

# Planning and Control in High-Variety/Low-Volume Companies

- learning from the past on our way to the future -

- Jannes Slomp -

# Lectorate Lean/World Class Performance



## Research projects:

- Several RAAK & KIEM projects
- International projects
- Company specific projects

**Area: Lean and QRM. Focused on the improvement of processes.**

**Mission: Developing and discovering new knowledge in the area of lean and QRM. Linking knowledge development, higher education and practice.**

About 14 fte (divided among 25 persons, 1.7 fte professor)

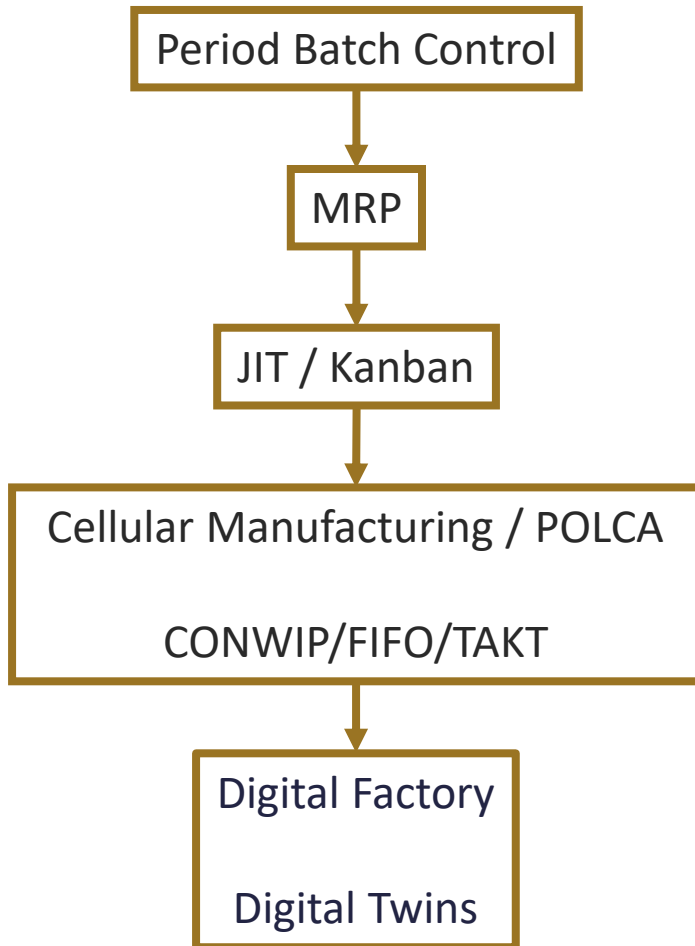
More than 70 partner companies (manufacturing companies, consultancies and service organizations). Annual contribution: 2350 Euro.

Activities: Assessments, workshops, master classes, symposia and conferences.

Teaching at university:

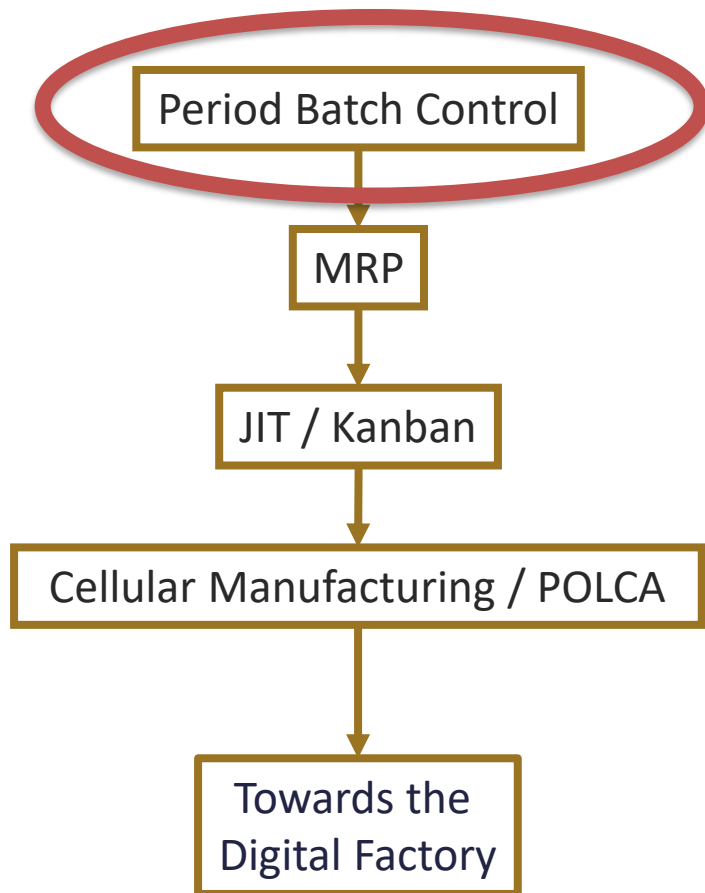
- Semester program on Operations Management (S4) and Smart Industry (S6)
- Minor World Class Performance (120 students per year)
- Master Lean Engineering
- Thesis projects

# “History” of Lean Production Control



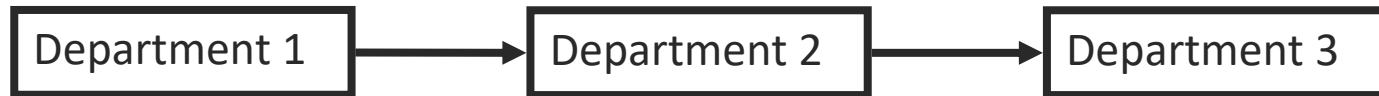
**...and what does it mean  
for the future of your  
planning and control  
activities?**

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# “Traditional” Manufacturing Organization



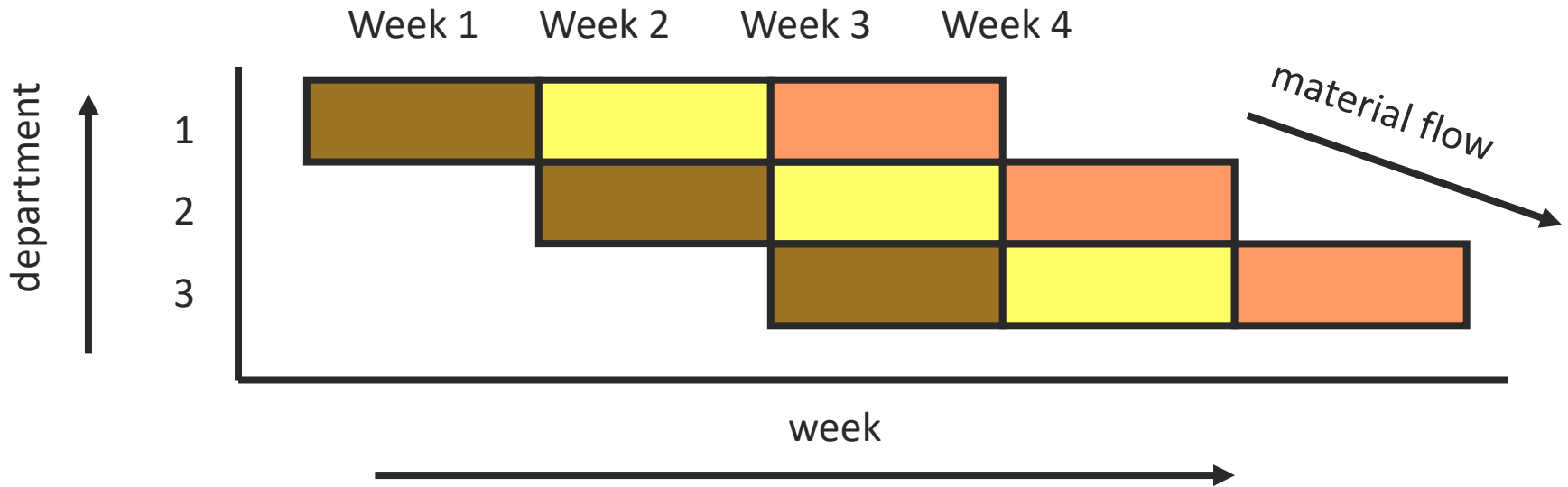
Department 1 : part manufacturing

Department 2 : pre-assembly (e.g. welding)

Department 3 : final assembly

Many firms produce partly on stock, partly on order

# Period Batch Control



# What are advantages and disadvantages of PBC?

## Advantage:

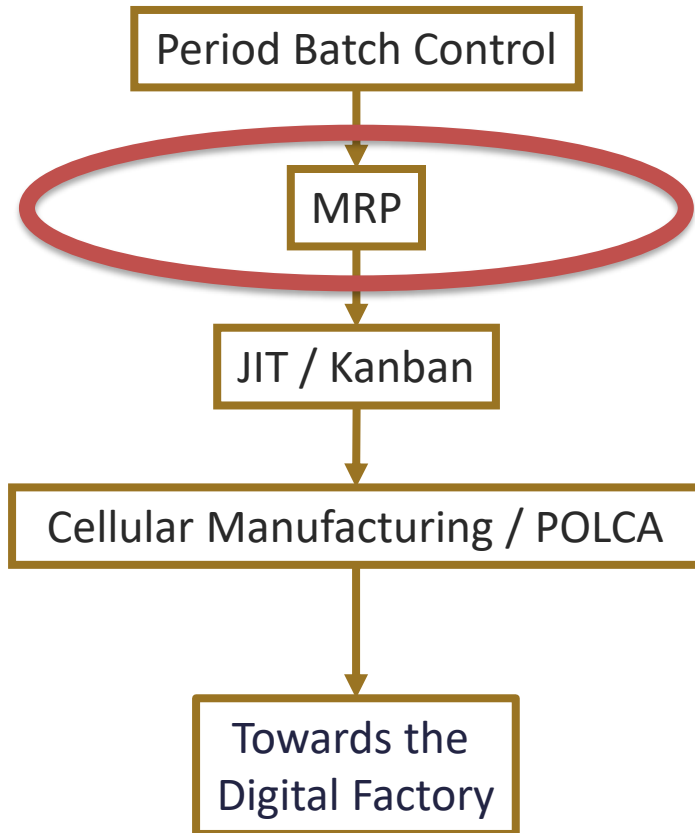
- Simple, transparent system

## Disadvantage:

- Pushes all processes in the same periodical framework
- Unbalances during the periods in each department

