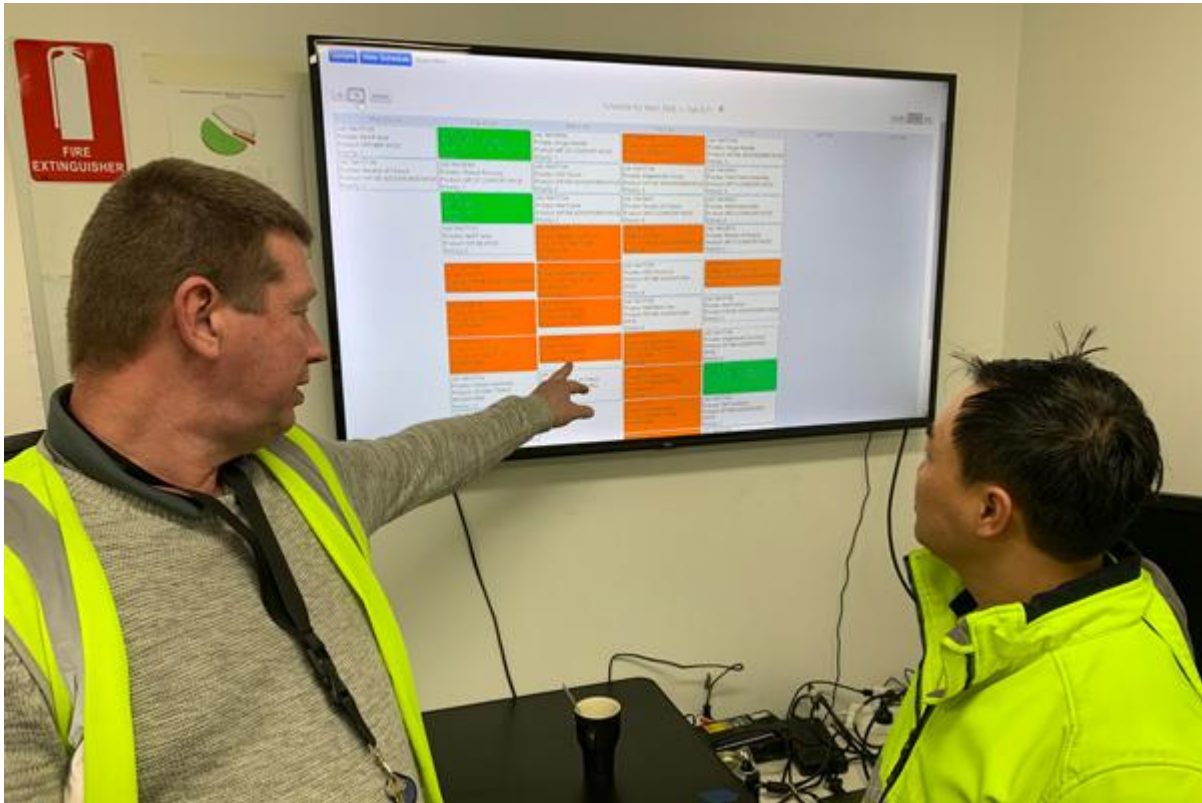


New Age Caravans & Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling Software App – Case Study

(Melbourne, Victoria, Australia)(24/8/2020)

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



“Previously we had no time on jobs information, so we had no technology. Using touch screens on the workshop floor and Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling Software with real time reporting of jobs, parts of jobs and individual staff we are now a high technology business. Industry 4.0, Lean Manufacturing, Digital Manufacturing and Advanced Manufacturing necessitates using touch screens on the workshop floor and the likes of Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling Software.

Using Empower our workshop staff culture has quickly changed to be

time and job focused. We are eliminating slippage in key areas and getting significant gains in many areas on the workshop floor. I expect that within 3 months we will achieve a 20% minimum reduction in labour times on jobs therefore a 20% reduction in labour cost on jobs and at 6 months we will get to 40%+ reduction in labour times on jobs therefore 40%+ reduction in labour cost on jobs".

