

Products

Standard, very high-volume (mass) products. Examples include oil refining and some petrochemicals

Process

Materials are processed through successive stages, with automatic transfer of the product from stage to stage. The costs of stopping and restarting are typically so high that the process is not stopped, hence the name continuous processing

SOURCE: Hill, T. (2005) *Operations Management*, 2nd edn, Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan

EXHIBIT 5.10 Continuous processing: key characteristics