**Principle: fixed lead times support accountability and increases control options at the workflow.**

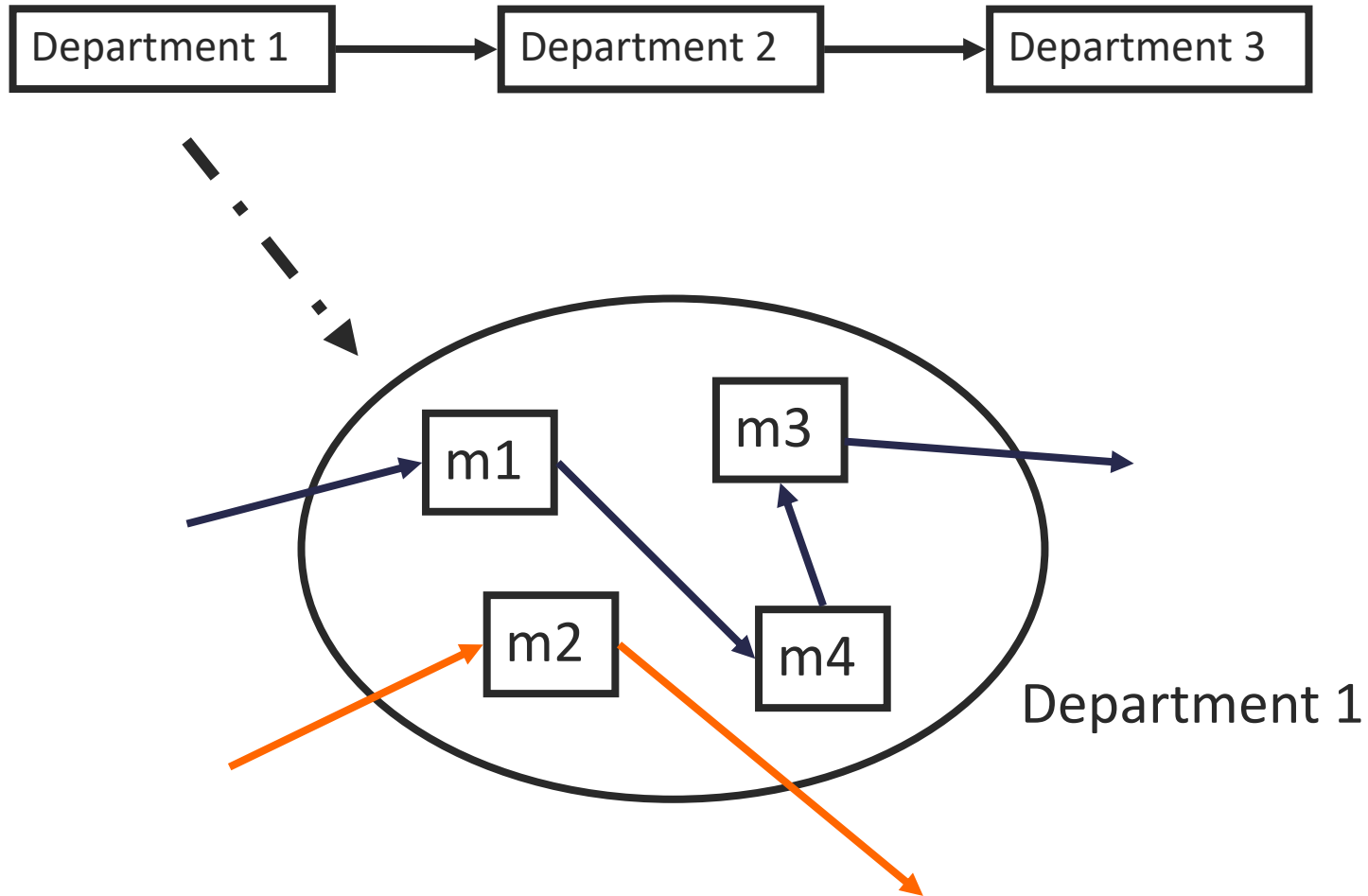
# “History” of Lean Production Control



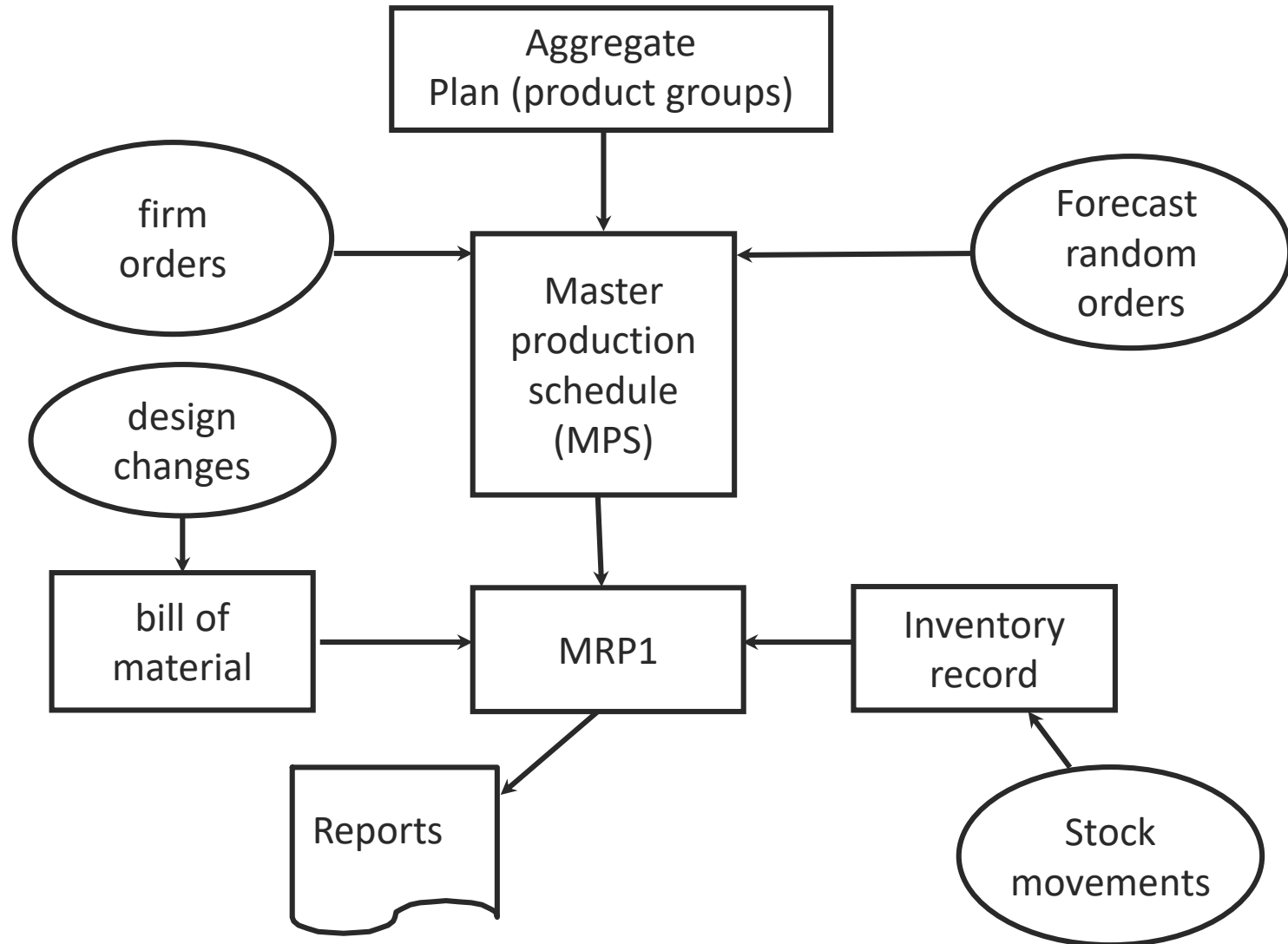
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# Material Requirement Planning (MRP)

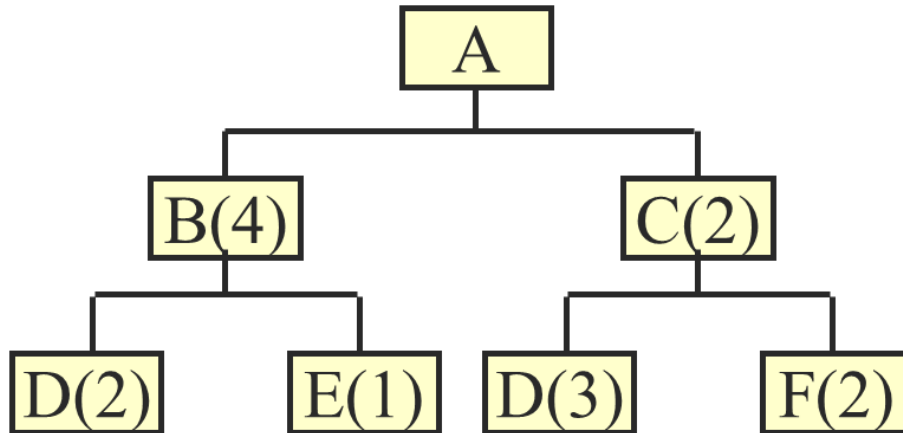


# MRP



# MRP Scheme

| Week:     |                 | 1  | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-----------|-----------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|----|
| A<br>LT=2 | Required        |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |   | 60 |
|           | Order Placement |    |     |     |     |     |     | 60  |   |   |    |
| B<br>LT=2 | Required        |    |     |     |     |     | 20  | 240 |   |   |    |
|           | Order Placement |    |     |     | 20  | 200 |     |     |   |   |    |
| C<br>LT=1 | Required        |    |     |     |     |     |     | 100 |   |   |    |
|           | Order Placement |    |     |     |     |     | 100 |     |   |   |    |
| D<br>LT=3 | Required        |    |     |     | 55  | 400 | 300 |     |   |   |    |
|           | Order Placement |    | 55  | 400 | 300 |     |     |     |   |   |    |
| E<br>LT=4 | Required        |    |     |     | 20  | 200 |     |     |   |   |    |
|           | Order Placement | 20 | 200 |     |     |     |     |     |   |   |    |
| F<br>LT=1 | Required        |    |     |     |     |     | 200 |     |   |   |    |
|           | Order Placement |    |     |     |     | 200 |     |     |   |   |    |



