

# Managing Plant & Equipment with simPRO



*Serious Job Management*



## Managing Plant & Equipment with simPRO

### Managing Plant & Equipment with simPRO

Tools, vehicles, lifts, computers and cranes are all examples of plant and equipment. These tangible assets are used by service companies to deliver service and enable their staff to carry out jobs. In many cases, plant and equipment is essential to carry out work and earn the business income directly for their time usage.

However, many service organisations do not track and manage their equipment efficiently. This equipment carries a real cost and return value into the business, though all too often they are underutilised, left behind, not charged out or simply “disappear”.

**Why exactly do so many service companies who rely on this equipment, fail to manage it efficiently?**

The answer we hear too often is that it is too cumbersome or difficult to manage it. Who has it, which job is it on, was it used or not, should it be used? All questions that staff in the office often struggle to answer due to the fluid nature of where equipment goes and what it gets used for. For example, John gives that splicer to Andrew who uses it on a job then hands it to Fred to use on his job tomorrow. Sound familiar? Before you know it, it's missing and the business needs to purchase a new one.

simPRO has effective functions built to manage where plant is and what the utilisation is. This allows organisations to manage their assets more effectively, gain optimal utilisation out of equipment and receive the desired returns.



## Configuration

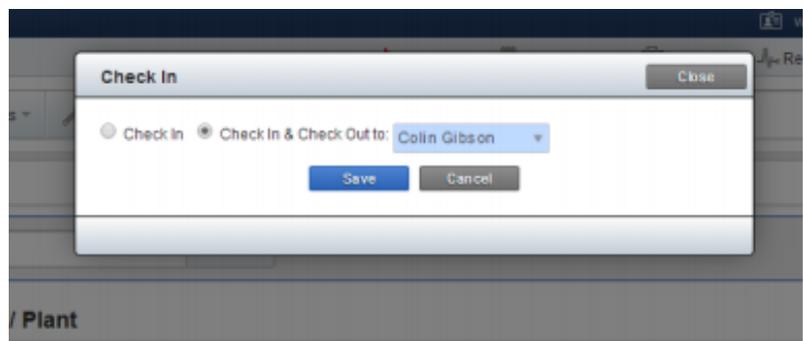
There is no limit on the number of different types of plant and equipment you can configure in simPRO. For each type of equipment users can configure the schema, or user defined fields, to ensure the organisation is capturing the correct information. Each field can be a text field, date field, barcode field or drop down list with predefined options. When configuring the plant type the user is required to define the service frequency and whether it's based on dates (eg. Every 6 months) or based on hours of utilisation.

Each plant item should then be registered in the system. All the unique data relating to the equipment is captured and stored in simPRO as well as its behaviour in relation to jobs. For example, what types of jobs it can be scheduled to, when its next service is due and whether it belongs in a team.

Name	Checked Out To	Next Service	Make	Model	Registration	Last service	Kilometres
Crane 01	Brian Hendrick (simPRO) Do Not Delete at 21/11/2013	01/02/2014					
Mercedes S Class - WG58 MYC	Not checked out						
TOMS - Toyota BC 93 OE	Brad at 25/02/2014		Toyota	Hilux 1987			
Van 2	at 04/12/2013	29/02/2013	Toyota	Hilux		02/06/2012	
W Crane 02	Not checked out						

## Equipment & Employees

Once the plant register has been set up, simPRO then tracks who is using it. Plant and equipment can be checked out to employees which time stamps when it was taken. If passed on to other employees, the system will timestamp when the exchange took place and timestamp again when the item is checked back in.



Having this functionality within the business gives transparency on where the item is and which employee is using it. Alternatively, simPRO allows you select a particular employee and view all equipment that has been checked out to them.

## Billing

Traditionally when using plant on jobs it's very difficult to see exactly how much it has cost the job and affected profitability. As a result, service companies rarely take heed of this information and it's absorbed into the business overheads. Using simPRO you can identify the exact equipment cost that should be attributed to the job based on an overhead recovery rate specifically set up on the plant.

