

A Study on Factors to Effectively Manage the Dyeing Process House

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Abstract:

Apparel making is the last process in the consumer textile before reaching to the customer. The apparel industry is fashion driven; the turnaround time is the major criteria from design concept to manufacturing and till reach the customer. In the process of manufacturing, dyeing process is one of the critical processes, which makes the colouring and finishing of the fabric as per customer preference. In this paper the author understands the dyeing process and to improve the efficiency of the dyeing management process; identified the factors which directly affect the efficiency of the dyeing management process and found that there is a positive association between the size of the company and the companies booking order in advance.

Key words: Apparel, Dyeing process house, Planning, Factor analysis.

1. Introduction:

Apparel making is the last process in the consumer textile before reaching to the customer. The apparel manufacturing process consists of major raw material as yarn, then convert the yarn to form the fabric, then dyeing / finishing the fabric as per the customer requirement, which includes colouring the fabric, printing and finishing the fabric and finally it is ready for apparel making purpose. The planning department will allocate optimum time for all the major activities which includes sourcing of raw material, converting the yarn to fabric [Weaving / Knitting], dyeing / finishing, and apparel making. [Cutting, sewing and packing]. Any delay in the initial activities will have the cumulative effect on the next activity; the time lost in the previous activity will reduce the allocated time of the following activities. As apparel making is the last process, the pressure adds to deliver the goods on time to the buyer.

The apparel industry is fashion driven; the turnaround time is the major criteria from design concept to manufacturing and till reach the customer. In the process of manufacturing, dyeing process is one of the critical processes; the dyeing process involves the chemical reaction which makes it very difficult to predict the exact output. By using the trial and error method and experience the output can get within the tolerance level. The capacity of the machine decides the number of batches to be carried out, more quantity requires multiple batches. Colour variation between the batches should be within acceptable limits, getting the consistency between the batches is very difficult, so the dyeing process is playing a vital role.

Most of the scheduling related papers dealt with algorithms, these algorithms are concentrating on few parameters only, by changing these few parameters how the final output is varying. Practically, few parameters are not enough, there are a lot other factors need to be considered. To manage the dyeing process effectively, the author identified the factors by using factor analysis and trying to find the association between the sizes of the company and booking the order in advance. By identifying the factors, the dyeing manager can concentrate the areas to be improved, so that the overall process is improved getting the first time right and the delivery date can be achieved.

2. Review of Literature

William M. Goriwondo, Walter Chipambwa addressed the sequencing of colours to be dyed with reference to different cleaning time required for different colours dyed by developing a model. "Colour engineering and scheduling the different colour shades for processing with minimal set-up costs while attaining the required quality within delivery deadlines is a major challenge for TN Textiles. Due to the

differences in colour compositions, machines have to be cleaned between batches, but the intensity of cleaning differs on the preceding colour shades. Some need deep cleaning while others require light cleaning and this has an impact on the set-up costs. The other challenge of getting the right colour the first time and this is due to the nature of the dyeing operation. It is a key industry success factor to be able to schedule colours with minimum setup costs while achieving right colour quality as required by the different customers”¹. In this paper the author addressed two factors, type of product and type of manufacturing.

Laoboornlur, Preecha, addressed “With multiple products and multiple sequence dependent setups in the dyeing and finishing process, studying the relationship between fabric types, order requirements (e.g., color, finishing characteristics), order size, and setup time are critical for developing a scheduling method. This relationship provides the information that determines when a setup is necessary. Thus, one of the objectives of this research is to develop setup matrices for scheduling dyeing and finishing processes. The setup matrices are developed based on information and experience of the case plant.”³ Grouped four types of fabric.

For every colour to be dyed, Morales et al, developed a colour matrix using the colour value.⁴

Livingston and Sommerfeld, developed a simulation model considered the machines used, processing time for the each job, people, maintenance activities, policy on quality control, work in process and market requirement.⁵

Single machine scheduling, Monma and Potts, addressed the setup time, maximum lateness, completion time and lateness considered for each batch and optimally sequenced the batches into a proper schedule⁶

3. Objective:

1. To find the association between the size of the company and the order booked in advance.
2. Identifying the factors for effectively manage the dyeing process house.