Part D: Wk 5, 40 + 15 spares

Repeat for all  
components  
==> final MRP

# What are advantages and disadvantages of MRP?

## Advantage:

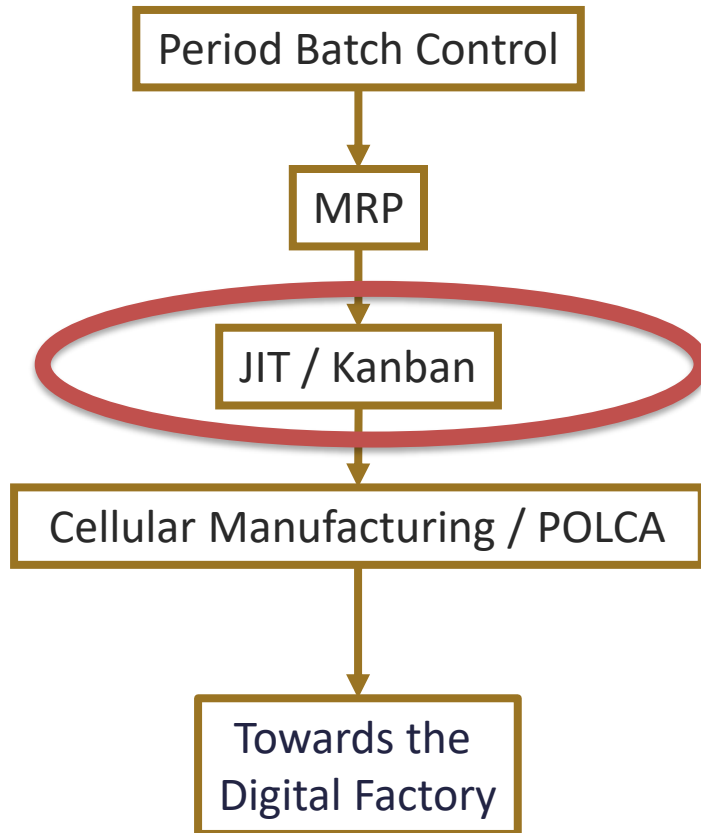
- All information is in the computer; starting point for optimization
- Supports coordination

## Disadvantage:

- MRP asks for discipline
- Poor in capacity planning
- Long planned lead times
- System nervousness

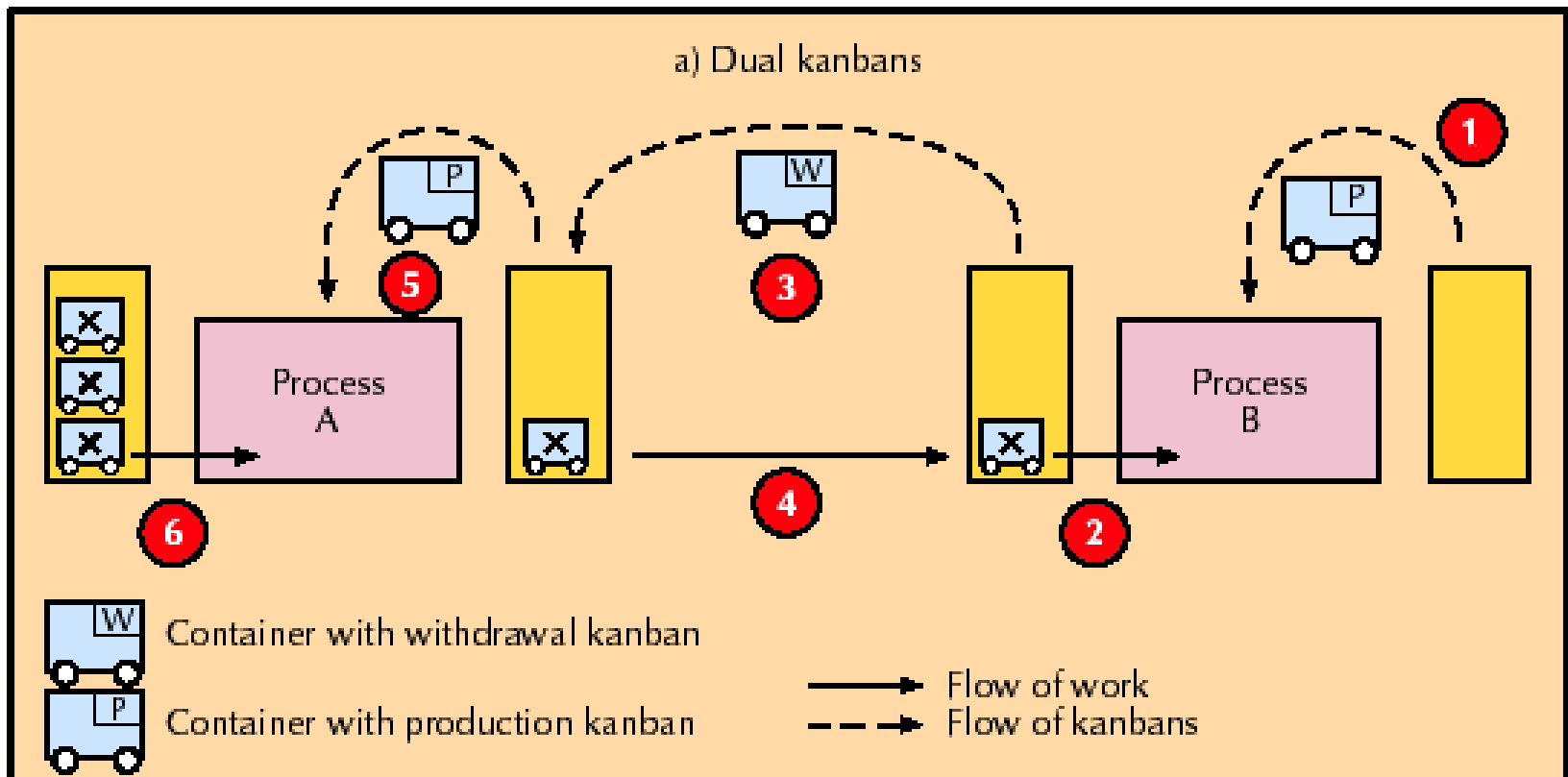
**Principle: don't think that an information system can solve the mess on the work floor! Be careful to implement 'optimal' rules in het system (e.g. optimal batch sizes).**

