





Implementation of Production System Design in House Building Projects: a Lean Journey in Chile

Karina Barth - Ph.D. Candidate

Marcus Sterzi - MSc

Carlos Formoso - PhD

Juan Ignácio Alliende - Eng

Daniela Bertín - Eng

Jorge Del Rio - Eng





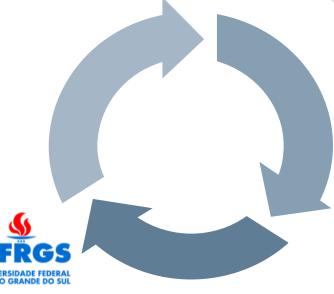


Agents involved









- Largest real estate group in Chile.
- Both development and construction.
- High degree of repetitiveness in its residential building projects.
- More than a 100 projects in progress and sells more than 3,000 units per year.
- The company is promoting a major Lean transformation process.





- Lean consultancy company
- **Responsible for the Lean Implementation Program**





for the Lean **Implementation** Program.

Research center in

the University.

Co-Responsible



Production System Design (PSD) in Construction



- PSD translates **the production strategy into a set of decisions**, which establishes a structure to manage different activities, and **creates conditions for control and improvement** (Ballard et al. 2001a; Schramm et al. 2006).
- PSD consists of developing operation and process design in alignment with (Ballard et al. 2007):
 - product design,
 - the structure of supply chains,

- the allocation of resources, and
- design-for-assembly efforts.
- PSD involves a set of interconnected decisions, considering the need to improve the production system as a whole (Schramm et al. 2004).
- PSD can **potentialize the benefits of the LPS**, allowing the **early** identification of a larger range of problems (Frandson et al. 2015).

Aim of the study



- This paper reports the experience of a construction company that has implemented PSD and the LPS over 3 years, as part of an ongoing Lean implementation program.
- Contributions of this paper:
 - the definition of the scope and potential benefits of PSD
 - the proposition of a set of practices that can be used along the PSD stages, with emphasis on location-based planning and control

Implementation Process and Results





PHASE 01

Assessment of existing situation – 2017

2 PROJECTS

 Construction sites visits for assessing planning and control system:
 Evaluation protocol

Company did not have a systematic and explicit PSD.

Lack of understanding of Lean concepts.

Large amount of WIP (based on Batch
Completeness Index and Heatmaps).



PHASE 02

Development and initial testing of the Production Management System – 2017/18
3 PILOT PROJECTS

- Training course on Lean Construction
- Implementation of PSD (emphasis on location-based planning and control)

Lean Supporting Group: consultants and company members.

New decision category included to emphasize **layout** and **logistics planning**. Standardized control tools: **cycle time**, **takt time**, **WIP** and **synchronization**.