If the equipment is chargeable, simPRO can track the time it was used on the job, if there should be a service fee added for having it on site, and what the charge out rate is. All this information is then reported back into the job for costing and billing.

Service Job #28944 / Cost Centres / Electrical Installation #5712

Cancel Save Finish

Details Parts & Labour Stock Schedule Customer Assets

Summary Job Summary Info Description & Notes Settings Job Settings Forms Print & Email Tasks Job To Do's Attachments Job Attachments Contractor Assigned Contractors Logs Job History

Customer: Lyons Constructions & FM [Change] Site: 101 Fitzroy Street [Change] Job Total: \$380.00 More Detail

Warnings (1) More Detail

### Summary

Description	Quantity	Item Sell	Total
Service Call	1.00	\$65.00	\$65.00
TOMS - Toyota BC 93 OE	3.00 hrs	\$45.00	\$135.00
TOMS - Toyota BC 93 OE	4.00 hrs	\$45.00	\$180.00

Item	Actual	Estimated
Materials Cost	\$0.00	\$0.00
Resources Cost	\$122.00	\$121.00
Labour	\$42.00	\$20.00
Labour Hours	1.00	0.50
Plant & Equipment	\$50.00	\$91.00
Plant & Equipment Hours	5.00	7.00
Overhead	\$30.00	\$10.00
Materials Markup	\$0.00	\$0.00
Resources Markup	\$258.00	\$259.00
Labour Markup	\$-7.00	\$35.00
Plant & Equipment Markup	\$265.00	\$224.00
Sub Total	\$380.00	\$380.00
GST	\$38.00	\$38.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$418.00</b>	<b>\$418.00</b>
Gross P/L	\$288.00	\$269.00
Gross Margin	75.79%	70.79%
Nett P/L	\$258.00	\$259.00
Nett Margin	67.89%	68.16%
Invoiced Value	\$0.00	\$0.00
Invoice Percentage	0.00%	0.00%

### Adjustment

Cost Centre Price: \$  Tax Inclusive  Tax Code: GST (10%)

Adjust Price:  Down (Discount)  Up (Fee)

% Percentage  \$ Amount

Lock Estimates & Price Lock Items & Price

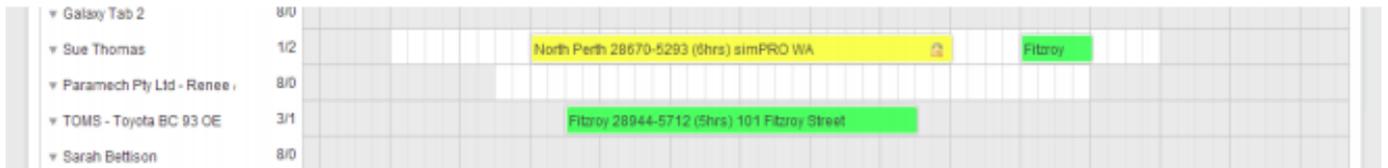
### Costs

Actual Estimate

Category	Actual	Estimate
Totals	\$122.00	\$121.00

## Scheduling

Scheduling plant is as simple as scheduling any other resource in simPRO. When scheduling a job, only resources that are permitted to work in the particular cost center are visible. To schedule time to plant, just allocate on the group calendar the date and time the plant needs to be used on a certain job. If the plant item is part of a team (for example a truck or scissor lift), simply scheduling the team will also schedule the plant and attribute its costs and billing information onto the job along with that team.



Within a business it's extremely important to efficiently utilise an organisation's assets to gain the best results. Having the option to check how often an asset is used, by which teams and how effectively, the business can make better decisions on whether additional or replacement assets are needed. It's also extremely valuable to see every job the equipment has been on and what has been charged out for its use. This transparency can aid in gauging the productivity of the equipment, assisting organisations to reduce wasteful expenditure and replacing equipment unnecessarily.