# “History” of Lean Production Control



**....and what does it mean for the future of your planning and control activities?**

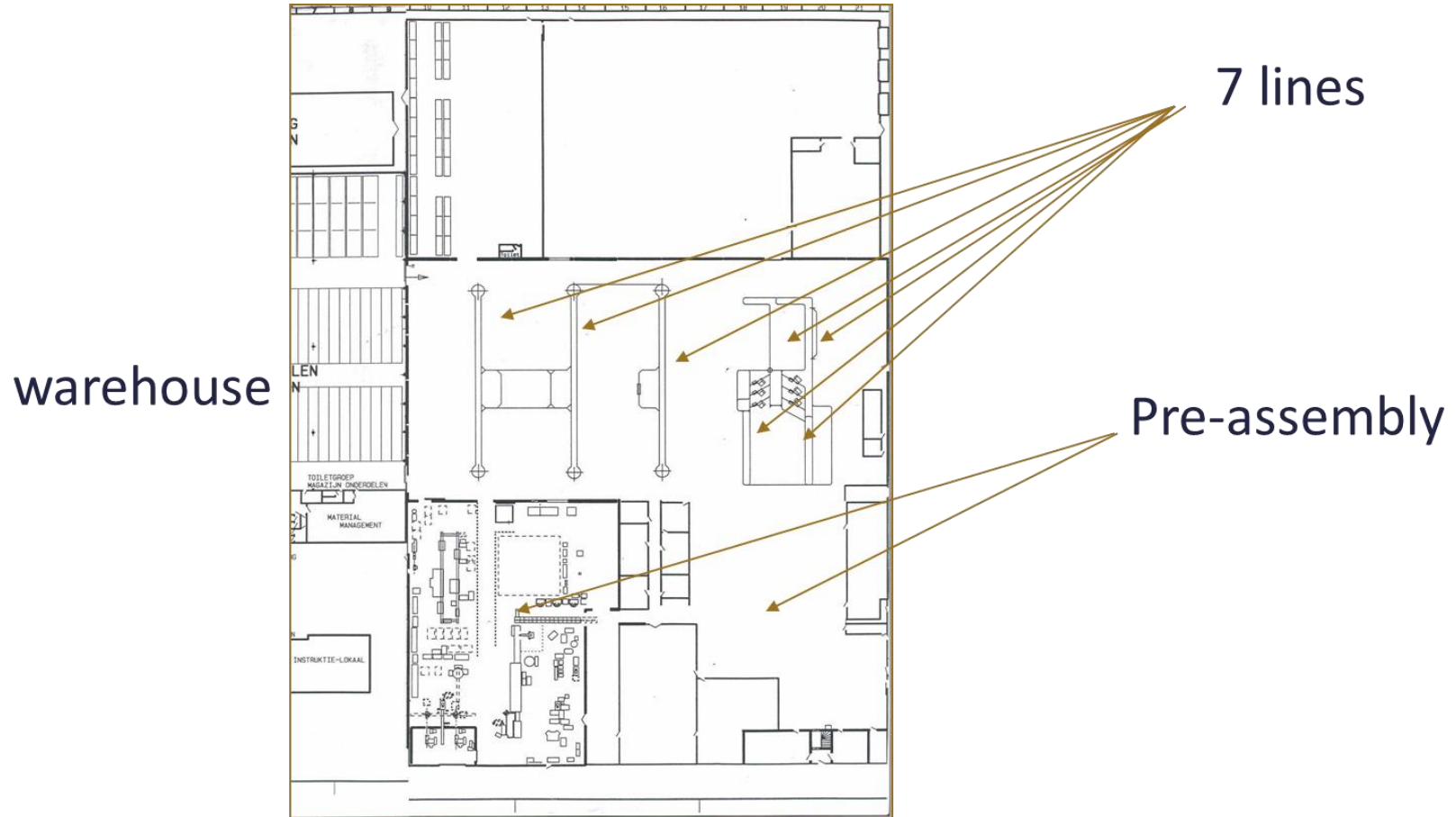
# Kanban / Just in Time



Source: [www.sonoma.edu/users/a/atkint/bus316spring/rtchap11.ppt](http://www.sonoma.edu/users/a/atkint/bus316spring/rtchap11.ppt)

# Nefit Buinen: mix flexibility in the line

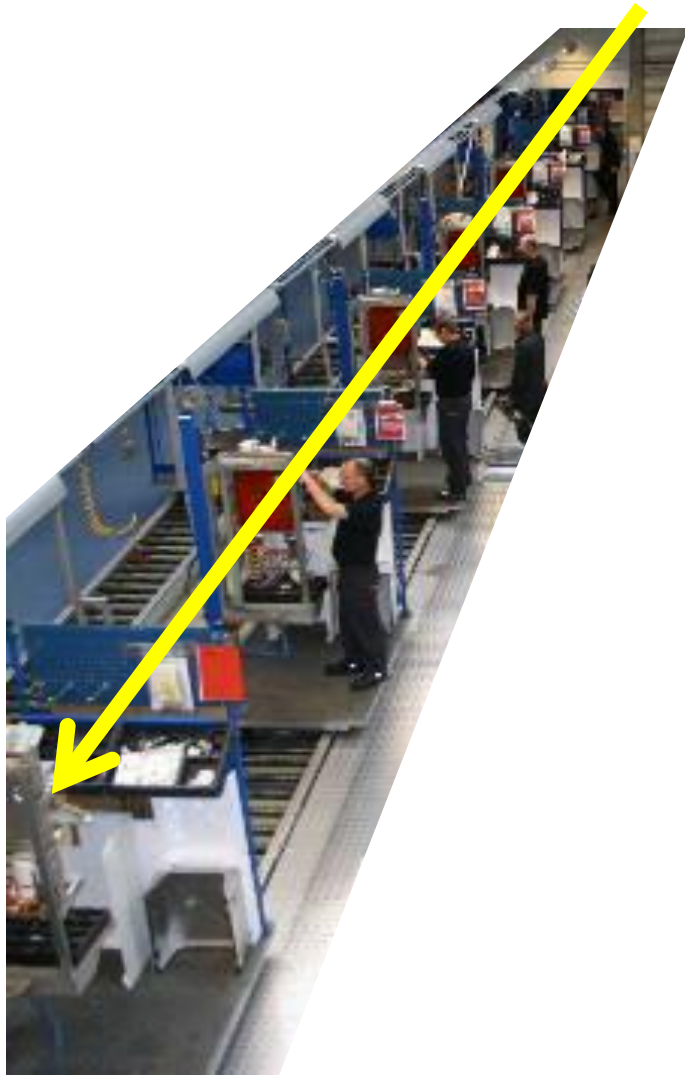
## Old situation

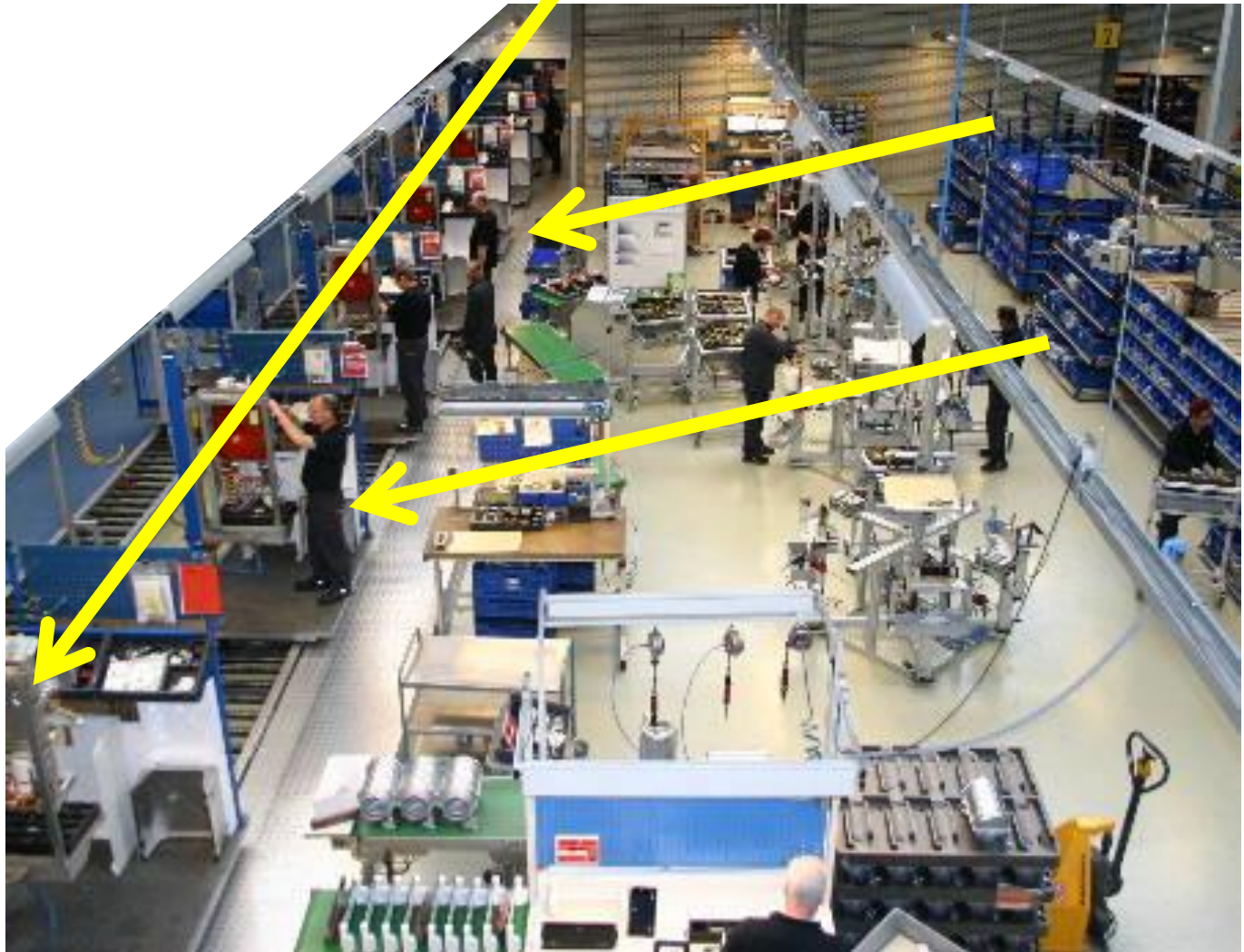


# New situation









# What are advantages and disadvantages of a lean (flow) system

## Advantage:

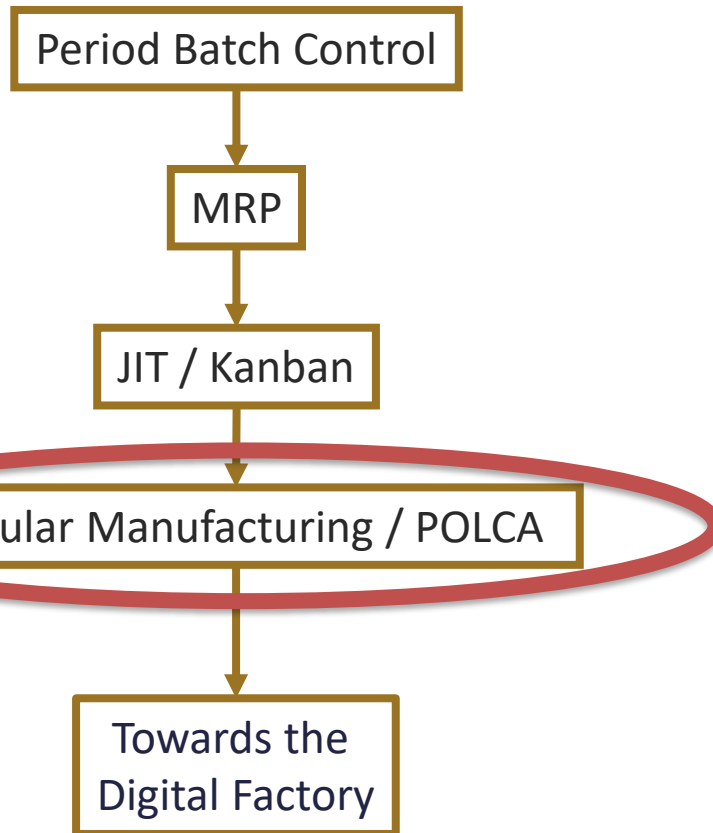
- Simple, transparent system
- Short lead times, flexibility

## Disadvantage:

- Limited applicability. Needed are:
  - a stable demand (capacity requirement)
  - a repetitive manufacturing process
  - standardized products (standardized processing!!)
- Difficult to cope with changes in product specifications, product mix changes and exceptions.

