‘Just in Time’ is a system based on efficient organisation, from receiving a customer order, the manufacture of the product on the production line and finally distribution. This system is often called ‘lean manufacture’. Just in Time relies on a good, efficient working relationship between the supplier / suppliers, the manufacturer, through to transportation and distribution. If one of the links is inefficient, the entire system slows or fails, leading ultimately to customer dissatisfaction.

**JIT - BASIC STAGES**

1. **CUSTOMER ORDERS A BATCH OF PRODUCTS**
   **COMPANY ORDERS QUANTITY OF PARTS/MATERIALS EQUAL TO NUMBER OF PRODUCTS REQUIRED**

2. **THE CORRECT NUMBER OF PARTS / MATERIALS ARRIVE AND UNLOADED**

3. **PARTS/MATERIALS STORED FOR SHORT TIME UNTIL REQUIRED FOR THE PRODUCTION LINE**

4. **PARTS ASSEMBLED ON THE PRODUCTION LINE SHORTLY AFTER THEY ARRIVE IN STORAGE**

5. **ASSEMBLED PRODUCT READY FOR DISTRIBUTION**

6. **FINISHED PRODUCT DISTRIBUTED SOON AFTER ASSEMBLY**