Industrial application of graph theory and combinatorial optimization - three case studies.

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The use of computer support for decision making in companies and public institutions is increasing dramatically. Airlines, public transportation companies, banks, and health care institutions use decision support in material- and manpower planning, routing, scheduling, and investment planning.

Often, the underlying model in a decision support system is a graph model in combination with a mathematical programming model for the problem at hand. We present three cases from recent projects involving production planning, planning lines of work for aircraft, and driver rescheduling in a public transportation company, thereby highlighting the challenges met in practical applications of graph theory and combinatorial optimization.