

P R O B L E M

Frequently, trailer and container repairs are recorded on a paper form. These forms are later submitted to a central office to be entered into a computer system for billing. When the repair form is submitted to the central office, illegible repairs can result in data entry errors. In addition, inconsistent and redundant repair recording, and an inadequate knowledge of guidelines can result in poor documentation, incorrect repair records, and delayed billing.

S O L U T I O N

The Trailer and Container Repair Management (TCRM) application and state of the art PC-based computer systems allow for “at the equipment” data entry of inspections and repairs. Complex repair requirements and the governing AAR Intermodal Interchange Rules are the backbone of the TCRM application. Select lists and required fields simplify complex rules and decisions so that repairs are entered correctly the first time.

APPLICATION CAPABILITIES

- Real-time communication with a central server while in the field through a wireless network.
- Disconnected mode to record repairs while out-of-network range.
- Inspection mode to record an equipment inspection and forward that data to the shop.
- User prompts and select lists to ensure repair entries follow AAR rules.
- Parts selection lists based on Job Code to identify inventory used.
- Real-time validation of repairs to ensure completeness and correctness.
- Real-time notifications of errors, so repairs are corrected immediately.
- Database replication to ensure data changes are immediately available to the field.
- The ability to send and retrieve repairs between the user and the central server.
- Access to equipment information.
- Access to work orders and the ability to send a bad order request from the field.
- The ability to print work orders and original records of repair on a shop printer while in the field.
- Automated pricing based on standard or negotiated rates, vendor, facility, job code, or parts used.
- The ability to generate paper invoices.
- The ability to generate customized reports for accounting estimates and daily, monthly and trended analysis.
- Complete software support and maintenance.
- User training and help-desk support.



(Example wireless repair entry form)

COST SAVINGS ANALYSIS

Item	Calculation	Annual Net Savings ¹
Labor Savings	\$45,000 annual salary * 1 FTE ²	\$ 45,000
Savings on forms and envelopes	Estimated labor and material cost	\$ 500
Reclaimed cost of money due to delayed billing	(\$2M * 20% (delayed billing)) * 1% loss in interest revenue	\$ 4,000
Reduction in repeat failures due to incorrect maintenance	Average of \$10 per unit/yr * 200 units	\$ 2,000
Elimination in misapplied materials	Average of \$5 per unit/yr * 200 units	\$ 1,000
Reduction in cost of maintaining on hand Inventory	(\$2M * 40% (material charge)) * 1% reduction in carrying costs	\$ 8,000
Elimination of missed associated repairs	\$2M * 1% reclamation of missed billing	\$ 20,000
Elimination of IS Support Position	\$75,000 annual salary * .5 FTE	\$ 37,500
Total Annual Savings		\$118,000

¹ These amounts are based on a test site with 200 units and an annual repair billing of \$2,000,000.

² FTE = Full Time Equivalent.

B E N E F I T S

Labor Savings

Clerk

- Reduction in time spent invoicing, storing, and retrieving billing information.
- Immediate historical repair bill access for FRA or AAR auditor review.
- Elimination of redundant data entry, excess paper flow, and manual processing of forms.

Repair Man

- Reduction in time referencing the A.A.R. Intermodal Interchange manual.
- Elimination of interpretation or investigation.
- In the field access to equipment lists.
- Reduction in time spent filling out reports and increase in the time spent inspecting and repairing equipment.

Management

- Improved resource allocation through fast and accurate information.
- Reduction in management repair bill review and need to correct billing information.
- Automated quality processing.

Data Accuracy and Availability

- Correct and complete repair records.
- Data integrity across the enterprise.
- Elimination of human error associated with the manual processing of bills.
- Improved billing accuracy.
- Enhanced reporting capability including real time access to data.
- Automated storage and distribution.

Budget Control

- Increased revenue by increase in identifying associated repairs.
- Shortened billing cycle.
- Increased accuracy of billing statements sent to customers. Target 0% of bills returned in error.
- Increased flexibility in billing repairs to varying responsible parties.
- Elimination of fines due to not complying with the AAR and FRA guidelines.
- Elimination of legacy systems and associated IS support.

Fleet Management

- Identification of repeat failures.
- Improved equipment repair turn around time tracking.
- Improved equipment repair capacity.
- Elimination of misapplied maintenance.

To learn more, call 1-877-922-2627 or visit www.wabtecglobalservices.com