Core Products Manufactured (or Core Business)	Caravans Australian Made. Designed, engineered, and manufactured for the terrain extremes of the Australian outback. Walkinshaw Group's years of motorsport expertise plays a critical role in the ongoing design, engineering, and manufacturing of every New Age Caravan
% Production is custom made - one off designs (each job different to the last)	Wide range of caravan sizes and styles with wide range of client options
Any Key Background Information	New Age Caravans is owned fully by Walkinshaw Group in Australia who own Walkinshaw Performance. Walkinshaw Group and The Walkinshaw name is well known for its association with Australia's No.1 vehicle manufacturer Holden Special Vehicles, as well as V8 Supercar team Walkinshaw Andretti United. Holden Special Vehicles has built over 95,000 vehicles and have developed some of Australia's most iconic performance vehicles including the original 'Walky', the Coupe 4, W427, and the final Commodore incarnation the GTS-R W1. Walkinshaw Performance employ 200 workshop staff. New Age Caravans currently employ 153 workshop staff.
Number of Workshop Staff	New Age Caravans Taryn Drive factory for chassis, walls and joinery has 53 workshop staff. Shirley Way factory for assembly has 100 workshop staff
# Total Workshop Staff, New Age Caravans	Currently 153 workshop staff total
Annual Revenue (approx)	Confidential
Factory and Office Size m2	Taryn Drive factory is 10,000 square metres and Shirley Way factory is 11,000 square metres
# Machinery Types	Woodtron-Multicam-Biesse-Holzer-Homag.
Geography Serviced	Australia wide and export
Staff Times on Jobs Recording prior to Tablets on the Workshop Floor and Empower Software	<p>Prior to Empower Software New Age Caravans did not record workshop staff times on their jobs at all. This meant the following issues in our business and following opportunities for improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • our workshop staff did not know the budgeted time expected of them on each of their tasks, so they were not truly time focused on their jobs. • Workshop staff also did not know the actual time they took on each task, so they did not know whether they met times expected of them on jobs. • Management did not have actual times or budgeted times on caravans, or parts of caravans. So, workshop productivity and individual workshop staff performance, was not able to be monitored or controlled by management. • Downtime time by each workshop staff member daily was not tracked or reported, so not able to be monitored or controlled. • Our previous scheduling was manual based therefore not accurate. <p>The summary of all our issues is that we were "manufacturing blind". "Manufacturing blind" of our largest and most variable cost and our cost that was hardest to manage, our labour cost.</p> <p>We did not use manual time sheets to record staff times on their jobs because it was poor quality information – information "too little, too late and too inaccurate". Also manual time sheets are a very high cost to produce weekly. The Empower Software App costs only 10% to 20% of the cost to produce manual time sheets. That is, if you are currently using or contemplating using manual time sheets you can save approximately 80% to 90% of this cost by using Tablets on your workshop floor and using the Empower Software App instead.</p>

Technology Before and Now	Previously we had no time on jobs information, so we had no technology. Using touch screens on the workshop floor and Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling Software with real time reporting of jobs, parts of jobs and individual staff we are now a high technology business. Industry 4.0, Lean Manufacturing, Digital Manufacturing and Advanced Manufacturing necessitates using touch screens on the workshop floor and the likes of Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling Software
Years in Business	New Age Caravans started out as New Age Frames & Designs in 2004, specialising in manufacturing structural framing and other CNC fabricated componentry for several high-profile caravan manufacturers in the Campbellfield area. After four years New Age switched their focus from supplying the caravan industry to manufacturing. By 2009 New Age manufactured 5 caravans a week.
Staff Groups Tracked on Empower	All workshop staff in both our workshop floors on both sites
Year we started using Empower	Jan 2020
# Tablets on the Factory Floor with Empower on	4 @ 10in Tablets 3 @ 21in Touch screen and 2 @ laptops
# Of our Managers using Empower	6
Estimated Reduction in labour times on jobs therefore labour cost on jobs of 20% minimum using Empower Software	Using Empower our workshop staff culture has quickly changed to be time and job focused. We are eliminating slippage in key areas and getting significant gains in many areas on the workshop floor. I expect that within 3 months we will achieve a 20% minimum reduction in labour times on jobs therefore a 20% reduction in labour cost on jobs and at 6 months we will get to 40% reduction in labour times on jobs therefore 40+% reduction in labour cost on jobs

I have used Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling every working day for 18 years, including several previous production management roles and my current role as Site Manufacturing Manager, Over Seeing: CNC, Furniture, Programming, Side frames, Chassis Assembly for New Age Caravans, I advise what I like about Empower:

1. Developed from the floor up for manufacturers and engineers. Easy functionality, screens and reports that I use to Monitor the complexity of any workshop.
2. well proven to reduce job times by 20% to 40%+ therefore reduce labour cost by 20% to 40%+. Extensive written proof of client's reductions in job times is the ultimate measure of industry leading, proven and successful production & labour management software
3. Workshop staff can see what jobs are available to them on workshop tablets, this show schedule date and budget with colour coding for on late jobs what need to be done today and what's required for tomorrow. Budgeted times at job start and actual time at job end, so workshop staff use Empower as their tool to drive their own productivity
4. 55-inch TVs in workshop so all staff, live information on how the workshop is performing also 1 55 inch in the main office let all administration staff see the production flow and workshop performance. This is companywide transparency and accountability
5. This allow me to manager my greatest resource labour in real time. Its show me where my problem so I can act. It allows me to reward staff efficiency.
6. Its show me the costing of manufacturing and where I can improve by Streamlining or upgrading process. You get instant information when you make a change, so you know your decisions are right.
7. All management and all administration staff have access to real time and accurate information to be accurately informed and make better business decisions

I recommend Empower to all manufacturers and engineers.

The Empower Software App is cloud base and very low-cost monthly subscription at that. My advice is start using it now, you will not look back.

Anyone is welcome to phone me to discuss Empower

Regards David Lawrence

David Lawrence
Site Manufacturing Manager, Over Seeing: CNC, Furniture, Programming, Side Frames, Chassis Assembly

M: [+61 400145222](tel:+61400145222) T: [03 9305 1714](tel:0393051714) F: [03 9305 4714](tel:0393054714)

Po Box 1269 Epping Vic 3076

newagecaravans.com.au

**PLEASE FORWARD THIS EMAIL TO A COLLEAGUE OR FRIEND IN NEED OF HIGH FACTORY
PRODUCTIVITY**

Please forward this email to someone you know who owns or is management in any Joinery, Engineering or other jobbing 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.

We hope the insight above of a leading manufacturing and engineering business above is of interest and helpful. Please advise by reply if you wish to opt out