

Ordering The Right Stuff

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Part I: Overview of Workplace

- HNI is a company that manufactures office furniture and is one of the largest in the world.
- Founded in 1944, HNI is headquartered in Muscatine and is the parent company for both HON and AllSteel.

Part II: Workplace Focus

- HNI orders a lot of the pieces from China that they then use to build their products in Muscatine and the U.S.
- Because China is far away, it takes a long time for the parts to be shipped, which requires careful planning.
- Supply chain analysis helps HNI make sure they have enough parts in stock to keep up with demand while making sure they don't run out of storage space.

Part III: Introduce the Problem

- HNI has data on how many of each part was used each week over the past two years.
- Analyze the data to develop a plan for how much to order and when to order it
- Keep in mind how long it takes the parts to arrive

Part IV: Background Knowledge

- Spreadsheet fluency
- Mean vs Median
- Standard Deviation
- Understanding of what factors might affect customer demands

Part V: Workplace Solution

Use quarterly averages to match seasonal trends and place orders two quarters in advance to account

Part VI: Educational Pathways

- A variety of business degrees are useful
- Work in manufacturing with a