**Principle: Don't say too fast that flow-manufacturing is not possible in a particular situation**

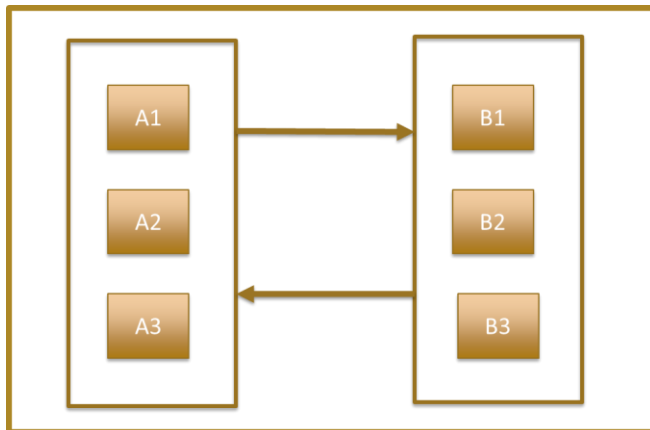
# “History” of Lean Production Control



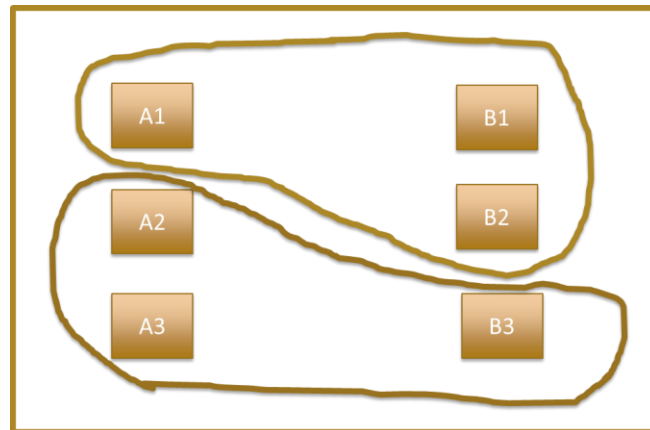
**....and what does it mean for the future of your planning and control activities?**

# Key Question: how to organize the workflow?

Functional (or process) layout



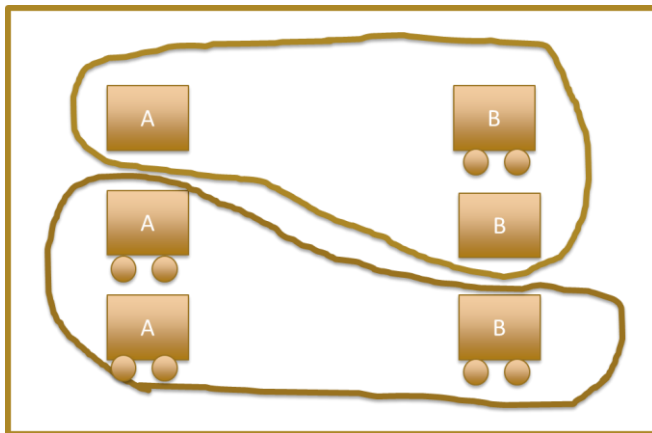
Cellular (or product) layout



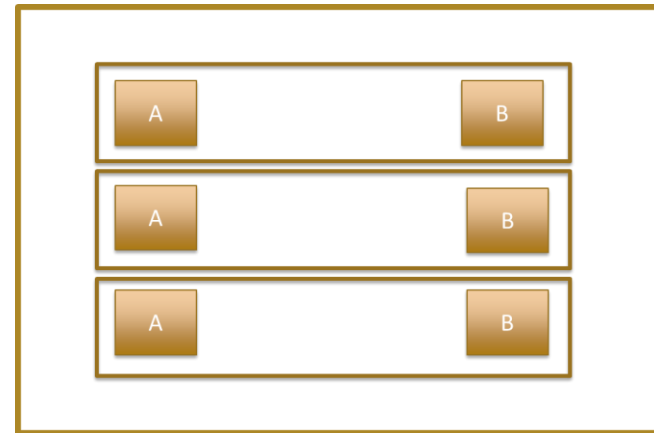
**Principle: the workflow organization has a strong impact on options for planning and control**

# Variants of the Cellular Layout

Dynamic layout

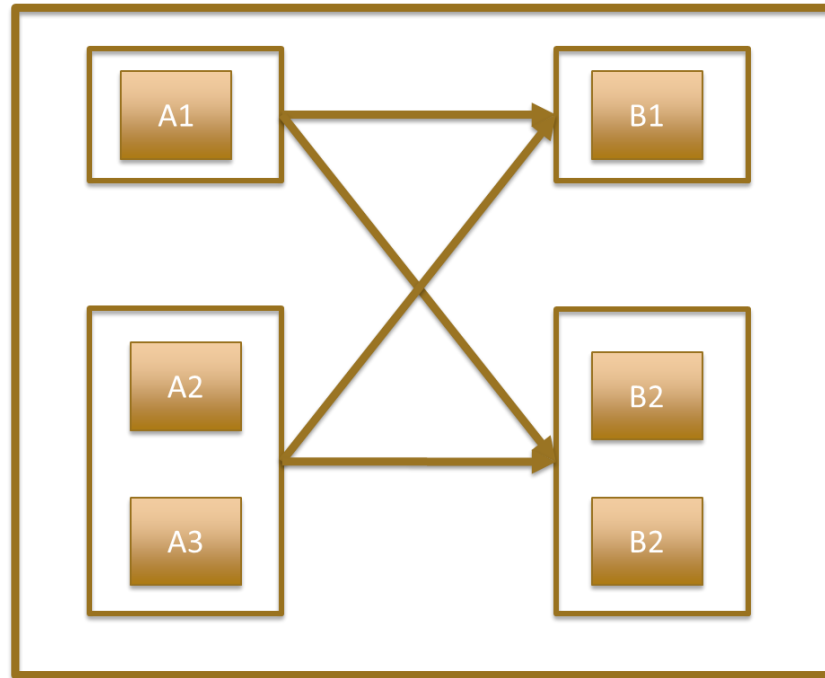


Fractal layout



**Principle: When developing a planning and control system, also develop alternative layouts (workfloor organizations)**

# Hybrid, Modular Layout (or POLCA layout)



**Principle: Think in modules, each cell has its own characteristics and internal control principles, interfaces are standardized.**

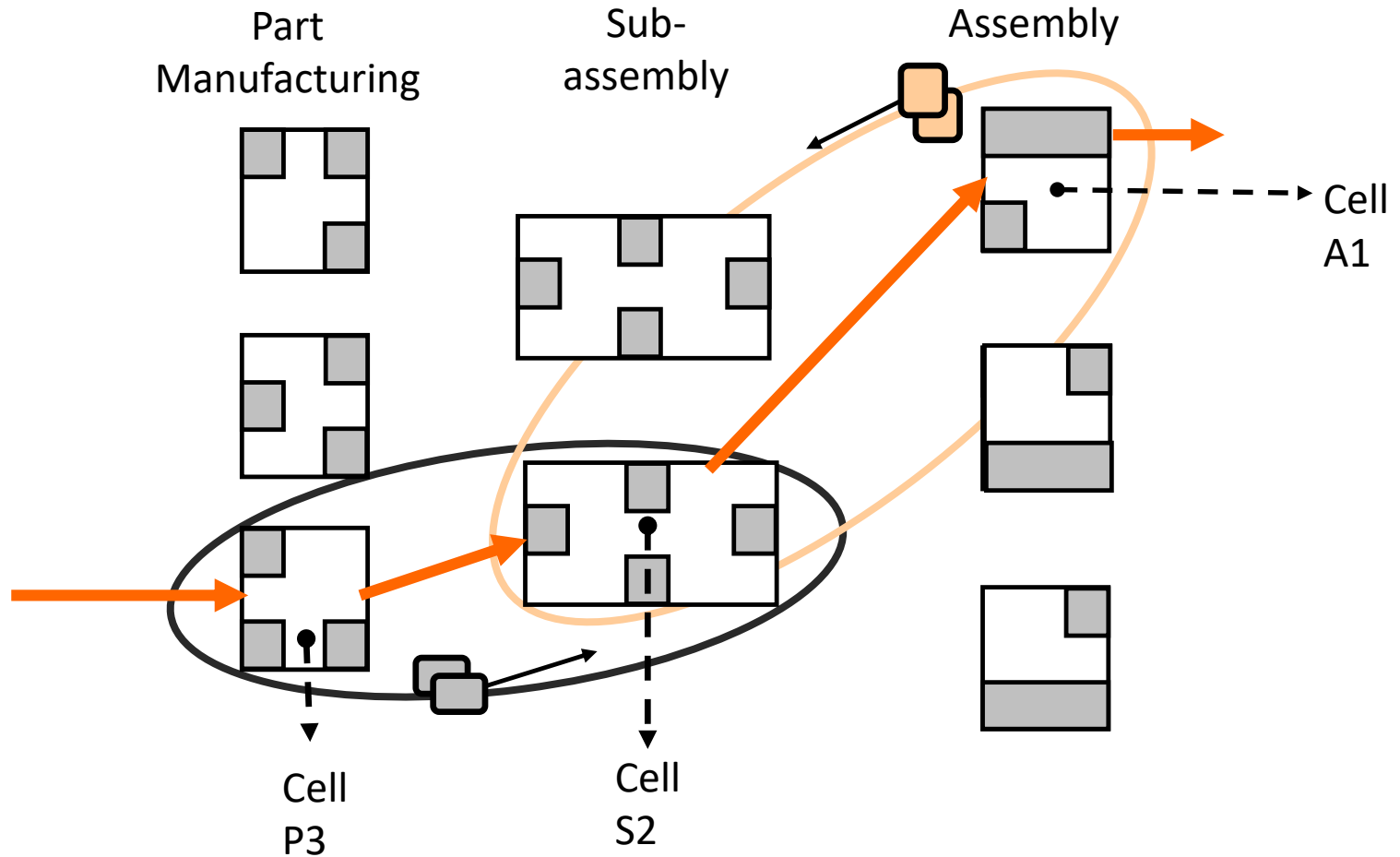
# POLCA

(= a coordination system between dependent cells)

