

Aspen Petroleum Scheduler[™]

Enables fast, accurate and collaborative creation of the refinery schedule with integration to refinery planning, blending and dock operations.



Aspen Petroleum Scheduler is an integrated system that supports comprehensive scheduling and optimization of refinery activities, including new dock scheduling. Since 1995, Aspen Petroleum Scheduler has provided a critical link between the refinery planning process and operations, helping customers across the globe achieve better operational alignment with the plan, which helps to prevent margin leakage in a volatile, competitive market.

The Challenge: Executing the Plan More Efficiently

Scheduling automation provides the key bridge between an optimal plan and operational execution. A significant challenge for schedulers is to execute the plan profitably while respecting refinery constraints. Today's schedulers are dealing with a dynamic environment, fewer staff and increasingly complex, flexible supply chains.

The AspenTech Solution: Schedule All Activities From One Platform

Aspen Petroleum Scheduler is an event-based, single-blend optimization solution that supports the scheduling of all refinery activities for over 45% of global refineries. It integrates with Aspen PIMS[™] to achieve greater profitability through more accurate planning and scheduling. For optimized blending, Aspen Petroleum Scheduler integrates with Aspen Refinery Multi-Blend Optimizer[™]. This comprehensive approach to planning, scheduling and blending yields customer savings.

Aspen Petroleum Scheduler extends beyond the refinery gate to include dock operations and pipeline movements for a more comprehensive view of the refinery schedule. The dock scheduling feature within Aspen Petroleum Scheduler manages all incoming and outgoing shipments, all the way down to the docks, while automatically creating and updating events within the refinery schedule. The new pipeline scheduling functionality enables more accurate tracking of incoming and outgoing movements via pipelines, including ancillary terminals that are critical to efficient operational scheduling. For optimized pipeline fill management, Aspen Petroleum Scheduler easily manages multiple, parallel and bi-directional pipeline segments with injection points.

By coordinating scheduling for all refinery activities, Aspen Petroleum Scheduler helps companies:

- Improve manufacturing efficiency
- Reduce quality giveaway, inventories and demurrage
- Shorten shutdown and startup cycles
- Better evaluate opportunities
- Narrow the gap between planning and scheduling
- Reduce runouts and unplanned incidents

Aspen Petroleum Scheduler is designed to maximize scheduler productivity by reducing the amount of time the scheduler spends assembling and validating data required for scheduling. Aspen Petroleum Scheduler shares production targets, assay data and submodels, blend model libraries, optimum recipes, and more with industry-leading Aspen PIMS.



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Dock scheduling in Aspen Petroleum Scheduler optimizes demurrage while managing incoming and outgoing shipments.

Pipeline scheduling in Aspen Petroleum Scheduler enables management of multiple and bi-directional segments with injection points.

Multi-User Collaborative Scheduling

To support teams of schedulers, Aspen Petroleum Scheduler allows multiple users to work simultaneously on schedules. Users share the same view of the refinery schedule, which improves coordination between schedulers and with other departments. Aspen Petroleum Scheduler manages schedule changes and alerts all schedulers when a change is made. An intuitive, easy-to-use graphical environment supports scenario analysis with visualization of potential changes and their impact on operations. Aspen Petroleum Scheduler is also internationalized and can be used in a local language.

In addition to improving coordination, scheduling in a multi-user environment offers:

- Best practice business processes that can be easily replicated within and across refineries
- Faster response to issues and opportunities



Gantt charts with associated trends provide an effective view to monitor and update schedules.

• Knowledge capture from experienced schedulers that can be easily shared with new employees

Integrated Planning, Scheduling and Blending

Aspen Petroleum Scheduler provides a comprehensive model of the entire plant along with tools that make it easy to maintain the model. Aspen Petroleum Scheduler and Aspen PIMS can share common assays, production targets, process unit representations, and blending correlations. This common model approach allows Aspen Petroleum Scheduler implementations to be quickly completed using Aspen PIMS assays and process unit representations. The model integration also allows schedulers to focus on scheduling since maintaining the assays, process units and blending correlations can be completed within Aspen PIMS.

