

PaperSaver™ Exception Report

Indispensable information for manufacturing planning & purchasing



Making critical planning issues visible

If you've ever tried to quickly find critical issues by flipping through a thousand page manufacturing and material planning exception report, you'll love this Unbeaten Path enhancement for BPCS / ERP LX.

PaperSaver reports provide users with true exception reporting for master production scheduling and material requirements planning systems. It focuses attention on the issues that really do need prompt attention from buyers and planners. The software enables users to establish decision rules which print only the most important subset of the normal MPS/MRP messages generated by BPCS / ERP LX. MPS/MRP messages which are screened out by decision rule tolerances are not printed.

The product also analyzes firmed-up purchase orders to identify POs which carry excessive quantities. Vanilla ERP LX functionality finds POs that should be entirely cancelled or POs that that should be de-expedited ... and ... if a buyer has enough patience to look every day, he/she will find those messages concealed someplace in a thick stack of paper. However, no BPCS or ERP LX version has ever pointed to POs that merit analysis to see if the purchase order quantities can be reduced.

PaperSaver prints the list of POs that carried reasonable quantities when they were firmed up with vendors ... but during the interval between PO release and PO delivery, something caused demand to be cut back a bit. So, since some percentage of the PO quantity is still needed and since the delivery due date for the PO is still right, vanilla BPCS/ERP LX doesn't alert the buyer. PaperSaver will report situations like that.

If the business relationship with the vendor permits PO quantity reductions and if the vendor hasn't already shipped the material, PaperSaver enables buyers to spot opportunities to cut back PO order quantities. That's a much better idea than taking delivery of X thousand pounds/parts that are just going to accumulate warehouse dust for what could be a long time.

Key benefit overview

PaperSaver provides these four fundamental benefits for BPCS / ERP LX users.

1. First, it shields users from messages that have little real value. Acting on messages of this genre just introduces unnecessary noise into an MRP system.
2. Since a PaperSaver report is much more concise, it's then realistic to hold planners/buyers accountable for acting on each of the messages in a timely way.
3. Third, the enhancement searches for and presents actionable messages that standard BPCS / ERP LX doesn't even look for.
4. Fourth, PaperSaver saves trees.



Illustration of “Buffer Days” functionality

Users can specify a “Buffer Days” tolerance for the different types of manufacturing planning exception messages; the specified tolerances are measured in full day increments. Here are some practical examples of how the enhancement works.

- ◆ Let’s say that a Buffer Days tolerance of 7 is established by the user for **de-expedite** messages. If BPCS/ERP LX identifies a situation which would ordinarily generate a "de-expedite-by-six-days" message, this message is not reported by PaperSaver.
- ◆ If a Buffer Days tolerance of 4 is established for **expedite** messages, then if BPCS/ERP LX identifies a situation which would ordinarily generate a "expedite-by-three-days" message, this message is not reported by PaperSaver.
- ◆ Third illustration: a Buffer Days tolerance of 3 days is established for **firm-up** messages. Let's say that the planning horizon date is through October 10th and the release date for a planned order is October 12th. PaperSaver will then look ahead past the planning horizon by the three day Buffer Days tolerance and prepare a firm-up message for printing.

Types of exception messages

PaperSaver reports include the following manufacturing planning exception messages:

- Expedite
- De-expedite
- Lead Time Violation
- Release
- Firm Up
- Cancel
- Past Due
- Consider reducing the quantity ordered on a firm-up purchase order

Ciba-Geigy bought it on the spot

One of our first customers was Ciba-Geigy (before they were purchased by Novartis). That was back before webinars were invented. They asked for a demo at one of their sites. To prepare for the afternoon session, we printed out the vanilla BPCS exception report from their production environment and then we printed out the PaperSaver report using typical Buffer Days settings.

At the meeting, we started by dramatically dropping the 14” thick BPCS report on the table ... which caused it to vibrate a bit. Then we laid the PaperSaver report on the table; it was only three-eighths of an inch thick. On the very top sheet, PaperSaver reported six consecutive lines of cancellation messages ... and it was determined that the value of *each* of those cancellations exceeded the cost of our software.

We got a verbal commitment from Ciba-Geigy before we left the room.

PaperSaver still has a free demo ... but it’s not really free because whenever a BPCS/ERP LX shop takes a serious look at the demo, they end up licensing the product.

More detailed product information

PaperSaver Exception Report software helps planners and buyers organize their jobs more effectively. It not only permits those users to focus on truly important exception messages, it also provides functionality to customize how the data will be presented. [Click here](#) to learn about the details.



Real-life statistics

Real operational statistics for PaperSaver were obtained from a division of a lawn equipment manufacturing enterprise. There were 33,201 planned items and the vanilla BPCS exception report had 7,610 messages printed on 7,610 pages. With Buffer Days thresholds set artificially low at zero, **PaperSaver** also produced 7,610 exception messages but the paper consumption dropped from 7,610 pages to 156 pages.

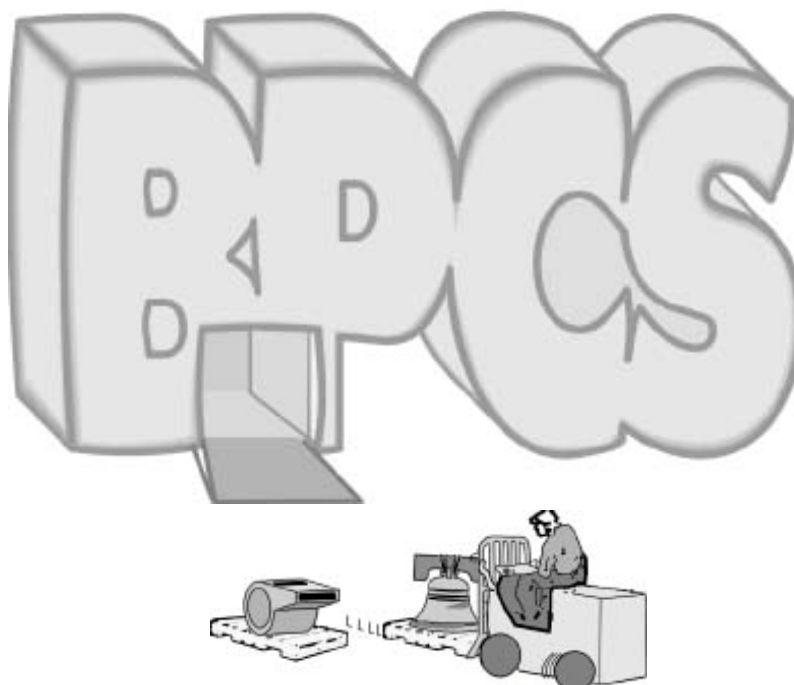
With more reasonable (higher) Buffer Days settings, the PaperSaver result would have been much less than 156 pages.

It was our very first Bells & Whistles™ for BPCS product

PaperSaver Exception Report software was the first of many add-ons/bolt-ons we've invented for BPCS; our development effort started back in 1994. It was a good idea then and it remains a good idea today. We keep selling new copies and we still get reference letters for it.

- ✚ [Click here](#) to see a great letter that came in from Nypro not too long ago.
- ✚ [Click here](#) to see our current portfolio of Bells & Whistles for BPCS / ERP LX.

Here's the **Bells & Whistles for BPCS** artwork Unbeaten Path started with back in the early 90s:



Questions ?

It would be a privilege to answer any questions about **PaperSaver Exception Report** software.
Here's Unbeaten Path International's contact information:

Toll free North America: (888) 874-8008

International: +(262) 681-3151

Send us an e-mail ([click here](#))

Unbeaten Path[®]