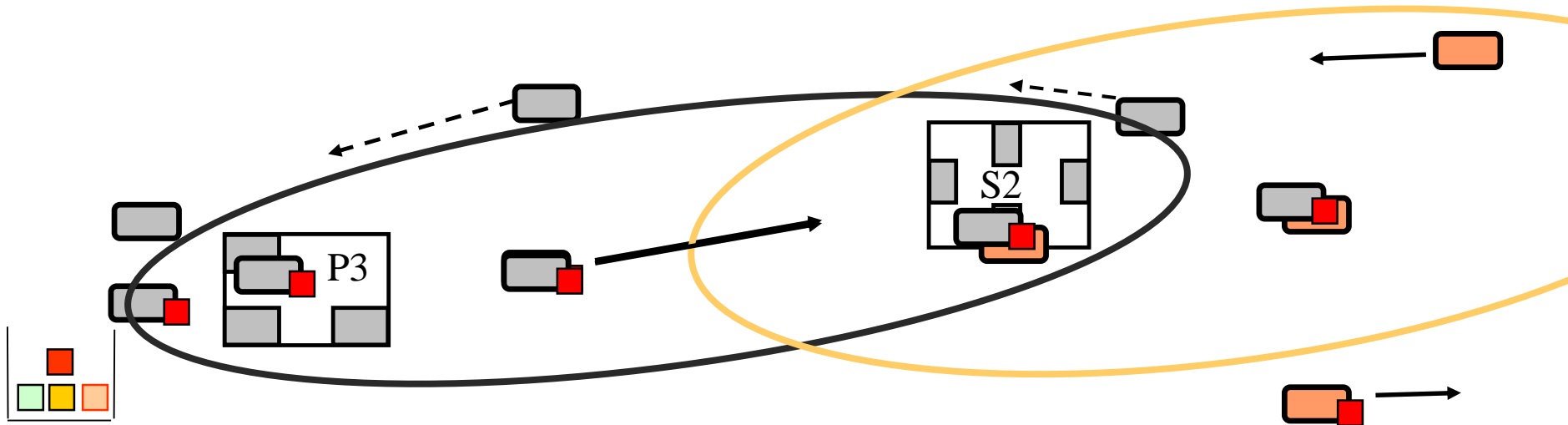
**P**aired-cell **O**verlapping **L**oops of  
**C**ards **A**uthorisation



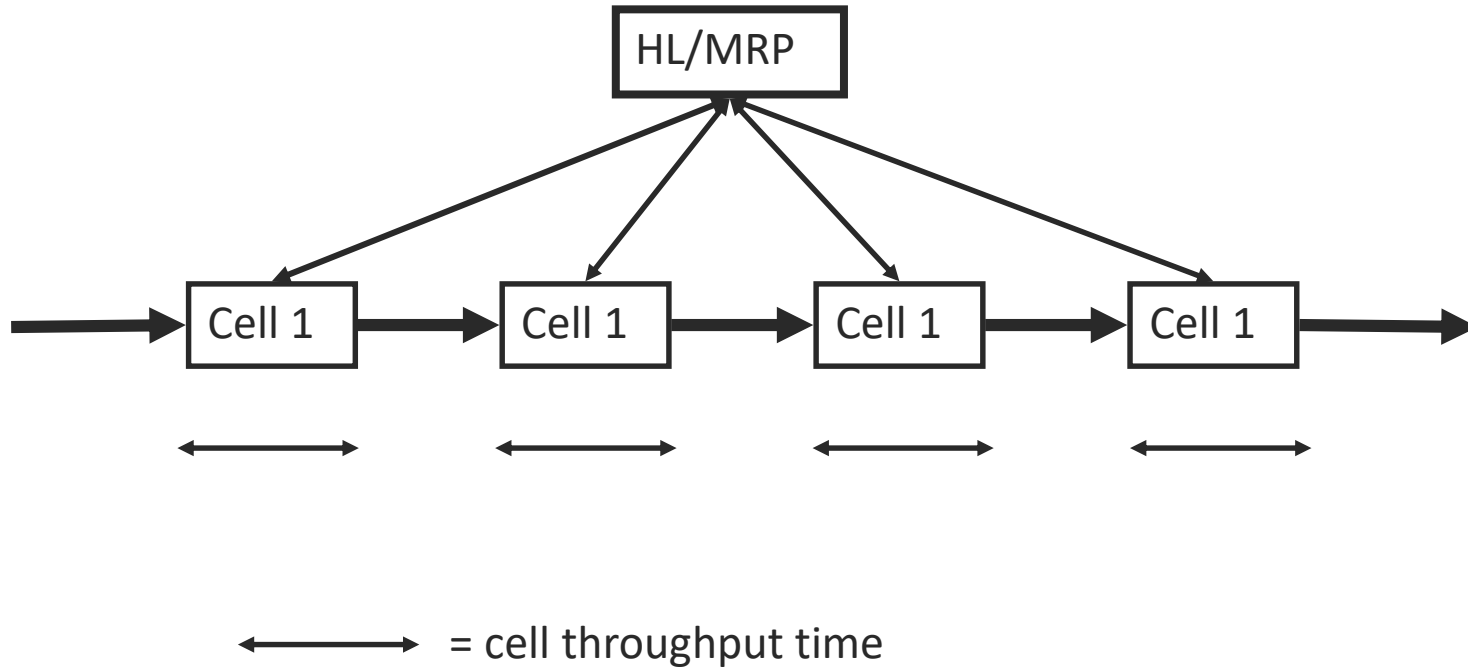
# Cells / loops / cards



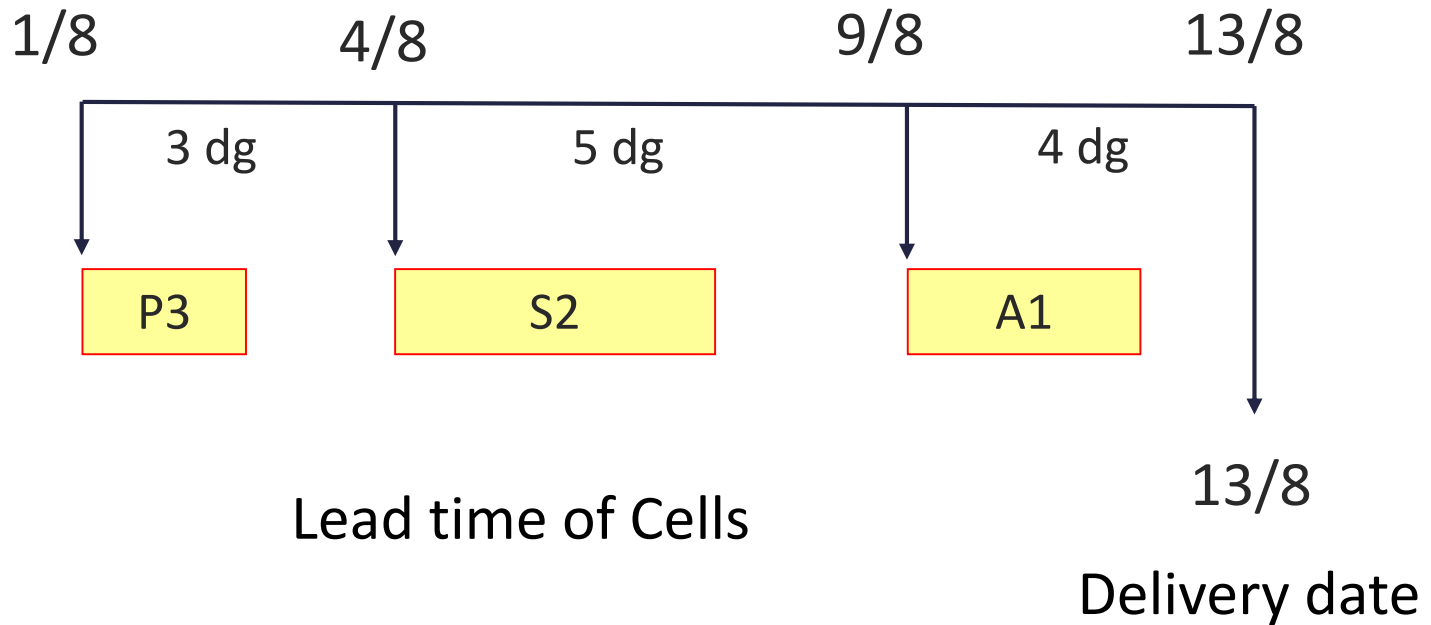
# Pull: Autorisation cards



# Push element: High level MRP



# Authorization dates



# Each product, or routing family (PF) has its own Lead Time

|           | Cell 1 | Cell 2 | Cell 3 | Cell 4 | Cell 5 | Total Lead Time |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|
| PF 1      | x      | x      | x      |        |        | $T1+T2+T3$      |
| PF 2      |        | x      | x      |        | x      | $T2+T3+T5$      |
| PF 3      | x      | x      |        | x      |        | $T1+T2+T4$      |
| PF 4      | x      | x      |        | x      | x      | $T1+T2+T4+T5$   |
| ..        |        |        |        |        |        | .....           |
| Lead Time | T1     | T2     | T3     | T4     | T5     |                 |