PHASE 03

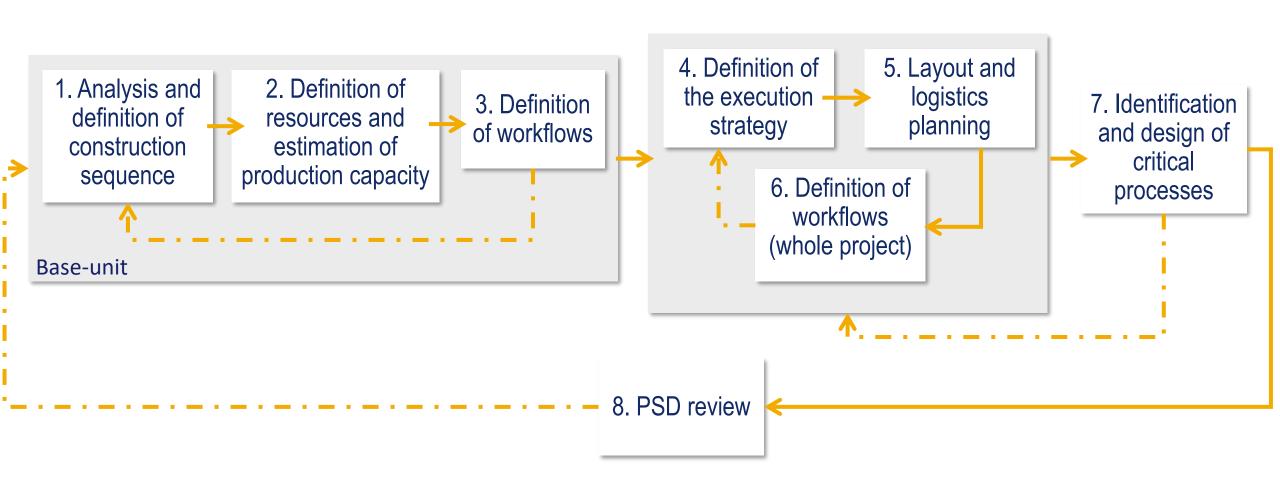
Implementation of PSD and LPS – 2018/19

5 IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

- Implementation of LPS
- Implementation of **PSD model**

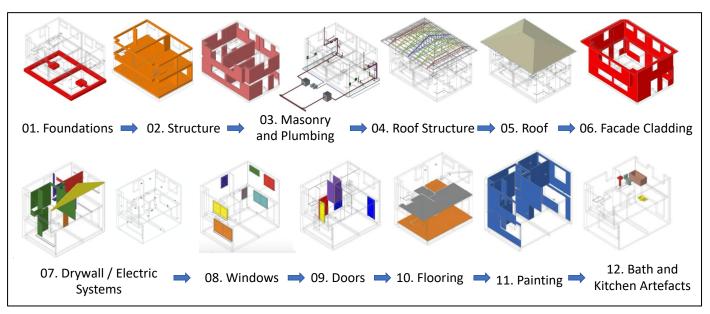
Workshop organized by the LSGroup to identify and disseminate **the benefits of implementing PSD.**Proposition of a **PSD Guidebook**.







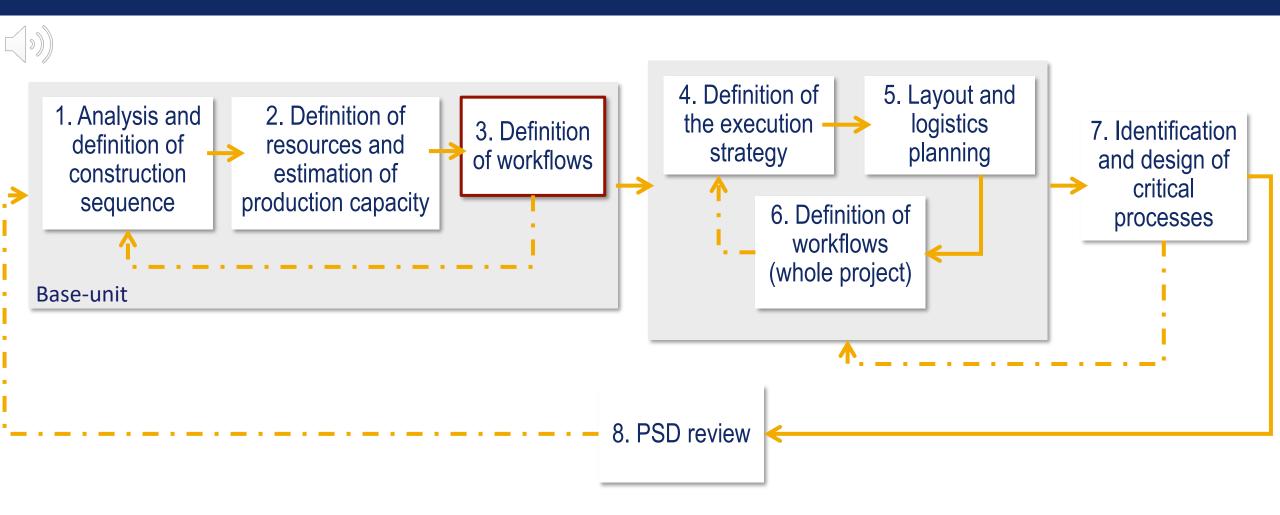
1. Analysis and definition of construction sequence (base-unit)



