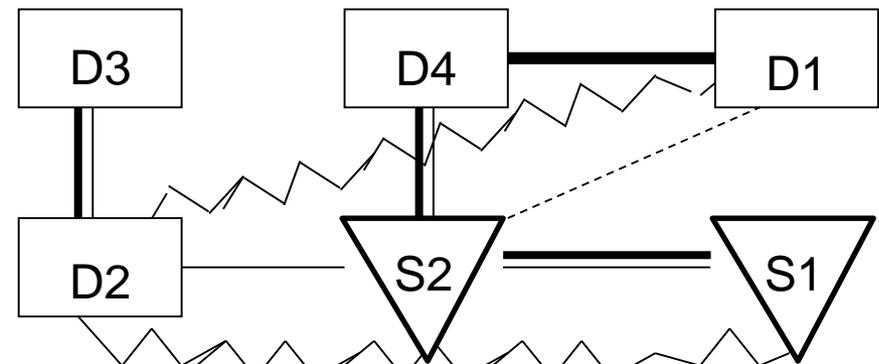
|           | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | S1 | S2 |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Dept.1    |    | X  | U  | E  | U  | O  |
| Dept.2    |    |    | A  | U  | X  | I  |
| Dept.3    |    |    |    | U  | U  | U  |
| Dept.4    |    |    |    |    | U  | A  |
| Storage 1 |    |    |    |    |    | A  |
| Storage 2 |    |    |    |    |    |    |



Initial Diagram



First iteration



Second iteration (might be the optimum)

# Relationship Diagram – systematic procedure

- Place the departments among which there is “A” relationship
- Add the departments among which there is “E” relationship to the previously placed departments. Rearrange.
- Add the departments among which there is “X” relationship to the previously placed departments. Rearrange.
- Add the departments among which there is “I” relationship. Rearrange.
- Add the departments among which there is “O” relationship. Rearrange.
- Add the rest of the departments. Rearrange.
- Verify if all the departments are placed and if the important relations are respected

# Space Requirements

- Perhaps the most difficult determination in facilities planning is the amount of space required in the facility!
- Space requirements should be determined:
  - for individual workstations
  - department requirements

# Workstation Requirements

- **Equipment space**

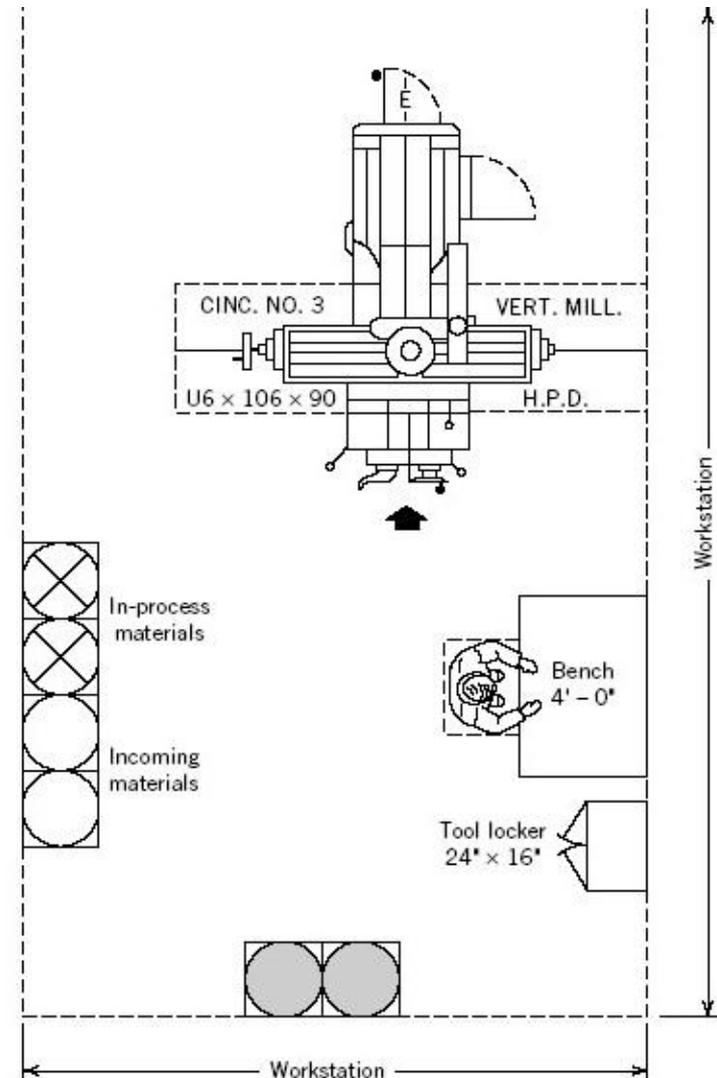
- The equipment
- Machine travel
- Machine maintenance
- Plant services

- **Materials space**

- Receiving and storing materials
- In-process materials
- Storing and shipping materials
- Storing and shipping waste and scrap
- Tools, fixtures, jigs, dies, and maintenance materials

- **Personnel area**

- The operator (motion & ergonomic study)
- Material handling
- Operator way in and way out



# Departmental Specification

- Once the space requirements for the workstations have been determined, the department space requirements should be defined.
- Departmental area:
  - Sum of areas of workstations
  - Equipment maintenance
  - Tooling, dies, plant services
  - Storage area
  - Spare parts etc.
  - Material handling within department

← These may be shared!

- Aisle space

| If the Largest Load Is            | Aisle Allowance<br>Percentage Is <sup>a</sup> |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Less than 6 ft <sup>2</sup>       | 5-10  |
| Between 6 and 12 ft <sup>2</sup>  | 10-20   |
| Between 12 and 18 ft <sup>2</sup> | 20-30   |
| Greater than 18 ft <sup>2</sup>   | 30-40   |

# Departmental Specification

- The total area required for the department is determined on Departmental Service and Area Requirement Sheet

## DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE AND AREA REQUIREMENT SHEET

Company A.B.C., Inc. Prepared by J.A.  
 Department Turning Date \_\_\_\_\_ Sheet 1 of 1

| Work Station  | Quantity | Service Requirements |                     |       | Floor Loading | Ceiling Height | Area (square feet) |          |           | Total |
|---------------|----------|----------------------|---------------------|-------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|-------|
|               |          | Power                | Compressed Air      | Other |               |                | Equipment          | Material | Personnel |       |
| Turret lathe  | 5        | 440 V<br>AC          | 10 CFM @<br>100 psi |       | 150 PSF       | 4'             | 240                | 100      | 100       | 440   |
| Screw machine | 6        | 440 V<br>AC          | 10 CFM @<br>100 psi |       | 190 PSF       | 4'             | 280                | 240      | 120       | 640   |
| Chucker       | 2        | 440 V<br>AC          | 10 CFM @<br>100 psi |       | 150 PSF       | 5'             | 60                 | 100      | 40        | 200   |

Net area required 1280  
 13% aisle allowance 167  
 Total area required 1447

# Next lecture

- Material handling