

# Measures to bridge the gap

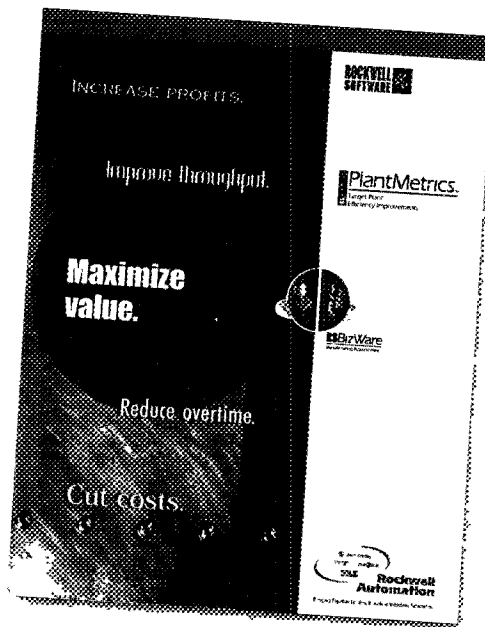
Rockwell Automation is offering a Windows-based product which, aims to improve the productivity of deployed assets. PlantMetrics gives users a powerful set of tools to analyse the performance of production assets by building on the reporting, analysis and management capabilities of Rockwell's RSBizWare foundation.

Manufacturing BusinessWare is an umbrella term for Rockwell's software application and integration tools and value-added services offering, which aims to plug the gap between shopfloor automation and top-level corporate IT systems

PlantMetrics collects data to measure how well plant is running and provides a performance rating, based on overall equipment effectiveness (OEE)

However, OEE is only one of the key performance indicators provided to evaluate cells, lines, areas and plant. Users can also define custom events that can be alarms or fault codes, and then create reports based on any of these values

Other features of the software include management of:  
 ↳ Asset performance – users can identify poorly performing assets by creating charts to show production faults and analyse the underlying detail  
 ↳ Changeover times – the time spent on machine changeovers can be analysed by looking at the differences between lines,



# Route to TPM success

Total productive maintenance is explained in practical terms in a new publication called *TPM, A Route to World Class Performance*. Written by Peter Willmott and Dennis McCarthy of consultancy WCS International, the book draws on the authors' experiences and provides a guide to delivering benefits from TPM within organisations where the workforce is resisting its introduction

The book emphasises the need to build good practices and to win commitment by delivering results. It includes sections on assessing TPM's true costs and benefits, how to make and apply an improvement plan, and how to manage a TPM pilot. Sir Ken Jackson, AEEU general secretary, contributes a foreword.

Copies cost £45. Call WCS on 01225 852400 or email [TPM@wcs-int.com](mailto:TPM@wcs-int.com)

products and shifts, enabling specific improvements to be targeted

The software includes wizards to ease database set-up, these create all the tables necessary to address most common time-series data-analysis problems. Also, a range of report tools are included. PlantMetrics can be deployed over a LAN, WAN, intranet or the internet.

More details

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More details

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# Reliable customisation

ERP vendor Exegesys has launched a new suite of asset management software. Called eXegete Asset Maintenance (eAM), the product incorporates client-server and web technologies to include modules for equipment management, work management, craft and labour management, inventory management, fleet management, tool control and global access

In addition, the reliability centred maintenance (RCM) tools module optimises equipment productivity by accommodating a variety of inspection criteria. It manages predictive and condition-based maintenance

by defining inspection points belonging to one or more assets. Inspections may be carried out on an ad hoc basis, triggered by time frequency and/or meter based, general inspections based on previous results are also supported

As with other Exegesys products, eAM features the company's Customizer technology, which allows full customisation without affecting the source code. This means that users can still receive software updates and full product support, irrespective of customisation.

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Letter from Industry International that includes AlieVite's strengths in its asset management system. "The addition of AlieVite's advanced search functionality to our database will allow increased compatibility with our other data models," says Kent Hudson, Industry president and CEO. "The technology will allow users to perform advanced, cross-referential and field category searches. It will also provide the ability to search by word, phrase and team."

More details

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# New name for PSDI

PSDI, asset management software supplier and owner of MRO.com, is renaming itself MRO Software, highlighting the company's focus on maintenance and repair solutions

Says group vice president Clare Gillan "Maximo Extended Enterprise, PSDI's flagship product, is designed specifically for

maintenance, repair, and operations management. PSDI's enterprise asset management strengths lie in maintenance, repair, and e-procurement, so we see this change to a more intuitive name as helping to clarify PSDI's positioning."

More details

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