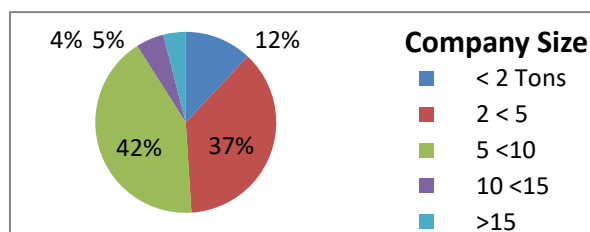
4. Methodology

- Sample size is 100 and the sampling technique adopted is convenience sample.
- Statistical tools used for analysis are frequency distributions, charts, Chi Square test and Factor analysis
- SPSS 17 and MS Excel software’s are used for data analysis.
- The scope the study is limited to the knitted dyeing processing unit.

5. Analysis

5.1 Company Size

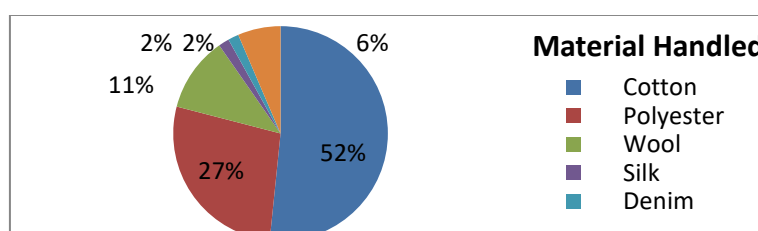
Fig: 1



37% of companies are operating in the range of 2-5 tons per day and 42% of companies are operating in the range of 5-10 tons per day, 79% of companies are operating between 2-10 tons per day. Only 4% of the companies are doing more than 15 tons per day, 12% of the companies are operating at very small level as less than 2 tons per day.

5.2 Material Handled

Fig: 2



52% of the companies involved in cotton products, 27% of the companies involved in polyester material.

5.3 Type of fabric handled

Table: 1

Type of Fabric Handled	Frequency
Weaving	28
Knitted	72

72% of the companies handled knitted type fabric and 28% of companies handled weaved type fabric.

5.4 Order booking days in advance

Table: 2

Number of Days in Advance	Frequency
< 3	10
3 - 6	47
6 - 15	22
15 – 30	14
> 30	7

47% of the companies, booking orders in less than 3 days in advance, 22% of the companies, booking orders in 3-6 days in advance and 39% of the companies booking orders in above 15 days in advance.

5.5 Delivery Date Confirmation

Table: 3

Delivery Date Confirmation	Frequency
Yes	72
No	28

72% of the companies confirm the delivery date and 28% of the companies are not confirming the delivery dates for the booked orders.

5.6 Number of days to confirm the delivery date

Table: 4

Number of days to confirm the delivery date	Frequency
< 2	39
2 – 4	28
5 – 7	11
> 7	22

39% of the companies confirm the delivery dates in less than 2 days, 28 % of the companies confirm in 2-4 days and 11% of the companies in 5-7 days.

5.7 Associations between the size of the company and the order booked in advance

To find out the relationship between the size of the company and the order booked in advance, Chi square test has been carried.

H₀: There is no relationship between the size of the company and order booked in advance

H_a: There is a relationship between the size of the company and order booked in advance

Level of Significance: 0.01

Table: 5

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	122.826 ^a	16	0
Likelihood Ratio	125.594	16	0
Linear-by-Linear Association	8.387	1	0.004
N of Valid Cases	100		

Inference:

There is no sample evidence to accept *H₀*. i.e., there is a relationship between the size of the company and order booked in **advance**, since the “p” value is less than the level of significance (0.01).

5.8 Factor analysis

To identify the important factors which lead to effectively manage the dyeing process house, factor analysis is carried out.

The primary data consisted of 100 replied questionnaires, pertaining to planning in the dyeing process house to improve the overall performance of the dyeing house. Reliability and validity have done by using Cronbach's Alpha and KMO - Bartlett’s test of sphericity respectively.

