

COMPUTERISATION OF EQUIPMENT INVENTORY RECORDS

by

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Project Report

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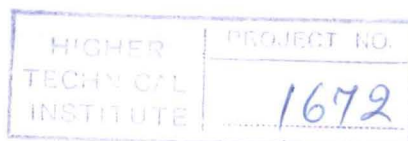
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1.1 General

In a workshop, service or store there is a need to have all the items inventorised so as to check them easily. But in the case of equipment that after distribution they have to be maintained periodically and be repaired when needed, the problem is more complicated.

That's why there was the need of inventory cards to keep information about the equipment and, could be easily found and filled in for maintenance or repair of the equipment.

1.2 Problem

But if the service has many equipment of different types and models that need to have lots of spare parts available then, to order the specific Spare Parts we need to check each one from the lists, and this takes a lot of time. And if the service was a big Government Department that checks all the equipment imported into the country, or even an International Agency checking the medical machines available in many countries then in order to work in such a case the staff and time needed to find informations will have to be greatly increased.

For this reason an investigation was carried out to estimate the problem and find a way to minimise it. Visiting small stores they seemed to be easily controlled but a larger service such as the Government medical stores,

which supplies medical equipment and supplies all over the country, need to have many people working in order to be effectively controlled.

1.3 Solution

The best way to minimise the problem is by using Computers which are much faster than people and can manipulate data in few seconds that a human being would need days to check them. In order to use computers for such a job they have to be programmed in the best possible way, with a special program to make the computer able to communicate easily with the user, without the need to be a specialist.

The decision to write the program in GWBASIC, which is a high level language, was found to be very complicated for the programmer but very easy to be used by the operator. This program can work in any computer which is IBM compatible XT or AT. This makes it available for many computers in Cyprus or abroad.

1.4 Comparison with Manual System

When comparing it with the Manual card system used before we can see that, apart from being extremely fast and needs less people to operate it, it also gives the user more facilities. Such facilities are:

* To indicate the next maintenance date of each equipment automatically.

* The option to have Planned Preventing Maintenance in which we can see the equipments that need to be maintained in a certain period of time, so to plan the work for the personnel.

* Also for Stock Control, the program gives us all the Items whose quantity is below the Reorder Level, so to enable as place an order.

* A very usefull option is to enable us to search all the records for specific data and find them, which would need lots of working hours when done manually.

* Finally we can optain hard copy output of them from the printer.

1.5 Following pages

In the following pages there is an explanation about manual card system which is installed at the Regional Training Center of the Higher Technical Institute, and a full description of the program, with the whole listing in Appendix A. Also a User's Manual is available as a separate book to explain to operators all the details they would need to run the program.

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User's Manual

Diskette

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