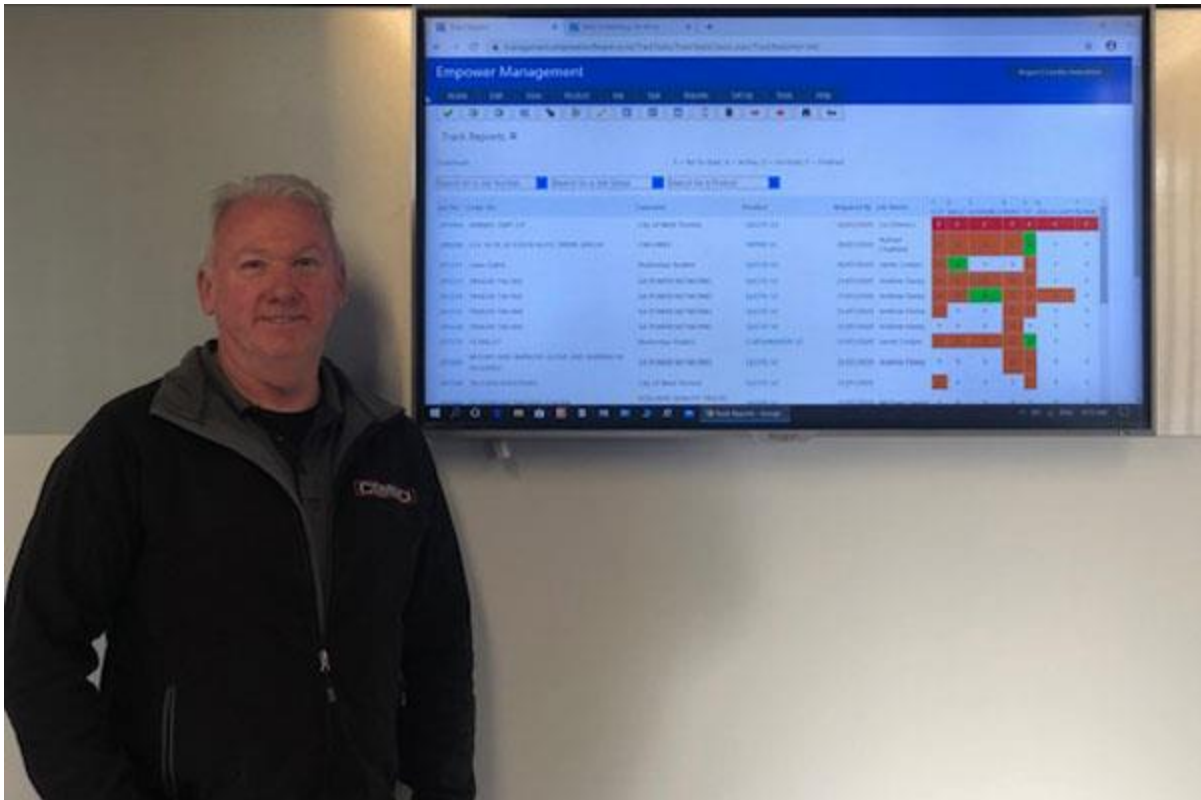


Combo Industries and Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling Software - Case Study

(Adelaide, South Australia, Australia)(31/7/2020)

Empower Manufacturing and Engineering Software - Job and Staff Time Tracking & Scheduling - Using Tablets on Your Workshop Floor



"Previously we used manual times sheets. Our workshop staff tried to remember then recorded their jobs and times on jobs at day end, many times were "fudged" by staff. They used to take each staff member approximately 10 minutes each to complete daily, which across 15 staff totals 2.5 hours per day,

12.5 hours per week of lost production and lost chargeable time totalling \$1,000 per week (ie 12.5 hours times \$80 per hour). Our administration staff used to take an additional 1.5 hours per day, 7.5 hours per week, collating and inputting times into our job cost spreadsheet, so wage cost, some \$30 an hour, was an additional \$225 per week. To produce my single job cost report from manual time sheets used to cost me \$1,225 per week.

