

Taylormade Caskets and Empower Workshop Productivity & Scheduling Software – Case Study

(Masterton, New Zealand)(14/7/2020)

Job and Staff Time Tracking & Scheduling – Using Tablets on Your Workshop Floor. For progressive Joiners, Engineers and Other Manufacturers



“Prior to using Empower Software we used to use cheat sheets (ie timesheets) where workshop staff at day end manually recorded their job times which were ‘a complete work of fiction’. Job times recorded were typically 20% to 40%+ inaccurate and regularly job times were 100% inaccurate as jobs that staff worked on the staff wrongly did not record any time on those jobs at all...

Since last year we have increased production and revenue by 35% without increasing workshop staff or hours worked. This has made

an enormous improvement to our profit...

Empower is the tool we use to manage our core business firstly, ensuring we budget labour correctly in the first place and secondly ensuring we deliver the substantial majority of our jobs on budgeted time. We should have put Empower Software into our business 10 years earlier”

Core Products Manufactured (or Core Business)	<p>We have two arms to our joinery business;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Solid timber Funeral Coffin and Caskets 2 Solid timber component contract manufacturing for joinery clients
% Production is custom made - one off designs (each job different to the last)	<p>Our solid timber coffins of mainly standard sizes and of percent of one off custom sizes. On the workshop floor we manufacturer our coffins in small batch sizes and our factory staff work on different jobs every day</p> <p>Our contract component manufacturing is largely repeat components however these are small batch runs and are one off different jobs for workshop staff to work on</p>
Any Key Background Information	<p>Over the last 10 years we have struggled now the workshop and our business is “humming” along. Our core business is labour. Empower is the tool we use to manage our core business firstly, ensuring we budget labour correctly in the first place and secondly ensuring we deliver the substantial majority of our jobs on budgeted time. We should have put Empower Software into our business 10 years earlier</p>
# Factory Floor Staff	7
# Total Staff	9
Annual Revenue (approx)	confidential
Factory and Office Size m2	500 square metres approximately
# of CNCs / Board Stacking?	Not yet
Geography Serviced	Nationwide, New Zealand
Staff Times on Jobs Recording prior to Empower	<p>Prior to using Empower Software we used to use cheat sheets (ie timesheets) where workshop staff at day end manually recorded their job times which were ‘a complete work of fiction’. Job times recorded were typically 20% to 40%+ inaccurate and regularly job times were 100% inaccurate as jobs that staff worked on the staff wrongly did not record any time on those jobs at all</p>
Years in Business	43
Associations and any positions held	Furniture and Cabinet Manufacturers Association of New Zealand
Staff Groups Tracked on Empower	All factory staff
Year we started using Empower	2017
# PCs on the Factory Floor with Empower on	5 Tablets. We will invest in one 50 inch TV monitor to present key Empower screen live reporting continuously throughout the day on: all jobs, all factory staff and all job times information
# Of our Managers using Empower	Two
Estimated Productivity Increase achieved using Empower Software	<p>Since last year we have increased production and revenue by 35% without increasing workshop staff or hours worked. This has made an enormous improvement to our profit</p>

Key Points we have witnessed about Empower Workshop Productivity and Scheduling Software:

1. One of my pet dislikes was regularly seeing workshop staff standing doing no work whatsoever talking about personal matters. I hardly see this occurring now that workshop staff are logged onto Empower and time focused on all their jobs
2. Accurate and live reporting of job times is invaluable
3. Using accurate reporting of job times to continually revise and refine budgeted labour times in our quotations and pricelists is invaluable
4. Empower Management screen of all jobs, all workshop staff and all job times is invaluable. I sight this on my pc and this highlights issues which I then act on
5. When we started using Empower Software they made a highly experienced production consultant available on site to assess our business and set up Empower right first time to get us started on Empower, this support was invaluable
6. The software itself is rapidly progressing and improving we see this in the large number of new functionality and reports which come through to us each week

Please feel free to visit and meet or 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.