

THE MOST UNIQUE AND RELIABLE RESOURCE FOR TODAY'S ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

THE ELECTRIC CURRENT

NOVEMBER 2012



TCMAX
FROM SNAP-ON INDUSTRIAL

TCMAX

FROM SNAP-ON INDUSTRIAL

The Ultimate Asset Management Solution

Asset management is a critical aspect of any businesses engaged in construction, manufacturing or maintenance. Implementing a robust system for tracking things like capital equipment, spare parts, maintenance schedules and tooling can have a significant impact on the bottom line by reducing misplacement, loss, out-of stock occurrences and premature failure. Enhancements in asset control typically have a direct positive effect in key areas like safety and productivity, which can make or break individual projects or an entire organization.

Snap-on Industrial designed the TCMMax Total Asset Management Software as a powerful, yet easy-to-use solution. The program can track any asset, from consumables to employees, and maintain records for things like preventive maintenance and instrument certification. Driven by a simple barcode, assets can be inventoried, issued, returned, transferred, logged and reported in seemingly endless ways. In addition, TCMMax has one very unique feature – it talks to you! The software actually speaks to the operator, confirming or denying each transaction and even providing warnings or reminders as appropriate. While 90 percent of the functions within TCMMax can be performed in a single screen, audio confirmation reduces the need to check a monitor which streamlines the process significantly.

How it Works

Assets and employees are loaded into the TCMMax database and each assigned a unique ID. Mechanisms for secure tracking include: barcode, employee badges, driver's license and even finger prints and electronic signatures. Hardware is typically identified using the TCMMax custom label maker function, combined with a simple barcode printer. However, smaller items like tools and instruments can have the barcode permanently laser engraved.

Extensive product data can be entered, including photographs, which significantly enhances the program's use as a training tool. In addition,

based on skillset and training completed, employee authorization levels can be added that determine access to specific equipment. The program will audibly announce that a transaction is denied if an individual is not approved. Employees' training records can also be managed within TCMMax and updated with any expanded access as appropriate.

When assets are issued, the date, time and assignee are recorded. Work order and location can also be added for additional traceability. Even fields for serial numbers of equipment used on a particular job are available. Those serial numbers can be associated with another set of records including important information like: MSDS, calibration due dates, visual inspection requirements or complete instruction manuals. If an item requires testing or inspection, the software will again announce that fact, and if it's overdue for a certification the program will recommend against issuance of that hardware. Additionally, responsibility for equipment can be easily transferred when it moves to a new job site or is taken over by another crew by simply using the TCMMax "transfer" function.

If a group of items make up a higher level assembly, the complete package is called the "parent". The components are considered "children", "grandchildren", etc. A toolkit or even work truck can be issued as a parent and all traceable items under that umbrella can be clearly defined as its children. When a parent level item is issued, TCMMax goes to the level of determining if all the children are in compliance or in need of any additional attention. And remember, the operator is always aware of what's happening through the verbal notifications within TCMMax.

TCMMax is networkable throughout an organization, and can be set up with minimum/maximum requirements indicating when to re-order products, in what quantities and with the ability to actually issue purchase orders. System oversight is incorporated using authority designations that allow viewing and transaction capabilities as necessary.

Tool intensive environments often combine TCMax with the Snap-on Level 5 Tool Management System. Level 5 is founded on the principles of 5S and incorporates: organization, visibility, security, trackability and accountability. Each tool has a specific, silhouetted location that allows rapid inventory which helps prevent misplacement, loss and foreign object damage by a missing tool.

TCMax in Action

Thousands of TCMMax seat licenses are deployed in a broad range of applications. Sikorsky Aircraft is one company that's been reaping the benefits of improved productivity from using TC Max.

"Since TCMMax was implemented, we've seen a dramatic decrease in the number of lost tools," said Jeff Hemme, tool crib supervisor. He added that more than 5,000 tools have been coded into the system and the simple process for issuing, returning and inventory has provided a significant productivity improvement.

The U.S. Air Force also uses TCMMax in its aviation maintenance squadrons. In fact, all four major commands are required to use the program for tool control. One Ohio Air National Guard base has taken the platform a step further by using it to track base safety records.

Flexibility of the TCMMax platform is almost endless. The city of San Antonio, TX, for example, is using it to track and monitor more than 1 million items from police cars to lawn mowers to lap top computers.

A Snap-on Industrial representative can perform an on-site evaluation and audit your organization to create an asset management program that accomplishes your goals and objectives. Asset management has become an absolute necessity to operate smoothly and efficiently. A well-managed program will save

money, reduce lost or missing tools, and provide a level of oversight for streamlined operation.

About the Author

John Tremblay is Energy Segment Manager for Snap-on Industrial, a Global provider of Tool Asset Management and Productivity Solutions, based in Kenosha, Wisconsin. He can be reached at 413-519-3380, or john.r.tremblay@snapon.com. You can also visit www.snapon.com/industrial.

LOW VOLTAGE PRO

**ARE YOU KIDDING?
A LOW VOLTAGE TESTER WITH APPS!
ONLY FROM BYTE BROTHERS**

"Nails it every time!"

**MEETS ALL LOW VOLTAGE INSTALLATION DEMANDS
... CABLES AND LOW VOLTAGE DEVICES**

THE BEST INVESTMENT YOU CAN MAKE IN YOUR BUSINESS:

- SUPER ACCURATE TESTS (1% TDR)
- WORKS WITH ALL CABLES
- EASILY UPGRADEABLE TO THE NEXT MODEL

Alarms, CCTVs, VoIP Phones, IP Cameras, Audio, Network Devices... The only tester doing the whole job...
CABLES AND DEVICES!

LOW VOLTAGE PRO
LINK 3 VOLTS

VOICE RJ11	VIDEO COAX	SPKR ALARM	DATA RJ45
CABLE TEST	CABLE TEST	CABLE TEST	CABLE TEST
ID TEST	R/L2 VOP CALL	SUBSCRIBER	POE
- 000 METERS		OHMS DELAYS KEVIN DCVPP	LOAD
CONNECTED	123456785	12345678S	LOCKER (PAIR)
PASS		FAIL	SAVE
OPEN SHORT CROSS REV SPLIT			

Available at **ADI**

DESIGNED AND MADE IN THE USA
25th Anniversary
bytebrothers.com

Available at **ADI**

DOWNLOAD DATASHEETS AND VIEW VIDEOS AT
WWW.BYTEBROTHERS.COM

ByteBrothers™

Cable and Device Testers

3 MODELS ● UPGRADEABLE

TYPICAL REPORT (MODEL 3)

PASS

FACTORY AND WEB UPGRADEABLE