Layout design is important in POLCA control situations

# What are the advantages and disadvantages of POLCA?

## Advantages:

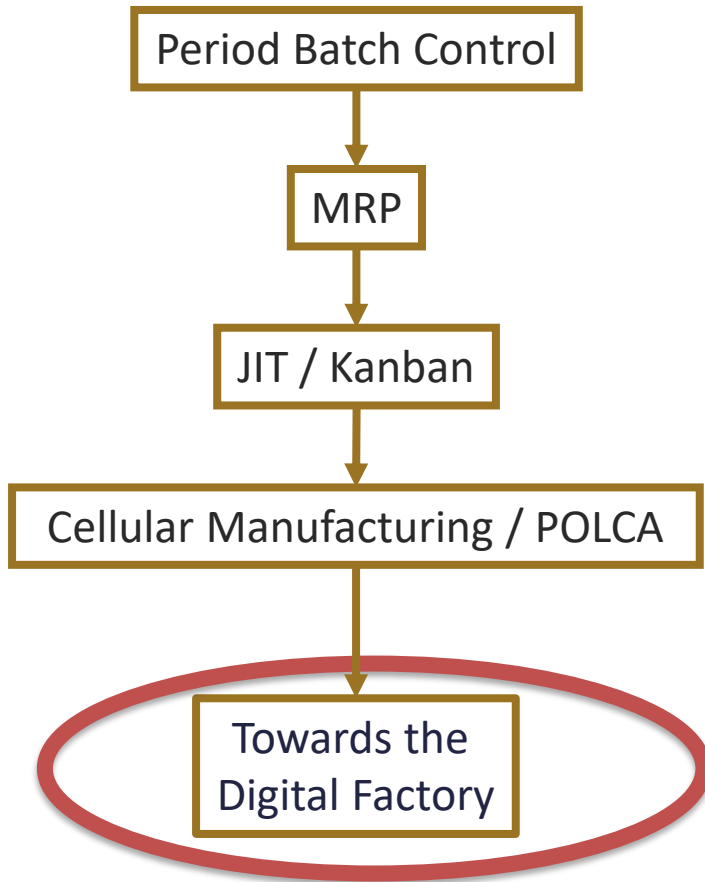
- Clear objectives (lead times and due dates) and challenges (lead time reduction – reducing of the number of cards) for each cell;
- Design according sociotechnical principles (variance control, multifunctionality, minimal critical specification). Creating responsible teams.
- Obeys own characteristics of cells.

## Disadvantages:

- Risk of having too many loops. This reduces flow control.
- Traffic of cards
- Little complex

**Principle: create dependent teams (with clear internal suppliers and customers)**

# “History” of Lean Production Control



**....and what does it mean for the future of your planning and control activities?**

# Steps towards the (human-centred) digital factory

Create value focused, dependent, semi-autonomous teams (control units)

Digital model, simulation



# Steps towards the (human-centred) digital factory

Create value focused, dependent, semi-autonomous teams (control units)

Monitor the progress of each team

Digital model, simulation

Information System, Barcode, QR code

# Production Progress Screen



# Production Progress Screen

| Production progress screen |     |       |          |                   |    |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|----------|-------------------|----|
| Day                        | Wed | Start | 06:00 am | Finished products | 26 |
| Takt time (min)            | 18  | Stop  | 11:00 pm | To be produced    | 34 |
| Daily production           | 60  | Time  | 10:33 am | Lead/backlog      | 11 |

| Nr. | Order  | Time  | Nr. | Order  | Time  | Nr. | Order | Time  | Nr. | Order | Time  |
|-----|--------|-------|-----|--------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|-------|-------|
| 41  | 688390 | 23:34 | 54  | 687872 | 03:50 | 19  | 0     | 00:00 | 38  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 17  | 688140 | 16:36 | 16  | 688238 | 02:58 | 20  | 0     | 00:00 | 40  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 47  | 688131 | 15:47 | 3   | 688202 | 01:34 | 21  | 0     | 00:00 | 43  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 11  | 688184 | 13:17 | 1   | 0      | 00:00 | 22  | 0     | 00:00 | 45  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 44  | 688221 | 11:50 | 2   | 0      | 00:00 | 23  | 0     | 00:00 | 48  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 46  | 688239 | 10:46 | 4   | 0      | 00:00 | 24  | 0     | 00:00 | 49  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 29  | 687899 | 10:38 | 5   | 0      | 00:00 | 25  | 0     | 00:00 | 51  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 10  | 687873 | 10:34 | 7   | 0      | 00:00 | 28  | 0     | 00:00 | 52  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 39  | 688237 | 08:54 | 8   | 0      | 00:00 | 30  | 0     | 00:00 | 53  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 34  | 687874 | 08:39 | 9   | 0      | 00:00 | 31  | 0     | 00:00 | 55  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 50  | 687900 | 08:33 | 12  | 0      | 00:00 | 32  | 0     | 00:00 | 56  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 6   | 688405 | 06:34 | 13  | 0      | 00:00 | 33  | 0     | 00:00 | 57  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 26  | 688402 | 06:03 | 14  | 0      | 00:00 | 35  | 0     | 00:00 | 58  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 27  | 688395 | 04:26 | 15  | 0      | 00:00 | 36  | 0     | 00:00 | 59  | 0     | 00:00 |
| 42  | 688387 | 04:10 | 18  | 0      | 00:00 | 37  | 0     | 00:00 | 60  | 0     | 00:00 |

**A focus on lead/backlog to deliver output according to takt time**

# Steps towards the (human-centred) digital factory

Create value focused, dependent, semi-autonomous teams (control units)

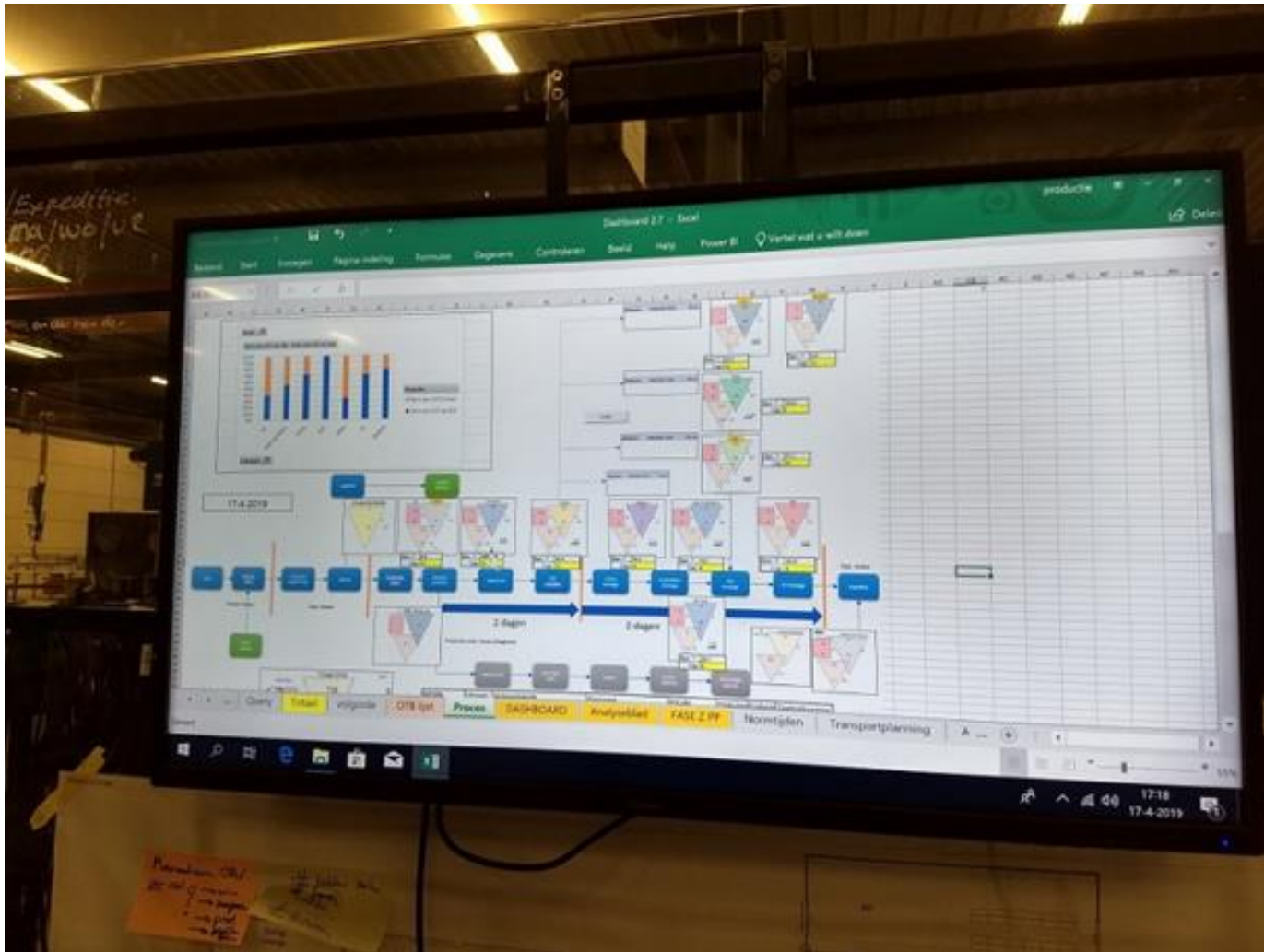
Monitor the progress of each team

Organize/manage the coordination between the teams.

