

# Checklist: Selling SPC

## Questions to Ask When Estimating Ignition SPC

The following is a guide for questions to ask to accurately estimate and implement a SPC system. In some implementations, there may be multiple methods used depending on the site, area of the plant, or process, and a separate checklist for each is recommended.

**Will product codes be used?**  yes |  no

If so, what is the source?

Using Ignition to input product codes

-or-

Obtain from the OEE Downtime and Scheduling modules

-or-

Interfacing with ERP or other system

- Who will you be working with on the ERP end? \_\_\_\_\_
- Will there be any updates back to the ERP system?  yes |  no
- Are there any intermediary database tables?  yes |  no
- Are web services being used?  yes |  no

**How will SPC be collected?**

Manually by the operator

- or -

Automatically through OPC

- or -

From instrument(s)

**Determine the number of required locations**

Locations provide organization to scheduling samples and detecting out-of-control conditions.

- Without locations, notification of samples that are coming due, due or overdue will be generic for the entire plant. For example, a notification may be sent out that a pH sample is overdue. There will be no indication as to where in the plant the sample has to be taken. In contrast, by using a location, the notification will say "pH sample is overdue at DAF Station 5." This tells exactly where the sample must be taken.
- Without locations, notification of out-of-control processes will be generic for the entire plant. For example, a notification may be sent out that checkweigher weights are in violation of Nelson Rule 3. There will be no indication as to where in plant this is occurring. There may be 10 lines, all with checkweighers. In contrast, by using locations the notification will say "Checkweigher weights for Line 1 are in violation of Nelson Rule 3."

- Control chart points can be filtered by location. For example, if Lines 1 through 10 all collect samples from checkweighers, then samples for a selected line can be displayed in the control chart. In addition to this, control limits are maintained by location or optionally by product code / location combination.
- Automatic creation of samples from Ignition tag values are configured by location resulting in the benefits listed above.
- Additional factors which are user-defined data values to be stored along with each sample are defined by location. This allows the ability to collect raw material lot numbers for ingredients in the mixing department and other completely different data points such as pack code on the packaging line. If multiple locations are not used then packaging will have a raw material lot number and the mixing department will have pack code. Both are not relevant to each other and are confusing.

#### **Additional Screens**

Does the customer want different or additional **screens** than what comes with the SPC Module or what you have previously created?

#### **Additional Reports**

Does the customer want different or additional **reports** than what comes with the SPC Module or what you have previously created?

#### **Additional Requirements**

Look for any other requirements that are unique to the customer's production environment. For example, this includes functionality such as:

- Special instruments that have limited or locked down communications.
- Data that requires calculations before samples are recorded.
- Additional functionality that falls outside of SPC such as accountability tracking.