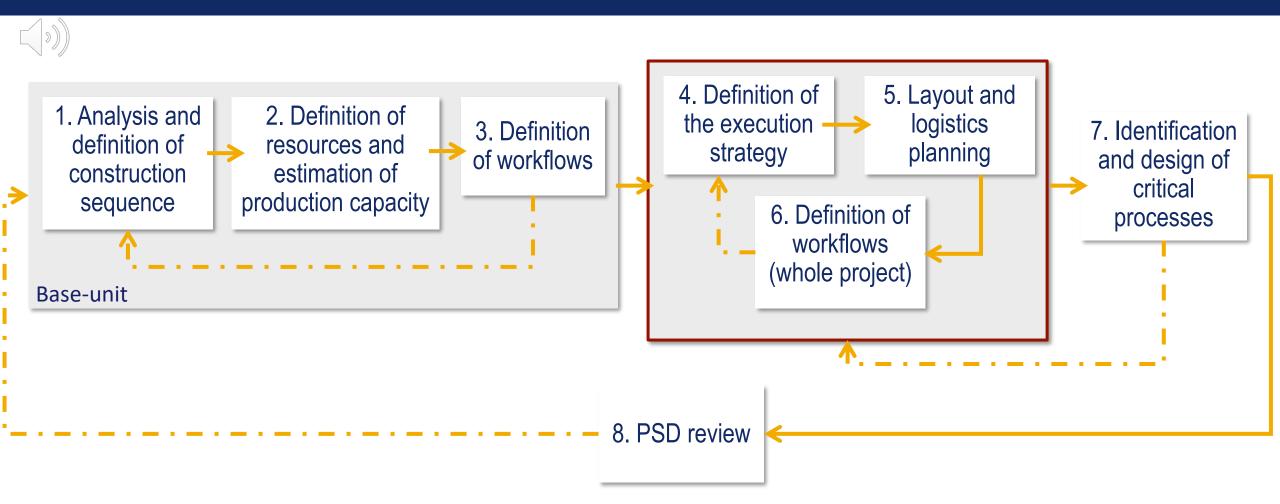
2. Definition of resources and estimation of production capacity (base-unit)







