Promise Dates: Load to Completion

> A customer promise is credible only when the finite workload and the selected dispatch rule support it.

A due date should come from the constrained work center, not from a calendar guess.

Define the decision before comparing options

Start with the operating constraint and the outcome that matters. Put volume, time, cost, and service assumptions in one place so the comparison answers a real decision rather than a vague preference.

Worked example from the live calculator

A 1,000-unit order at 200 units per day starting 2024-01-01 completes on 2024-01-05. At 150 units per day against that same due date, the live completion-date calculator moves completion to 2024-01-09 and reports a two-day shortfall.

Use the linked engines as a decision chain

These engines address different parts of the same choice: production-completion-date, finite-capacity-load, dispatch-rule-comparator, forward-backward-scheduling. Run them in sequence, carrying the measured constraint and stated assumptions forward instead of re-entering convenient defaults.

Turn the result into an operating action

Use the recommended option as a trigger for a manager review. Confirm the input data, identify the condition that would flip the result, assign an owner, and revisit the choice when demand, cost, or capacity changes.

Key takeaway. A trustworthy operating decision is a chain of measured constraints and explicit tradeoffs, not a single isolated calculation.

Assumptions

- Use current local costs, capacities, and operating constraints before acting on a planning result.

Sources

- Platform calculation models and stated operating assumptions

Frequently asked questions

Does this replace local operating judgment?

No. It organizes the tradeoffs and shows which input can change the recommendation.

What inputs deserve the closest review?

The inputs with the largest cost, service, or capacity effect in your actual operation.

How often should this be revisited?

Whenever demand, labor cost, lead time, utilization, or the operating constraint changes materially.

Operations Decisions is a set of transparent decision engines for physical operations, not a guarantee of any outcome. This guide is educational.