

Coupling Supply Chain Optimization and Simulation to Gain a Competitive Edge

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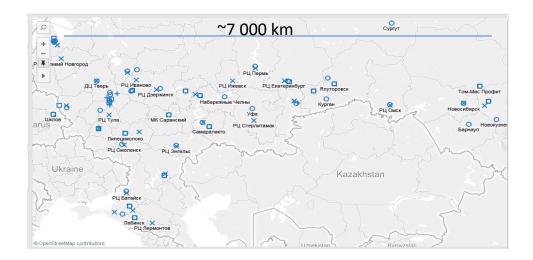
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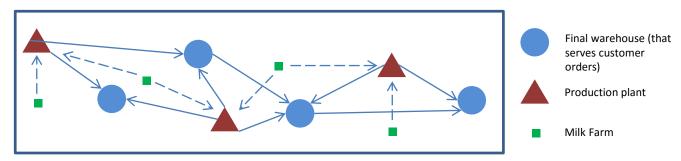
- ~20 manufacturing plants across the country. Particular product can be produced at different plants
- ~50 warehouses across the country
- High influence of shelf life factor shelf life 14-40 days. Must balance service level to customers (CSL) & amount of expired products (PPED)
- High influence of milk availability



- Need to determine what plant should produce what product and in what location, across time horizons
- Decision based upon many interdependent factors:
 - 1. Demand volumes and geographic distribution
 - 2. Production capacity and minimum batch limitations
 - 3. Milk availability and price
 - 4. CSL / PPED target balance
 - 5. Cost / profit implications
- Very difficult to calculate manually the resulting influence on whole system



Problem: Identifying Optimal Production and Transportation Plans



Production plan – what to produce where and in which quantity

Transportation plan – how to deliver products to final warehouse, directly from the plant or via intermediate warehouses with respect to Shelf Life requirements

Total costs = Production costs (COGS) + Transportation costs + Warehousing costs

KPIs: CSL, PPED on final warehouse

Sourcing problem definition:

Identify optimal combination of production and transportation plans that minimize total cost while keeping KPIs on targets

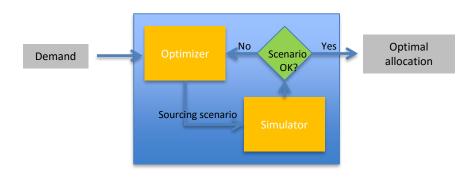
Assumptions set for finding optimal plans:

- ✓ Plants / warehouses locations are fixed
- ✓ Warehouse capacities are fixed
- Overall production capacity is fixed (we can move production equipment from one plant to another but we can not increase overall capacity)



Solution: Network Optimization & Simulation

- Wanted to use optimization to model entire supply chain and identify optimal production/ transportation allocation in terms of total costs
- Optimization allows only rough accounting for expiration factor
- Combined optimization / simulation solution accurately checks CSL & PPED balance and production feasibility

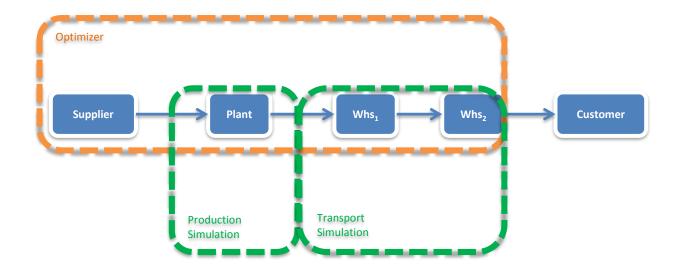


Optimizer: uses deterministic mathematical modeling (Linear programming techniques)

Simulator: uses discrete-events modeling prediction of Supply Chain behavior



Solution Design (Functional Coverage)



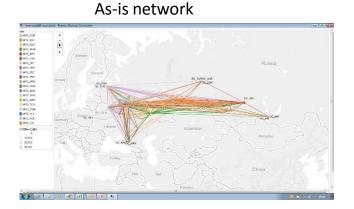
Network optimization results in scope

- 3 logical blocks covered:
- \circ Industrial
- Transportation/ WHS
- Milk sourcing

WE failed in Production Simulation The rest is successful

Results





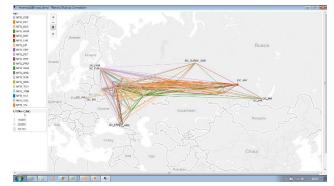
Biggest benefits from the tool:

- 1. We are able to find solutions that bring savings that are not evident by glance (see pictures above)
- 2. The system gives a sense of what are the "big forces" that drive overall supply chain results
- 3. We better can better manage what we understand

What we do with the tool:

- 1. Monthly capacity check within S&OP process
- 2. Special business cases calculations ("what would happen if we do this..." calculation)
- 3. Strategic analysis of optimal production footprint

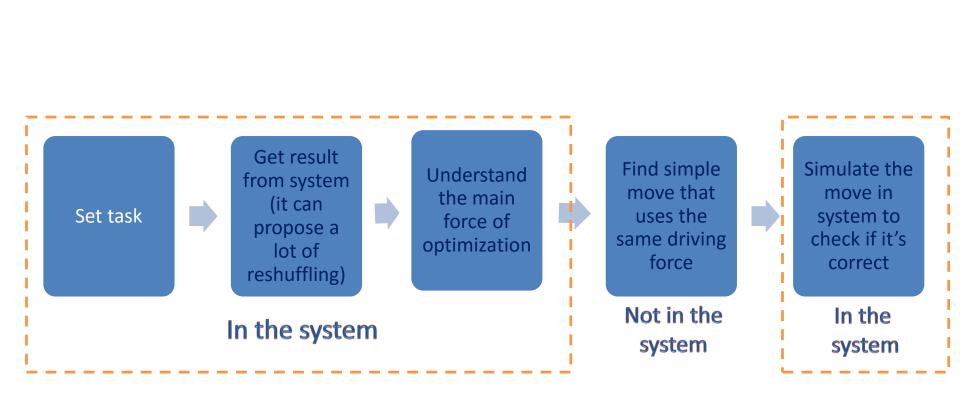
One of the optimization scenarios



Success drivers:

- 1. Incorporated milk price and availability into production decisions
- 2. Detailed modeling of production process allowed for precise capacity calculation





Questions & Answers





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