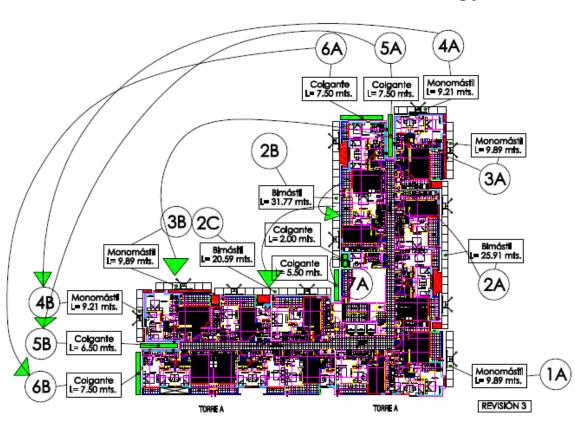




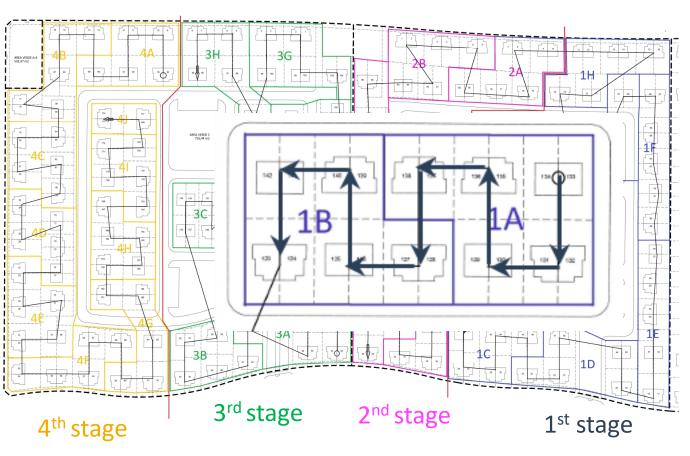




4. Definition of the execution strategy



Execution path of critical processes not included in BU: **Facades**

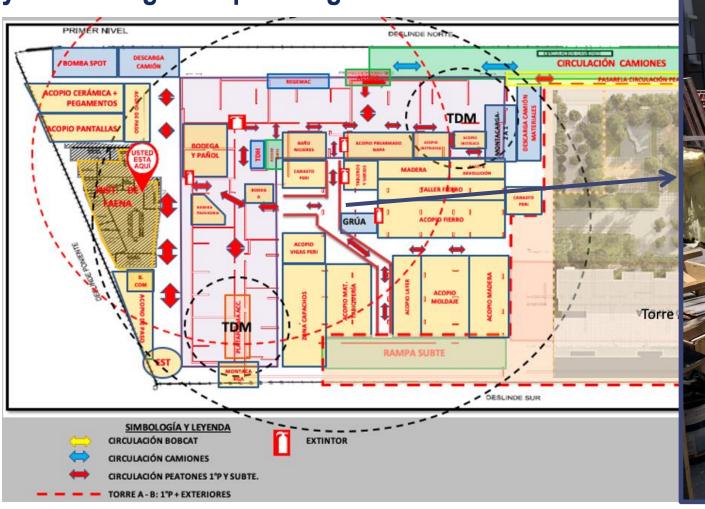


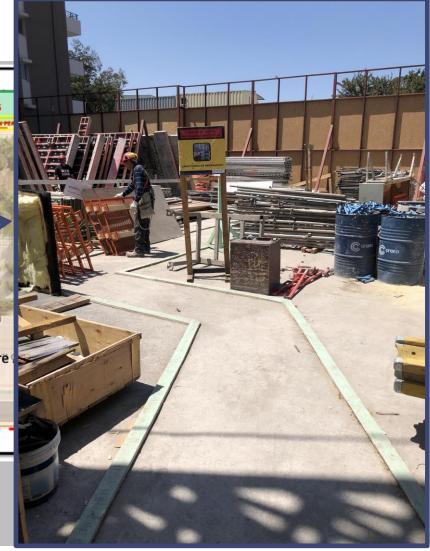
Work areas ("small projects") and execution path of BU processes