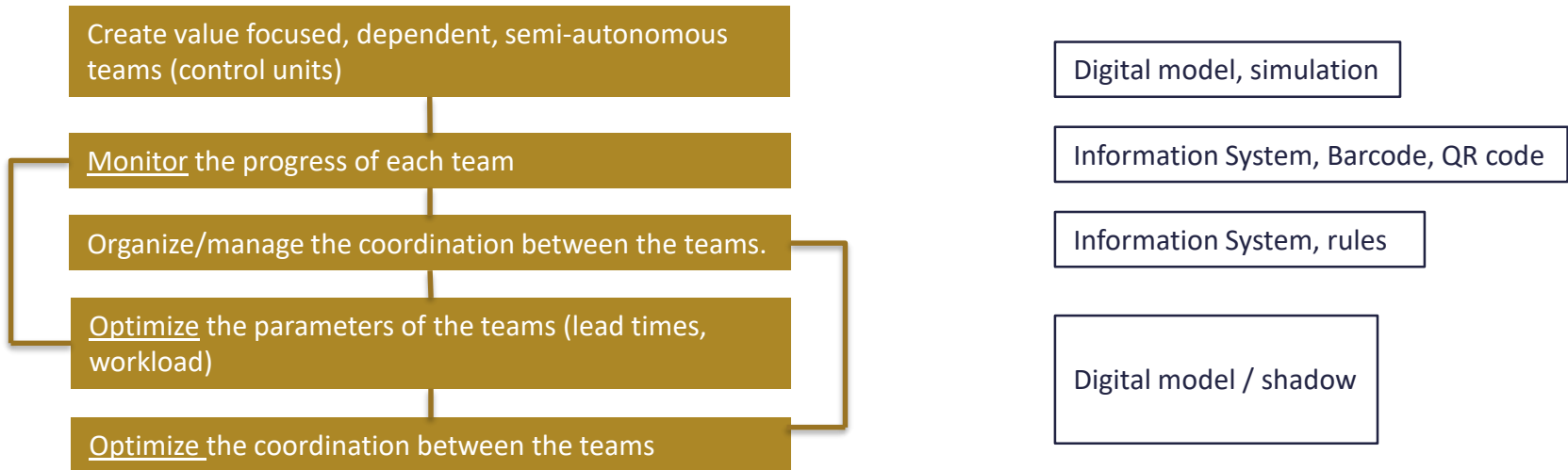
Digital model, simulation

Information System, Barcode, QR code

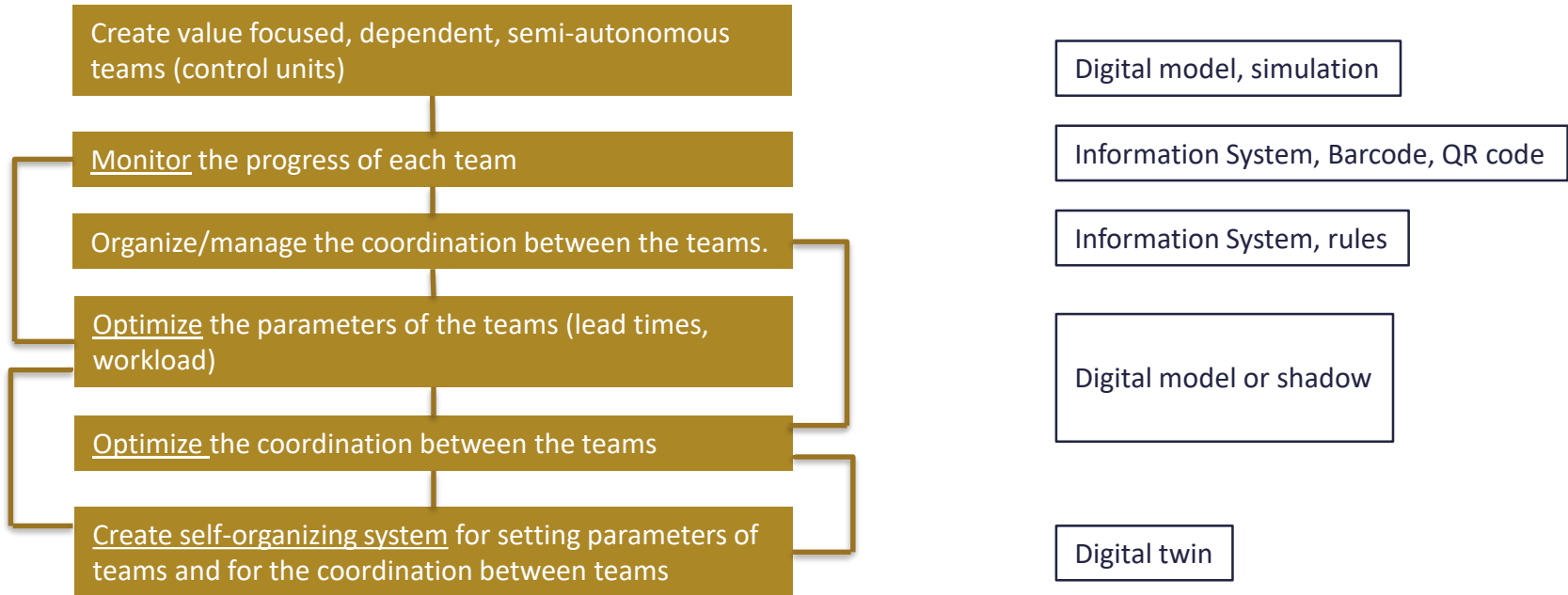
Information System, rules



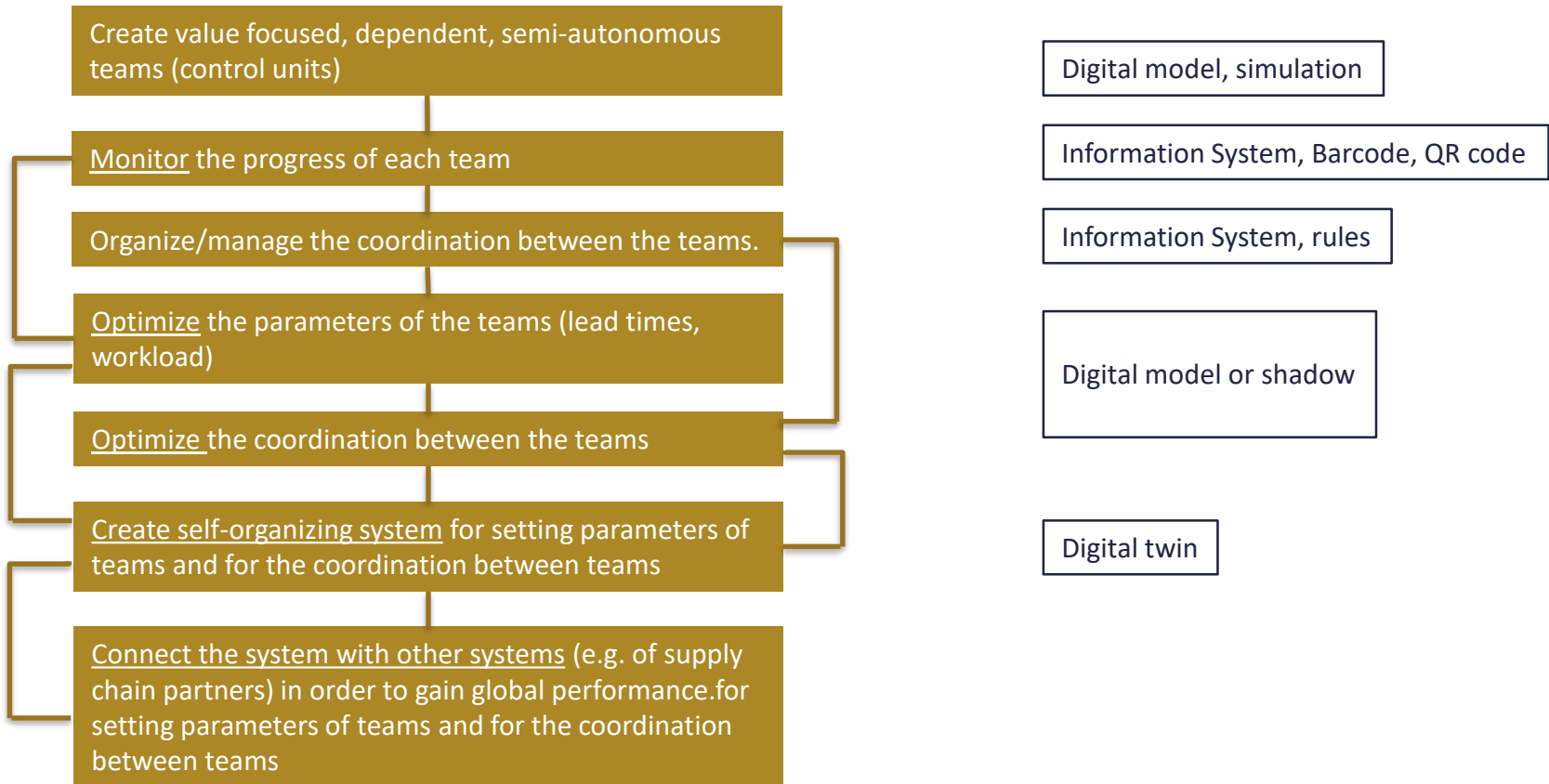
# Steps towards the (human-centred) digital factory



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# Steps towards the (human-centred) digital factory





**Main message: keep it transparent and gain the acceptance of those who are involved in planning and control.**

**Questions, comments?**