

CUSTOMER SUCCESS



Ryobi Die Casting is “Gung Ho” About Sage FAS

With more than 2,500 assets worth over \$150 million to manage, Louise Branson is one busy person. In her role as property accountant at Ryobi Die Casting USA, she relies on fixed asset software all day long. But her legacy software was making her job harder, not easier.

“I was really unhappy with our existing package,” she explains. “It took forever to generate reports, and categories were stiff and difficult to use. We researched a number of alternatives. My supervisor had used Sage FAS at a previous job and highly recommended it. I was attracted by its great report-writing capabilities.”

Award-Winning Manufacturing

Ryobi manufactures parts for Ford, General Motors, Toyota, and Nissan automobiles, as well as many riding lawnmowers. A subsidiary of Ryobi Limited in Japan, the company prides itself on giving employees the tools they need to do their jobs right—which helps explain why it won the Pineapple Award as one of the best places to work in Shelbyville, Indiana.

It has also earned several Toyota Quality and Delivery Recognition Awards.

Ryobi installed FAS Asset Accounting several years ago, and Branson now uses it for all aspects of her job. She enters assets into the software, depreciates them, maintains photos for easy identification, and then disposes of them when they are retired. Most of the assets she tracks are machinery, equipment, buildings, and tooling, ranging from die casting machinery to computers and other office equipment.

Customer:

Ryobi Die Casting USA Inc.

Industry:

Automotive die casting

Location:

Shelbyville, Indiana

Number of Locations: One

Number of Employees: 600

System:

Sage FAS Fixed Assets

- FAS Asset Accounting

CHALLENGE

Existing fixed asset software was difficult to use, had “stiff” reporting categories, and was disliked by users

SOLUTION

Sage FAS automates all aspects of fixed asset management, including equipment inventories worth more than \$150 million

RESULTS

Sage FAS has minimized accountant’s work by 25%; reports that took a day are now done in 20 minutes; able to produce four times as many reports as before

Easy Implementation

Implementing Sage FAS was quick and easy. In fact, Branson was able to do everything herself. "I'm no computer expert. If I can figure it out, anybody can," she says. After using the program for six months, Branson took a class on Sage FAS. She says the training was very beneficial. "I like learning about something when I've already gotten my feet wet, so I really know what I need to learn," she explains. "I was very pleased with the additional instruction, as it helped me make better use of the software, particularly the report-writing features."

Rapid Reports

"Right after we launched Sage FAS, my boss asked me for several reports. I was able to generate them so quickly that he couldn't believe it. He was thrilled, and said he'd start asking me for more reports in the future. Before we started using Sage FAS, he'd been afraid to ask me for reports because they always took so long to generate," says Branson.

Besides her boss, Branson now has people coming to her all the time requesting specific reports. These might include assets in a particular department, what the net book value is, and how long it will take to depreciate a piece of equipment. Creating them is easy, now that she has Sage FAS.

Speed and Flexibility

"I perform a lot of analysis using Sage FAS, especially for quotes," Branson adds. "If the company is considering making a new product, it's simple for me to calculate what the associated costs will be for equipment. We're spending \$35 million on new capital investments this year alone. So, it is of paramount importance that we manage our investments wisely. Sage FAS is an enormous help in this regard, and helps us ensure profitability."

Branson also likes customizing the software to her own needs. "I like the flexibility of being able to create fields, and having them populate automatically when data is entered. For example, I was able to create a separate company in the system for customers' tooling equipment in the automobile industry, something we could never track before."

"Sage FAS is one of the fastest, most accurate ways to track your company's assets."

Louise Branson
Property Accountant
Ryobi Die Casting USA

Exporting data to other programs and spreadsheets is another feature Branson particularly likes in Sage FAS. "The software is extremely user-friendly for moving and manipulating information," she says.

Awesome Audit

"We were audited shortly after transferring from one system to another," Branson recalls. "The auditors asked for all sorts of unusual reports. By being able to do range-date analyses with Sage FAS, I was able to provide them with everything they wanted, and without all the headaches normally associated with similar requests. We passed the audit with flying colors."

Ryobi uses the slogan "gung-ho" to describe its corporate culture, and Branson says the phrase is apt for Sage FAS. "I'm completely enthusiastic about this software," she says. "Sage FAS has trimmed 25 percent of my workload. Reports that once took an entire day can now be produced in just 20 minutes. This frees me up to generate about four times as many reports as before, so the company is better informed about how its assets are being managed. Sage FAS is one of the fastest, most accurate ways to track your company's assets."



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