5. Layout and logistics planning





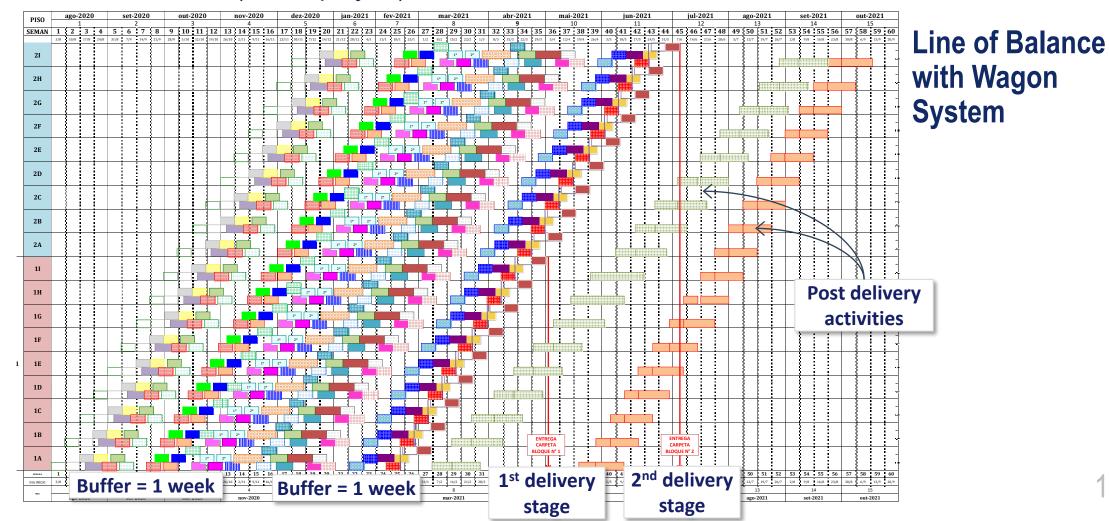






6. Definition of workflows (whole project)



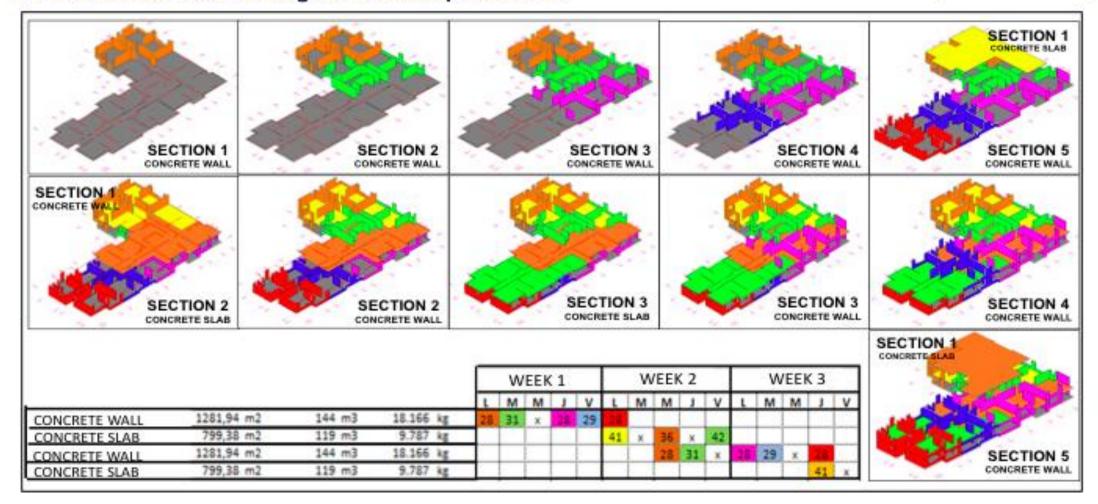




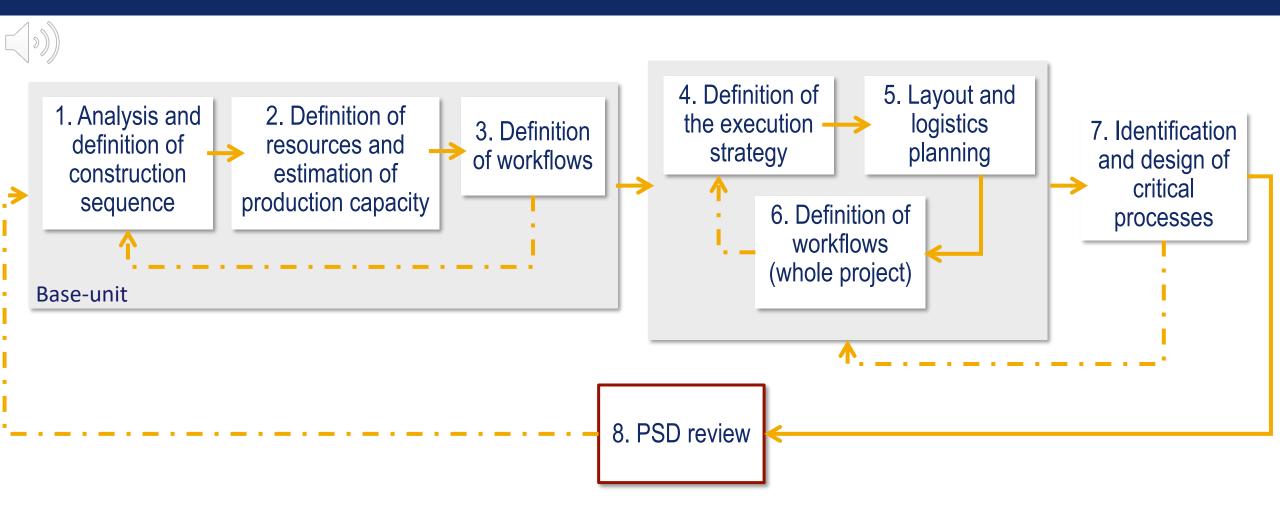


7. Identification and design of critical processes

Workstation map for critical process







Benefits of Implementing PSD



 Formalizing and making explicit planning decisions:

Key decisions on the design of the production system were made with the participation of main stakeholders

Reduction in uncertainty:

PSD helps identifying production system limitations and critical processes.



Examples of PSD meetings





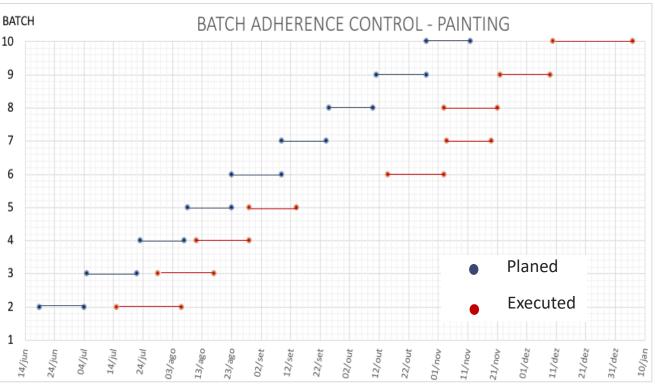


Benefits of Implementing PSD



- Improving planning accuracy: considering multiple alternatives of construction systems and subsystems
- Facilitating the adoption of cycle time and takt time control: provides information in a systematic way