Table: 6

Reliability Statistics	
Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.937	30

The reliability of the questionnaire is 0.937 which is calculated using Cronbach’s Alpha. It indicates the level of internal consistency of the multiple item scale which is greater than 0.7.

5.8.1 KMO and Bartlett’s Test for sampling adequacy

The below table indicates the KMO value for sample adequacy 0.812, as the KMO value is greater than 0.5, the data can be used for factor analysis.

Bartlett’s test of sphericity testing for the significance of the correlation matrix of the variables indicates that the correlation coefficient matrix is significant by the “p” value corresponding to the Chi square statistic. The “p” value is less than 0.05, the sampling adequacy is significant.

Table: 7

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.812
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	2409.907
	df	435
	Sig.	.000

The data were subjected to principal component analysis and varimax rotation. Prior to principal component analysis, the communalities involved were first established. [Table : 8] Communality explains the total amount an original variable shares with all other variables included in the analysis and it is very useful in deciding which variables to finally extract in the varimax rotation and in determining the adequacy of the sample size.

Table: 8

Total Variance Explained									
Component	Initial Eigen values			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	10.934	36.447	36.447	10.934	36.447	36.447	4.292	14.308	14.308
2	3.297	10.990	47.437	3.297	10.990	47.437	3.983	13.276	27.584
3	2.490	8.299	55.737	2.490	8.299	55.737	3.628	12.093	39.677
4	2.242	7.473	63.210	2.242	7.473	63.210	3.434	11.447	51.123
5	1.472	4.908	68.118	1.472	4.908	68.118	3.276	10.919	62.043

6	1.264	4.213	72.330	1.264	4.213	72.330	2.39 7	7.990	70.032
7	1.107	3.689	76.020	1.107	3.689	76.020	1.79 6	5.988	76.020
8	.796	2.654	78.674						
9	.725	2.415	81.089						
10	.664	2.213	83.302						
11	.595	1.985	85.287						
12	.559	1.864	87.151						
13	.461	1.536	88.687						
14	.425	1.417	90.104						
15	.383	1.278	91.382						
16	.338	1.126	92.507						
17	.314	1.047	93.554						
18	.275	.916	94.470						
19	.254	.845	95.315						
20	.237	.790	96.106						
21	.200	.666	96.772						
22	.179	.597	97.369						
23	.156	.522	97.891						
24	.136	.454	98.345						
25	.122	.408	98.753						
26	.102	.338	99.091						
27	.084	.281	99.372						
28	.073	.243	99.615						
29	.061	.203	99.818						
30	.054	.182	100.000						

Table: 9

Rotated Component Matrix ^a							
	Component						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
VAR00001	.514	.410	.338	-.104	.048	.086	.352
VAR00002	.030	.168	.325	.729	.327	.136	-.146
VAR00003	.651	.270	.467	-.112	.041	.270	.033
VAR00004	.034	.170	-.008	.752	.238	.240	.250
VAR00005	.774	.181	.177	-.221	.132	.375	.093
VAR00006	.016	.375	.372	.587	.037	-.120	.125
VAR00007	.442	-.043	.044	.092	.762	.165	.187
VAR00008	-.030	.361	.584	.434	-.020	.200	.310
VAR00009	.593	.247	-.236	.021	.446	.117	.299
VAR00010	.128	.251	.847	.163	.112	-.036	.047
VAR00011	.168	.744	.050	.262	.076	.164	.116
VAR00012	.293	-.160	.685	.160	.282	-.112	.278
VAR00013	.069	.806	-.019	.038	.097	.318	.187
VAR00014	.156	-.270	.283	.527	.599	.061	-.071
VAR00015	.137	.552	.300	.119	.195	-.077	.563
VAR00016	.500	.010	-.316	-.023	-.050	.481	-.438
VAR00017	.003	.428	.115	.305	.645	-.314	.091
VAR00018	.426	-.001	.354	.205	.090	.501	.332
VAR00019	.268	.633	.098	.113	.454	.231	-.041

