Vendor Management Services

Precisely what you need. Exactly when you want it.

"Now is the winter of our discontent …"

Wow! Shakespeare also knew about the problems with uncontrolled access to tooling……ok, that's a stretch.

Vendor Management – control access, control costs…

Contact your EM Precise representative if you'd like to find out more about how Vendor Management can;

- improve your operational efficiency
- lower your tooling costs
- help you control and manage your tooling

Let EM Precise Vendor Management help you freeze the increasing cost of tooling. For those who choose other options, please give your insurance company a call for significant reductions in your premiums… yeah, right…

What's on tap?

Rewriting history – taking a few pounds off the old database

Aww sCrap! – the end of the regrind lifecycle

Who's your huckleberry? – A review on adding suppliers to your Matrix

Announcements

Please visit us at **www.emprecise.com** to stay up-to-date on our promotions, which could save you hundred$, or even thousand$.

Contact

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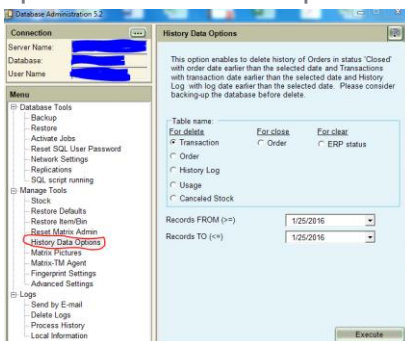fOLLOW US ON :

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Rewriting History

There's an old saying, "those who forget the past are doomed to repeat it". And, while it may not apply fully to your management of the Matrix database, there is a reason you would want to use the information it gathers over time.

But, there comes a time when the information regarding the number of inserts John Smith used on that job four years ago loses much of its value. Your faithful Matrix continues to collect and store this information with as much dedication as the crazy cat lady next door collects head shots of Morris. The point is, you more than likely do not need nine live's of information – so what now? In old versions of Matrix software, you would be deleting each entry, line by line. And, while this may not seem like much, I invite you to take a look at your transaction history for one month… Consider deleting the records one by one for a moment and you'll soon find yourself boarding the slow train to insanity…

Thankfully, this journey through the nine rings of hell need not be taken. Matrix TM was released with an insightful addition – the ability to selectively delete certain information from the database. While ver. 4.7 will allow you to delete records entered before your target date, ver. 5.2 allows a few more options, including selecting records "from" and "to" specific dates. This operation is not reversible, so be warned – back up your database.

Once you hit execute, there is no going back, so be absolutely sure you want to delete the records – there is nothing worse than a getting a request from upstairs for a report spanning the last year (or two) just after you have deleted that information.

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Solution: Management **installed an automated tool dispensing system**, eliminating the need for a manual tool crib.

Results: With the new system, **Company A calculated its return on investment at less than 12 months.**

Problem 2: Manufacturer B was **buying new tools too rapidly. Tool breakdowns** were very costly, often **bringing production to a standstill**.

Solution: Tool Supplier C **installed electronically-controlled tool dispensers** and maintained stock levels based on automatically generated usage reports, giving operators the "time sensitive" tooling they needed.

Results: Manufacturer B no longer purchases new tools before they actually need them, **saving thousands of dollars a year**. Machine operators can **replace broken or malfunctioning tools in a fraction of the time** that they used to.

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Aww sCrap!

Well, it's not exactly a four letter word, but it's not one that people like to hear – when talking about material, anyway.

Like it or not though, if you are getting tooling reground and having the Matrix control it, it's going to become "a part of the biz". If reground tooling is set up to be returned to the Matrix after use, at some point the item is going to be ready for the…scrap heap – hopefully, not too much of a heap though. Come to think of it, you'll be using this function if you are setting up any returnable (durable) tooling – if you want to accurately track when its life ended.

To do this, it starts with the operator taping the "RETURN" icon after logging in. The next step is to select the item that is going to be scrapped. Enter the number of items that are being scrapped and tap the "SCRAP" button at the bottom, beside the "RETURN" button. A new window will open, prompting the user to enter a reason for the scrap. Reasons can be selected from a drop-down menu – but these must be created by an admin user beforehand. Once the scrap transaction has been completed, the operator just has to hit the exit icon and the login screen will appear.

More recent versions of the Matrix-TM software allow users to enter remarks, typed either from a virtual keyboard or a physical one, instead of relying on the generic reasons that might be created by the tooling manager/admin user

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Who's your huckleberry?

I don't ever recall hearing or seeing this term anywhere – except in Tombstone (Val Kilmer). Needless to say, it was a stretch to use it here, but I guess your suppliers could be considered your huckleberries… but you can call them whatever you like…

Adding new items to your Matrix involves collecting and entering a fair amount of data. You may want to add supplier information to the mix, especially if you are planning on using the auto-order function. It will also help you filter through your list of tooling as it grows. You can access the supplier list by clicking on Main -> Supplier. From here, click the "add" icon and a new window will open, allowing you to add the contact information for your huckleberry…uh, supplier.

Important to note here is the field designated for an email address. This is the address the Matrix will use when sending (draft) POs. Not entering the information here will require you to manually enter that info each time a PO is created. Many customers request orders be sent to various people in the organization, which is possible – but multiple email addresses need to be separated by a comma (as opposed to a coma…). There will be at least one other piece of information that must be filled in before the Matrix will allow you to save the record. You will see an "Order Parameters" tab in the Supplier Maintenance window. Once on this screen, you can set a schedule for the auto-order to run for each specific supplier – this can be set based on how much/how often you require tooling from them. You can also set this to "do not run", but you will still be required to select a shipping method from the drop-down menu before saving the record.

If you'd like to add huckleberries, strawberries, blueberries or even Halle Berry(ies) to your Matrix database, please contact us in Vendor Managed Services with your questions..

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