



Process Planning for Aluminum Tubes: An Engineering-Operations Perspective (Classic Reprint)

By Anantaram Balakrishnan

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from Process Planning for Aluminum Tubes: An Engineering-Operations Perspective Metal forming operations such as rolling, extrusion, and drawing offer many opportunities for operations improvement through better process understanding and improved planning practices. This paper addresses medium term planning issues in aluminum tube manufacturing operations. First, we identify certain distinctive characteristics-the inherent process flexibility, close interdependence between successive stages, and economies of scale-of metal forming operations, and identify the planning and performance tradeoffs. To exploit the strategic potential of process planning, it must be closely coupled with process engineering efforts, and must simultaneously consider the facility s entire product mix. In contrast, current process engineering efforts are mainly reactive, focusing on fixing problems at individual operations, ignoring the interactions between successive stages. Similarly, planning activities are incremental, considering only individual products or orders one at a time rather than the entire range of product sizes to be manufactured. By working together, planners and engineers can develop effective process plans that exploit process capability, and adopt proactive process improvement strategies that focus on critical constraints. We describe a...

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