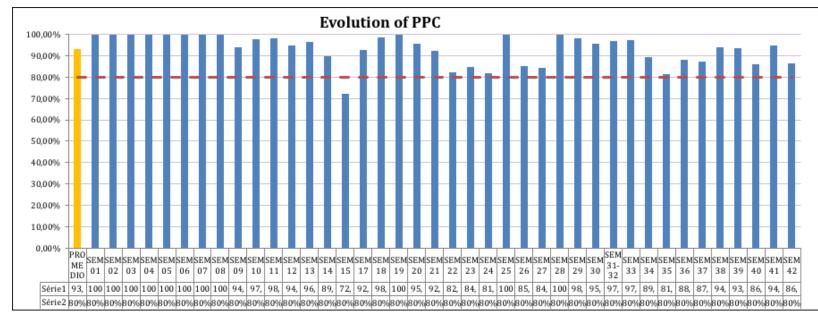




Benefits of Implementing PSD



- Increasing engagement of stakeholders
- Improving production stability



Evolution of PPC



Sequence and WIP control



Conclusions









- It was tested and implemented on several residential projects in a systematic way
- Provides more emphasis on location-based planning and control, layout and logistics studies during pre-construction stages
- Advances in terms of cycle time, takt time, WIP and synchronization analysis before construction
- Generates information concerning the production system as a whole
- Produces a set of standardized tools to be used to monitor the implementation of PSD

Data have been collected by the research team and, in the near future, the main results achieved will be systematically reported.





THANK YOU!



Karina Barth – karina@ldconsulting.com.br

Marcus Sterzi - marcus@ldconsulting.com.br







