

IQMS Forecaster

Plan for the Future and Increase Profitability

Make Informed Business Decisions about the Future

Accurate forecasting and timely planning are critical tools in projecting plant throughput and resource requirements. IQMS Forecaster provides a snapshot of current and projected orders, as well as the impact on annual sales past, present and future. Forecaster is a powerful tool to analyze sales trends. It can also be used to populate budgets or for capacity planning with forecast demand orders. Forecaster makes projections quickly and easily and enables users to make informed business decisions.

IQMS Forecaster uses actual order or shipment history with corresponding sales revenue. Multiple formulas can be applied to the historical data to determine the most accurate forecast method. Once determined, forecasts can be generated based on the appropriate model. Data can be viewed in a spreadsheet or graphical format. Forecasts can be sorted by customer, part or grouped by inventory items. Make adjustments on the fly while comparing actual to forecast numbers by period or month and view instant analysis of various scenarios with “what if” capabilities. Forecasted quantities can be manipulated manually for maximum control.

Benefits

- Reduce time and effort with quick access to system orders and shipments
- Feed forecast data directly into live demand
- Improve business decision making with more accurate data
- Increase visibility to forecast data for better scheduling and resource planning
- Simplify budgeting
- Provide advanced tools for analysis of forecast effects on capacity planning
- Minimize data entry with automatic loading of forecast data
- Optimize flexibility by supporting multiple forecasts

The screenshot shows the IQMS Forecaster application window titled 'Forecast [Plant: 1]'. The main window displays a spreadsheet with columns for 'Class', 'Item #', 'Description', 'Ext Description', 'Rev', and months from 'Apr-2011' to 'Oct-2011'. A 'Generate Forecast' dialog box is open in the foreground, allowing users to select 'Customers' (All Customers or Select Customer) and 'Forecast Group' (Selected Item or Items in the group). It also includes options for 'By Period', 'By Quarter', and 'By Formula', along with fields for 'Source', 'Fiscal Year', 'Period', 'Target', and '% Change'.

| Class | Item # | Description | Ext Description | Rev | Apr-2011 | May-2011 | Jun-2011 | Jul-2011 | Aug-2011 | Sep-2011 | Oct-2011 |
|-------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| FG | 01-67890-A | HOUSING ASSY | | A | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | |
| FG | 01-7890434543 | PHONE HOUSING | | 2 | | | | | | | |
| DS | 01-84903 | HEADPHONE COVER - PAINT... | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 02150912 | CHROME PLASTIC FRAME/Z... | | | | | | | | | |
| W/P | 032101HB | T-2K | | | | | | | | | |
| W/P | 032201HB | T-4 | | | | | | | | | |
| W/P | 032510HB | T-6K | | | | | | | | | |
| W/P | 036501HB | T-9 | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 05010908 | ZINC CHROME METAL FRA... | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 05695665-SH | SOCKET HEAD | | B | | | | | | | |
| FG | 071100911 | CHROME PLASTIC FRAME/Z... | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 081000902 | BLACK PLASTIC FRAME/ST... | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 09340934 | 12 OZ MUSTARD JAR | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 0934098T | SM-RAIL/SIDE FOOT | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 0934909034 | OP PULLINGER | | B | | | | | | | |
| FG | 09439009 | COVER PLATE | | | | | | | | | |
| W/P | 0949090945 | BI-LEVEL FLOW ELEMENT (...) | | | | | | | | | |
| W/P | 10062997 | WTU-1B SUBASSEMBLY | | | | | | | | | |
| FG | 1012494 | FLDW HOUSING ASSEMBLY | | | | | | | | | |

Forecast by part, product group, week or month. Base forecasts on recent historical activity from sales and shipping information and apply multiple formulas to match historical trends.

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Key Features

Forecast by Group, Item or Customer- Multiple methods of selecting or entering forecast demand allow users to pick the more representative data for evaluation.

Flexible Forecast Generation- With forecast tools that allow for the best methods for driving projections, you can choose historical data across shipments or actual orders and increase or decrease quantities accordingly to generate the most accurate forecast possible .

Generate Capacity Plans with Forecast Data- Generate forecast production orders and see the effect of the forecast on machine, material and labor capacities. Forecast demand is highlighted by color codes for fast identification.

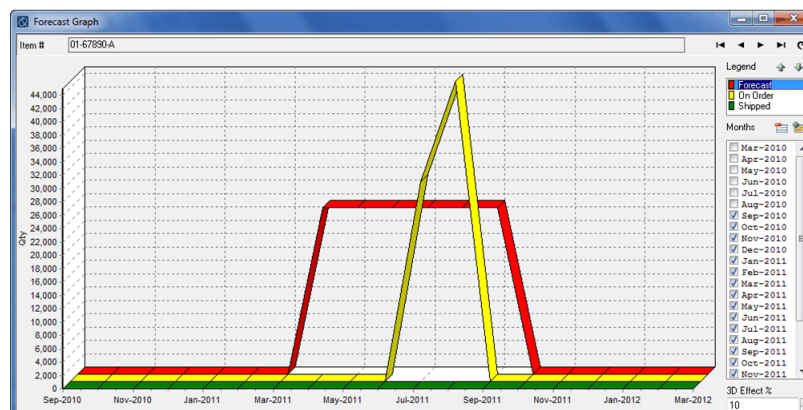
Automatic Forecast Consumption- Consume weekly or monthly forecast buckets with firm orders and releases.

Automatically Populate the Budget- View the effect of forecast information on future budgets automatically.

Analyze Forecast Data- Compare actual sales to the forecast with Excel® Pivot Tables and graph order values for forecast, shipped and sales order values of an individual inventory item.

Forecast Import/Export Tools- Tools are available to electronically receive and import forecasts, whether they are received from Excel® or via EDI/XML.

Multiple Forecasts- Production forecasts drive capacity planning while sales analysis forecasts drive budgeting. Automatically pull current or future pricing from the inventory master table to provide accurate sales forecast numbers.



Graphing tools help illustrate shipments, orders and forecasts over various time frames.