



Product Family Definition

A company has 7 different products that would group in families. They decide to write down the work sequence for the products and group them in families. Below the table they produced.

	<u>Inspection</u>	<u>Blasting</u>	<u>Cleaning</u>	<u>Forming</u>	<u>Painting</u>	<u>Assembly</u>	<u>Check</u>		<u>Demand Weekly [pcs]</u>
<u>Chain</u>	X		X			X	X		100
<u>Bin</u>	X		X	X	X		X		200
<u>Can</u>	X		X	X	X		X		200
<u>Screw</u>	X			X			X		1000
<u>Sheet</u>	X	X	X	X	X		X		50
<u>Rod</u>	X		X	X			X		500
<u>Bolt</u>	X			X			X		1000

Define the families and try to find which is the family most important to map and improve.

Exercise Solution

Let us start from the definition: "A family is a group of products that pass through similar processing steps and over common equipment".

So, looking at the table: **Family 1** = Bin, Can, Sheet = 450 pcs / week, **Family 2** = Screw, Rod, Bolt = 2500 pcs / week, **Family 3** = Chain = 100 pcs / week

If the selling price is similar for all the products, the family that could be most important and good to start to improve is the Product Family 2.