VAR00020	.762	.103	.185	.401	.099	-.083	.110
VAR00021	-.068	.395	.084	.051	.508	.560	.100
VAR00022	.787	.105	.172	.374	.030	.098	-.007
VAR00023	-.130	.298	.285	.296	.626	.040	.045
VAR00024	.240	.087	.219	.611	.225	.036	.174
VAR00025	.197	.036	.813	.275	.147	.004	-.003
VAR00026	.285	.495	.288	.322	.150	-.116	.240
VAR00027	.116	.273	.149	.231	.617	.336	-.051
VAR00028	.221	.266	.115	.343	.042	.231	.673
VAR00029	.507	.612	.165	.104	.123	-.194	-.108
VAR00030	.228	.158	-.094	.184	.139	.817	.051

The above factor analysis revealed seven factors which are labelled as Planning, Process, Material, Quantity, Rework, Maintenance and Urgency.

5.8.2 The identified factors are:

Table: 10

F 1	Planning	All the order quantities will be delivered in one shot
		Almost every day the production plan has changed
		Different size of the machine is helpful for different types of order sizes
		Every week the planned productions are strictly followed
		Order quantity shortages will be identified after the delivery
		Production plan for one week is made in advance
		Rework happens due to protocol
F 2	Rework	Rework always affects the production
		Rework happens due to colour matching
		Rework happens due to handling problems
		Rework happens due to unskilled technician
F 3	Quantity	All the dyeing machines are loaded to full capacity
		Shortage in order quantities is accepted by the customers
		Small orders can be combined and dyed in the bigger capacity machines
		Some machines are operated with lesser capacity
F 4	Material	Change in the dyestuff batch numbers creates delay
		Material non availability leads to delay in the process
		Production Plan has changed due to delays in the Greige fabric availability
		Rework happens due to non availability of right dyes and chemicals
F 5	Process	Bulk production requires more number of additions
		Good to have a separate set of machines for dyeing light, medium and dark colour
		Good to mix different GSM fabric in the same dye bath
		Lab dip and bulk lot production exactly matches
		Process route will be there for each production lot / production order
F 6	Maintenance	Due to the age of the machines some lots take more time
		Machine breakdown affects the delivery date
		Machine breakdown affects the quality of the lot
F 7	Urgency	Often customer changes priority
		Production Plan has changed due to customer requirement

6. Findings:

- 37% of companies are operating in the range of 2-5 tons per day and 42% of companies are operating in the range of 5-10 tons per day, 79% of companies are operating between 2-10 tons

per day. Only 4% of the companies are doing more than 15 tons per day, 12% of the companies are operating at very small level as less than 2 tons per day.

- 52% of the companies involved in cotton products, 27% of the companies involved in polyester material.
- 72% of the companies handled knitted type fabric and 28% of companies handled weaved type fabric.
- 47% of the companies, booking orders in less than 3 days in advance, 22% of the companies, booking orders in 3-6 days in advance and 39% of the companies booking orders in above 15 days in advance.
- 72% of the companies confirm the delivery date and 28% of the companies are not confirming the delivery dates for the booked orders.
- 39% of the companies confirm the delivery dates in less than 2 days, 28 % of the companies confirm in 2-4 days and 11% of the companies in 5-7 days.
- There is a significant relationship between the size of the company and order booked in advance.
- The factor analysis revealed seven factors which are labelled as Planning, Process, Material, Quantity, Rework, Maintenance and Urgency.

7. Conclusion:

- There is a significant relationship between the size of the company and order booked in advance.
- The factor analysis revealed seven factors which are labelled as Planning, Process, Material, Quantity, Rework, Maintenance and Urgency.

8. Suggestions:

- The dyeing process house has to concentrate on the following factors, namely Planning, Process, Material, Quantity, Rework, Maintenance and Urgency, address the efficient operation of the process house will lead to improve the performance and customer satisfaction.
- Plan the production in advance irrespective of the size of the company.
- Further study can be carried out with the identified factors with the different characteristics.

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