National Plant & Equipment maximises asset performance

Overview

As a leading earthmoving equipment rental company, National Plant & Equipment has grown exponentially since its 1997 formation in the Hunter Valley region of New South Wales. The company provides ultra-class fleet and truck and shovel operations to more than 42 mine sites across Australia. National Plant & Equipment has developed long-standing relationships with major OEMs such as Caterpillar and Komatsu and have long-term contracts with a multitude of top-tier mining customers. In the past five years alone, National Plant & Equipment’s fleet inventory has almost doubled to more than 240 pieces of major equipment. Following the 2019 acquisition of earthmoving company Wolff Group, National Plant & Equipment’s fleet of dozers, trucks and drills is expanding—and along with it, an accelerating client base.

Challenge

Effective management of a growing asset management inventory is critical to ensuring the sustained success of mining contractors. In addition, the ability to provide high quality and reliable equipment to mine sites in some of the remotest locations throughout Australia underscores long-term relationships and success. To this end, National Plant & Equipment required an asset management solution to increase control of their asset inventory and provide greater visibility. Historically, National Plant & Equipment was managing their assets through multiple spreadsheets which meant the business lacked the level of control and consistency needed to truly harness and nurture relationships with mining companies and optimise asset effectiveness.

Case Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>National Plant &amp; Equipment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speciality</td>
<td>Mining equipment hire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solution</td>
<td>AMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mine site</td>
<td>42 mine sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Brisbane, Australia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“We have been able to scale effectively with AMT as it does all the hard work for you. I get really excited about what AMT can do.”

Shannon Smith, Senior Maintenance Planner
According to Shannon Smith, National Plant & Equipment’s Maintenance Planner, the company was seeking an innovative, simple to use solution that provided a holistic picture of the entire maintenance department so they could enhance asset performance during the company’s growth period and beyond. Prior to implementing AMT, the company lacked a centralised plant management system and was managing asset tasks in an ad-hoc fashion.

In selecting a robust asset management tool, National Plant & Equipment was looking to:

• Have an overarching maintenance system that gave accurate visibility of existing and planned asset maintenance requirements that can scale alongside growth;
• Have true visibility in order to identify potential issues and take action early to save money and avoid costly downtime;
• Enhance understanding of the real costs associated with maintenance;
• Eliminate reliance on spreadsheets and;
• Meet reliability and availability targets

Solutions

In order to effectively manage and maximise asset performance during a heightened period of growth, National Plant & Equipment required a robust software solution that would underpin a forward-looking, proactive approach to asset management. AMT—RPMGlobal’s Intelligent Asset Management software—was identified as the ideal centralised plant management system, leading to performance improvements, cost savings and a culture of continuous improvement. AMT’s Dynamic Life Cycle Costing (DLCC) engine has provided AMT with an accurate, on demand maintenance budget where they can gauge the true costs of operating equipment across a multitude of sites. Specifically, AMT underpinned the following major competitive benefits:

• Better visibility for faster decision-making
• Have one, consolidated asset management database to drive and optimise strategy
• Eliminate room for error by reducing reliance on Excel spreadsheets
• Conduct real-time maintenance budgeting instead of relying on static maintenance plans
• Simplified issues that accompany growth due to AMT’s scalability

Impact

As an integrated budgeting and maintenance solution, AMT has provided significant advantages to National Plant & Equipment in the following ways:

• Increased fleet availability as a result of AMT’s advanced proactive economic life optimisation function.
• Enhanced visibility and control over day-to-day asset maintenance procedures due to the elimination of manual Excel spreadsheets. National Plant & Equipment now has one source of truth for the business that seamlessly integrates with any ERP, underpinning an accurate view of asset management.
• Regularly hitting reliability and availability targets while concurrently scaling the business.

Effectively develop and implement a live maintenance budget and forecasting plan which has helped the company strategically plan component change outs and reduce overall costs.

“We consistently meet our availability targets because of AMT which gives our customers confidence in our ability as a maintenance team.”

Shannon Smith, Senior Maintenance Planner