

IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPUTER SIMULATION IN RUBBER ASSEMBLY
LINE: A CASE STUDY (RUBBER RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MALAYSIA)

MOHD FAHMI BIN MOHAMAD AMRAN

A project report submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the award of the degree of
Master of Science (Information Technology – Manufacturing)

Faculty of Computer Science and Information System
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

JUNE 2006

To my beloved parents *Mohamad Amran Subahi & Zaleha Badar* and my brother *Mohd Fadrizal*, thanks for your sacrifice, support, understanding and love. To my special friend *Siti Hajar Ab Majid*, thanks for your encouragement, inspiration and patience. To all my good friends (ITMa nufacturing, ITManagement, Computer Science)Arya, Him, Saffie, Ny, Ana &ida nice knowing you all and remember our sweet memory together"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah, it is with Allah S.W.T will that I get to finish this project in the time given. Here, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my supervisor, Dr. Habibollah Haron for his attention and guidance throughout the length of this study. His generous help is gratefully appreciated. I am also grateful to RRIM administrator for their assistance in supplying data and useful information. Not forgetting, to my evaluators Pn. Razana Alwee and Pn. Nor Azizah Ali for many helpful suggestion.

Special thanks to my fellow postgraduate students in M.Sc IT-Manufacturing program, friends, staffs, and lecturers in the Faculty of Computer Science and Information System, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia for their help and support. Unfortunately, it is not possible to list all of them in this limited space. Not forgetting, to my special friend and family for their supports and understanding.

Abstract

Simulation is one of the modeling techniques in solving industrial problem that can imitate the real system through model development. In Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia (RRIM), assembly line of Deproteinised Natural Rubber (DPNR) that has been operating since 1994 had never been modeled through simulation method in improving and solving the production problem. Therefore, the implementation of computer simulation in the DPNR assembly line at RRIM is appropriate to solve two main problems namely increasing production capacity, and ineffective production line. In order to achieve the objective, facilities layout, automating the process of assembly line and increase the conveyor speeds were proposed as a method to improve the current system. In this project, the simulation modeling was applied discrete event simulation and the flow manufacturing simulation as a methodology. The simulation model was developed and tested using *ProModel 6.0 Network Version* software. The data analysis was carried out using *Stat::Fit* of *ProModel* software. Data was collected and evaluated to determine the necessary parameters that are used in the simulation model. This project is wished to be implemented as solutions to the problem faced by the current system.

Abstrak

Simulasi merupakan teknik pemodelan dalam menyelesaikan masalah industri yang dapat meniru sistem sebenar menerusi pembinaan sebuah model. Di Institut Penyelidikan Getah Malaysia (RRIM), baris pengeluaran bagi *Deproteinised Natural Rubber* (DPNR) yang telah mula beroperasi sejak tahun 1994 tidak pernah dimodelkan melalui kaedah simulasi yang dapat menyelesaikan masalah pengeluaran. Oleh itu, pengimplementasian komputer simulasi untuk baris pengeluaran bagi DPNR di RRIM adalah kaedah yang sesuai untuk menyelesaikan dua masalah utama iaitu peningkatan jumlah pengeluaran dan baris pengeluaran yang tidak efektif. Untuk mencapai objektif, *layout fasiliti*, pengautomasian proses baris pengeluaran dan meningkatkan kadar kelajuan konveyor telah dicadangkan sebagai kaedah dalam meningkatkan keupayaan sistem semasa. Dalam projek ini, pemodelan simulasi menggunakan *simulasi peristiwa diskrit* dan *simulasi pembuatan aliran* sebagai metodologi. Model simulasi dibangunkan dan diuji menggunakan perisian *ProModel 6.0 Network Version*. Analisa data pula menggunakan *Stat::Fit* yang terdapat dalam perisian *ProModel*. Data telah dikumpul dan dinilai untuk menentukan parameter yang digunakan dalam pemodelan simulasi. Adalah diharapkan semoga projek ini dapat digunakan untuk menyelesaikan masalah yang dihadapi sistem semasa.