Empower cost me only \$130 per week for the first 3 years and now I'm paying \$49 per week. Moving from manual time sheets to Empower is saving me \$1,176 per week and \$61,152 per year. Plus I have gained all the additional benefits Empower Software provides: accurate times, real time reporting, reporting times of jobs and down to task level, reporting times of individual workshop staff, reporting real time jobs, staff and times on 55 inch TVs on office walls and workshop walls, job scheduling and a 15% to 20% reduction in job times and 15% to 20% reduction in labour cost on jobs "

Core Products Manufactured (or Core Business)	Light to medium truck bodies
% Production is custom made - one off designs (each job different to the last)	All production is custom engineered. We produce in batch sizes of one or several
Any Key Background Information	Combo Industries was established in 1963 in Edwardstown SA by Gerry Bosman, who provided a service to Chrysler and Toyota modifying chassis and utility bodies. Now owned and operated by Darryl Barber, we manufacture new truck bodies for Adelaide truck dealers, local and state government departments and many fleet operators.
# Factory Floor Staff	15
# Total Staff	20
Annual Revenue (approx)	\$5 million which increases annually
Factory and Office Size m2	2600 m2
# Machinery Types	General engineering and fabrication tooling
Geography Serviced	We supply to dealers within 10 kilometres of our workshop who supply to their end clients mainly within South Australia
Staff Times on Jobs Recording prior	Previously we used manual times sheets. Our workshop staff tried to

to Empower	<p>remember then recorded their jobs and times on jobs at day end, many times were “fudged” by staff. They used to take each staff member approximately 10 minutes each to complete daily, which across 15 staff totals 2.5 hours per day, 12.5 hours per week of lost production and lost chargeable time totalling \$1,000 per week (ie 12.5 hours times \$80 per hour). Our administration staff used to take an additional 1.5 hours per day, 7.5 hours per week, collating and inputting times into our job cost spreadsheet, so wage cost, some \$30 an hour, was an additional \$225 per week. To produce my single job cost report from manual time sheets used to cost me \$1,225 per week.</p> <p>Empower cost me only \$130 per week for the first 3 years and now I'm paying \$49 per week. Moving from manual time sheets to Empower is saving me \$1,176 per week and \$61,152 per year. Plus I have gained all the additional benefits Empower Software provides: accurate times, real time reporting, reporting times of jobs and down to task level, reporting times of individual workshop staff, reporting real time jobs, staff and times on 55 inch TVs on office walls and workshop walls, job scheduling and a 15% to 20% reduction in job times and 15% to 20% reduction in labour cost on jobs.</p>
Years in Business	57 years (since 1963)
Staff Groups Tracked on Empower	All workshop staff
Year we started using Empower	6 years ago (started 2014)
# PCs or tablets on the Factory Floor with Empower on	2 tablets on the workshop floor. We have one 50 inch TV in the office continuously presenting all jobs, all workshop staff and all times in real time. This transparency brings awareness and accountability. We are currently installing a 50 inch TV in the workshop to make all workshop staff continuously aware of their jobs and their times
# Of our Managers using Empower	3
What have been your administration gains using Empower	Using Empower we have saved 2.5 days per week of one administration staff member's time, which is 20 hours per week at \$30 per week is \$600 per week cost saving. Our administration savings have come from three areas rekeying staff time sheets to job cost, hours worked report for payroll and real time accurate job time for invoicing
Estimated Reduction in labour times on jobs therefore labour cost on jobs achieved using Empower Software	Estimated 15% to 20% less time on jobs, hence 15% to 20% less labour cost on jobs

Key Points we have found Empower Factory Productivity and Scheduling Software:

1. We would not try and manage our workshop staff or schedule without Empower
2. It is “Gold” for us to have all our hours highly accurate and in real time for charge up work and for driving workshop productivity
3. Empower forces us to always have a job number and a job folder before we start every job in the workshop. In the old days we started jobs “half cocked” without job numbers and without job folders and without specifications
4. Empower scheduling and production planning shows clearly all our planned job starts and planned completion dates for all truck bodies. This reporting is exceptionally helpful when showing our dealer network and explaining our current work load and their position in the queue
5. Empower is only an App and Add On software, low cost subscription, and easy to implement. Every engineer and other manufacturer in Australia should use it

I have no hesitations in recommending Empower Software

Anyone is welcome to phone me to discuss Empower

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PLEASE FORWARD THIS EMAIL

Please forward this email to someone you know who owns or is management in any Joinery, Engineering or other Manufacturing business throughout Australia or New Zealand. Particularly to those people and businesses who might be struggling to manage their jobs and their labour or struggling to retain previous or expected profit levels.