

# McMullen and Wing Ltd & Empower Factory Productivity Software Case Study

(Auckland, New Zealand)(04/11/2015)



*"As a world class boat builder, using Empower we now have a world class software solution for managing our production activity... we have witnessed significant factory productivity increases and time saving..."*

Core Products Manufactured (or Core Business)	Design and build motor and sailing yachts to 55 metres. The company was founded in 1969
% Production is custom made - one off designs (each job different to the last)	100% customised design - each boat based on a generic design and styling created for McMullen & Wing by leading Superyacht designers.

Any Key Background Information	We now have world class software solution. We use Microsoft Project, and link from Microsoft Project to Empower Factory Productivity Software, which automatically genera tes all our tasks on Empower to PCs on the factory floor, which our staff access. We use Plusfactor accounting software and link Empower to Plusfactor, which automatically updates our job times direct from the factory floor back to job cost. This all works seamlessly as one software tool. The next significant development Empower are working on is a link from Empower back to Microsoft Project, which live from the factory floor will automatically update Microsoft Project on all our completed tasks.
# Factory Floor Staff	110 staff plus 30 contractors on site
# Total Staff	160 staff + 30 contractors
Annual Revenue (approx)	N/A
Factory and Office Size m2	50,000 square feet
# of CNCs	Two 3 axis for wood and plasma for metal
Geography Serviced	World
Staff Times on Jobs Recording prior to Empower	<p>Paper cards – some basic shop floor electronic input. Empower Factory Productivity Software has been a substantial improvement from our previous manual system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved factory productivity</li> <li>• Improved accuracy of times recorded on jobs</li> <li>• Improved management capability</li> <li>• Improved planning</li> <li>• Live feed-back of job status and performance, which has reduced our report times from weeks to minutes</li> </ul>
Years in Business	Since 1969
Associations and any positions held	
Staff Groups Tracked on Empower	Designers, Supervisors and Shop Floor Staff
Years using Empower as at 27/2/2015 currently	1
# PCs on the Factory Floor with Empower on	7 PCs on shop floor plus 20 designers each have Empower on their PCs
# Of our Managers using Empower	5
Estimated Productivity Gains using Empower	<p>Not possible to measure performance improvement on the whole project at this time as project is 24 month duration plus. In saying that we have witnessed significant factory productivity increases and time saving in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Factory staff being aware on the factory PCs of their budgeted times on each task at task start and aware of their actual achieved times on their tasks at task end</li> <li>• Factory staff being a lot more aware of their day start and day end times and times taken at smokos and lunch time</li> <li>• Management team being aware and now highly accountable for task budgeted times and actual times of their staff.</li> <li>• The ability to create and issue sub-tasks (breaking down a job into smaller identifiable events) and issuing the revised work to the factory in minutes has transformed the management and planning function.</li> </ul>

**Key Uses and Points you have found Empower Software:**

Productivity – time on jobs against budget (job, order, staff, staff group..)

1. job recording against Microsoft Project Generated Plan
2. measure of time against budget

3. reporting is great with the ability to generate sub tasks a real plus

Production – current job status, forward work, due by date

1. live up to the minute data and information
2. reports for planning really good
3. still have a lot to learn and get out of the system

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Anyone is welcome to phone me to discuss Empower

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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.