
A Plug-In to Microsoft® Visio®, Developed by ProModel Corporation, Now Supports Modeling Material Flow.


About Process Simulator – Material Handling Edition

In this upgrade to material handling, the user can now model material flow in a Process Simulator model.

Along with the drawing environment being scaled, the user will now have access to:

- Stations – A new type of activity created to enhance material handling. The station can have capacity or capacity can be turned off—designed to be used with conveyors
- The user can insert an onboard station into a conveyor

Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATION</th>
<th>LOGIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
<td>Station_Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has Capacity:</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity:</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
<td>T(3, 5, 10) Min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hourly Cost:</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Path Networks can be visual as in the network shown above, or invisible as shown here.
• Conveyors – A new connector with properties to control how entities flow from activity to activity. Introducing stations in a conveyor will enhance the ability to control flow from conveyor to conveyor.
  • Control speed of conveyors
  • Control distance of conveyors
  • Control orientation of entities
  • Control accumulation of entities

• Path networks – Resource movement can be added to enhance the model with travel, pick up, and deposit time.

• Nodes – Decisions points of a path network
  • Set limits
  • Flexible connectors – Allow for travel of resources to any part of the Visio file where the resource is requested.
- **Path Network Connector** – Connections between nodes
  - Distance is automatically configured by the scale or the model but can be manually set

- **Interfaces** – Connections from nodes to activities or stations. The user can control where resources go to interact with an activity/station

- **Resource Path network section**
  - The user may choose the path network the resource can:
    - Move on control starting, off shift, and break node
    - Speed Deposit times
    - Node logic for better control of resources
• Entity Conveyor Size – Length and width can be assigned to an entity for flow on conveyors

**Properties**

**ENTITY**

Name: Work.Unit

Initial Cost: 0

**Conveyor**

Width (ft): 1.5

Length (ft): 1.5

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**Material Handling in Healthcare**

Material handling usage in a manufacturing environment is obvious, but maybe not as obvious for a healthcare environment, however it can be valuable there too. One example is delivering prescriptions from the hospital pharmacy to a pick-up point on each floor, from where they would be picked up and delivered to patient rooms.

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**About ProModel Corporation**

ProModel Corporation is a leading provider of simulation-based, predictive, and prescriptive analytic decision support solutions. An Autodesk Partner and Microsoft Gold Partner, ProModel specializes in custom and COTS (Commercial-Off-the-Shelf) software and services to help organizations optimize processes, policies, and resource decisions to best align with their business strategy. Founded in 1988, ProModel has tens of thousands of users of its software globally, focused across the manufacturing and supply chain, healthcare, pharmaceutical, and government industries.

**For additional information:**

ProModel Marketing 610-628-6842; marketing@promodel.com