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APICS CPIM-8.0 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demand: This section evaluates the abilities of Demand Analysts in managing demand through forecasting techniques. It explores sources of demand data for accurate forecasting and evaluating forecast performance to improve future predictions. One important skill evaluated is "forecasting demand accurately."
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quality, Technology, and Continuous Improvement: This section assesses skills of Quality Assurance Specialists, focusing on quality assurance methodologies enhanced by technology to drive continuous improvement efforts. A key skill measured here is "enhancing quality metrics."
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sales and Operations Planning: This module assesses the skills of Operations Planners in terms of sales and operations planning processes. It includes understanding the purpose of S&OP, creating aggregate demand plans, and reconciling these plans to ensure alignment between sales forecasts and operational capabilities. A crucial skill measured is "reconciling supply-demand gaps."
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply: This module tests the competencies of Procurement Specialists in managing supply chains effectively. It involves creating master schedules for production planning, maintaining these schedules over time, material requirements planning (MRP), capacity requirements planning (CRP), supplier management practices, and purchasing strategies during product life cycle changes. A key skill measured here is "validating master schedules."

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APICS Certified in Planning and Inventory Management (CPIM 8.0) Sample

Questions (Q535-Q540):

NEW QUESTION # 535

Which of the following methods is most often used to manage inventory planning variability across the supply chain?

- A. Risk categorization
- B. Safety lead time
- **C. Risk pooling**
- D. Buffer management

Answer: C

Explanation:

Risk pooling reduces inventory variability by aggregating demand across multiple locations or products. This strategy lowers safety stock requirements while maintaining service levels. It is widely used in inventory planning to counter variability due to uncertain demand patterns across the supply chain.

"Risk pooling is most effective in reducing inventory and managing variability because demand uncertainties across regions can offset each other when aggregated."

- APICS Dictionary, 16th edition; also referenced in MRP material on inventory strategies

NEW QUESTION # 536

Which of the following strategies is most appropriate for a business unit with a low relative market share in a high-growth market?

- A. Designing product improvements to protect market share
- B. Using excess cash generated to fund other business units
- C. Investing in the acquisition of competitors
- **D. Investing in projects to maintain market share**

Answer: D

Explanation:

For a business unit with a low relative market share in a high-growth market, the most appropriate strategy is investing in projects to maintain market share. In a high-growth market, opportunities for expanding or solidifying market share are significant. A business unit with a low market share can benefit from investing in projects that enhance its competitive position, such as improving operational efficiency, innovation in products or services, and marketing efforts. These investments aim to strengthen the unit's market presence and capitalize on the growth potential of the market. This approach is more suitable than using excess cash for other units, acquiring competitors, or just focusing on product improvements, as it directly addresses the need to build a stronger market position in a growing market.

NEW QUESTION # 537

The production plan defines which of the following targets?

- **A. Level of output to be produced**
- B. Sales forecast
- C. Business plans for the company
- D. Quantities of each product to be produced

Answer: A

Explanation:

The production plan is a high-level plan that defines the level of output to be produced for each product family or group in a given time period. It is based on the sales forecast, the aggregate production capacity, and the desired inventory levels. The production plan does not specify the quantities of each individual product to be produced, as this is done in the master production schedule. The production plan also does not include the sales forecast or the business plans for the company, as these are inputs to the production plan, not outputs.

References:

* Introduction to Materials Management, 8th ed., 2017, Chapman, Stephen N., J. R. Tony Arnold, Ann K.

Gatewood, and Lloyd M. Clive, ISBN: 978-0134156323, Chapter 11: Production Planning System

* Manufacturing Planning and Control for Supply Chain Management, The CPIM Reference, 2nd ed.,

2018, Jacobs, F. Robert, William L. Berry, D. Clay Whybark, and Thomas E. Vollmann, ISBN: 978-

NEW QUESTION # 538

The primary outcome of frequent replenishments in a distribution requirements planning (DRP) system is that:

- A. lead times to customers decrease.
- B. more efficient load consolidation occurs.
- C. the level of required safety stock is reduced.
- D. transportation costs decrease.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The primary outcome of frequent replenishments in a distribution requirements planning (DRP) system is that the level of required safety stock is reduced. Safety stock is the extra inventory that is held to protect against demand uncertainty or supply variability. Frequent replenishments mean that the inventory is replenished more often and in smaller quantities, which reduces the risk of stockouts and the need for safety stock. Frequent replenishments also improve the inventory visibility and accuracy, which enable better demand forecasting and inventory planning. By reducing the safety stock, the company can lower its inventory carrying costs, free up working capital, and increase its inventory turnover. The other options are not correct, as they are not the primary outcome of frequent replenishments, but rather possible benefits or drawbacks of frequent replenishments, depending on the situation:

Lead times to customers decrease: This may or may not be true, depending on the distance between the distribution centers and the customers, the transportation mode and frequency, and the customer service level. Frequent replenishments may reduce the lead times if the distribution centers are closer to the customers and the transportation is fast and reliable. However, frequent replenishments may also increase the lead times if the distribution centers are far from the customers and the transportation is slow and infrequent.

Transportation costs decrease: This may or may not be true, depending on the transportation mode, distance, and volume. Frequent replenishments may reduce the transportation costs if the transportation mode is economical, the distance is short, and the volume is high. However, frequent replenishments may also increase the transportation costs if the transportation mode is expensive, the distance is long, and the volume is low.

More efficient load consolidation occurs: This is unlikely to be true, as frequent replenishments usually mean smaller shipments that are less likely to fill the capacity of the transportation vehicles. Load consolidation is the process of combining multiple shipments into one larger shipment to optimize the transportation efficiency and reduce the transportation costs. Frequent replenishments may reduce the opportunities for load consolidation and increase the transportation inefficiency and costs. Reference:

[CPIM Part 2 - Section A - Topic 4 - Distribution Planning]

Distribution Requirements Planning (DRP) in Supply Chain

What is DRP? (A Comprehensive Guide on Distribution Requirements Planning) Safety Stock: The Ultimate Guide Load Consolidation

NEW QUESTION # 539

Which of the following represents the level of confidence that software is free from intentional and accidental vulnerabilities?

- A. Due care
- B. Software assurance
- C. Vulnerability management
- D. Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION # 540

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