Overall, this integration reduces model maintenance and improves accuracy. Aspen Refinery Multi-Blend Optimizer provides built-in blending integration by using the same database structure as Aspen Petroleum Scheduler. Blending and shipping events—including blends, product shipments and receipts, and tank-to-tank transfers—can be entered or modified in either product. As with the planning integration, the result is inherent data and model synchronization with reduced model maintenance.



Function	Benefit				
Event-based scheduling					
 Calculates the refinery schedule as a series of events, with significant granularity 	 Properly reflects the sequence of events in the schedule Provides compatibility between longer term planning (30-60 days) and shorter term scheduling (1-7 days) 				
Multiple-user operation					
 Database architecture provides multi-user capability internationalized for easy localization configuration and facilitates integration with other applications 	 Makes it easy for schedulers to coordinate activities within their group and with other departments (e.g.,logistics, marketing) Enables schedulers to respond faster to issues and opportunities Streamlines the scheduling process 				
racintates integration with other applications					
Dock Scheduling					
 Align the schedule with logistics to easily accommodate berth availability, physical constraints and available 	 Reduces demurrage costs by as much as \$60,000 USD per day for a single supertanker 				
products storage	Prevents product downgrades and unplanned product blending				
 Easily manage incoming and outgoing shipments all the way down to the docks, while automatically creating and updating events in the refinery schedule 	 Enables users to quickly resolve potential conflicts and manage tankage issues 				
updating events in the rennery schedule	 Eliminates the need for spreadsheets that are inadequate for managing dock operations 				
Pipeline Scheduling					
 Easily manage multiple and bi-directional pipeline segments with injection points and pipeline fill 	 Accurately tracks inbound and outbound movements via pipelines 				
management	Enables more accurate crude unit scheduling				
Track crude and product movements via pipelinesManage in-transit inventory to assist material balance	 Allows planning for product shipments to outbound terminals with accuracy 				
management outside the refinery fence, including ancillary terminals	 Eliminates the need for spreadsheets and other external pipeline scheduling tools 				
	 Enables modeling of the refinery schedule to include ancillary terminals 				
Interactive graphical user interface (GUI)					
 Enables ease of use with components such as the model 	Reduces the time required to build a detailed schedule				
tree, flowsheet simulator, and event interface	Allows for faster and easier model updates				
 Microsoft Excel[®] import utility allows data to be manipulated in Microsoft Excel and quickly updated 	 Provides accurate representation and prediction of refinery performance 				



Scheduling approaches and automation

 Provides users with the flexibility to quickly create a schedule 				
that meets equipment constraints, feedstock availability and				
product lifting requirementsIncreases productivity by automating both routine and				
complicated decision tasksIncreases ease-of-use and productivity while saving time				
 Makes it easy for schedulers at all levels to interpret schedule results 				
 Increases productivity and enables schedulers to make better and faster decisions 				
 Provides "what-if" analysis to help schedulers determine the 				
best schedule given forecasted changes in prices and operating parameters				
 Lowers total cost of ownership by integrating with existing IT infrastructure 				



AspenTech is a leading supplier of software that optimizes process manufacturing — for energy, chemicals, engineering and construction, and other industries that manufacture and produce products from a chemical process. With integrated aspenONE[®] solutions, process manufacturers can implement best practices for optimizing their engineering, manufacturing, and supply chain operations. As a result, AspenTech customers are better able to increase capacity, improve margins, reduce costs, and become more energy efficient. To see how the world's leading process manufacturers rely on AspenTech to achieve their operational excellence goals, visit **www.aspentech.com**.

Worldwide Headquarters

Aspen Technology, Inc. 20 Crosby Drive | Bedford, MA 01730 | United States phone: +1-781-221-6400 | fax: +1-781-221-6410 | **info@aspentech.com**

Regional Headquarters

Houston, TX | United States phone: +1-281-584-1000

São Paulo | Brazil phone: +55-11-3443-6261

Reading | United Kingdom phone: +44-(0)-1189-226400

Singapore | Republic of Singapore phone: +65-6395-3900

Manama | Bahrain phone: +973-13606-400

For a complete list of offices, please visit www.aspentech.com/locations.