



Hardcat increases asset maintenance and security at the Australian Synchrotron

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Australian Synchrotron
lighting the path to innovation

Customer Profile

www.synchrotron.org.au

Company

Australian Synchrotron

Location

Melbourne, Australia

Industry

Government

Products

Hardcat Fixed Asset Management Solution, Preventative Maintenance technology (Web & Client based) and the Stock Control component.

Australian Synchrotron

As Synchrotron Science had revolutionised experimental techniques in the UK, Europe and the USA in the late 1970's, Australian scientific leaders saw a great benefit to create one here, as they had sourced overseas Synchrotron research for the past 16 years. The Project was initiated by Major Projects Victoria, a State Government agency. The Australian Synchrotron started construction in 2003, and was scheduled to have been completed in 5 years time. It had opened in 2007 with projects already underway.

The Issue

A synchrotron is extremely complex, made up of literally thousands of individual components, requiring individual tracking of components to ensure optimum operational condition. There was a need to facilitate the preventative maintenance on all of these components, at the same time keeping an asset register with them all.

Major Projects Victoria needed to ensure that throughout the construction of the Australian Synchrotron, a detailed and exact inventory of all components would be available. This was necessary to provide to the operator of the facility upon completion of the project.

Originally they were looking for 2 separate systems to control each aspect, however since Hardcat had Asset Management and Preventative Maintenance in the one application, Synchrotron were happy to incorporate them together.

With the project already commenced and components already under order, it was necessary to obtain a solution that could be quickly and efficiently be implemented.

Solution

Hardcat helped the Synchrotron gain control over the preventative maintenance of crucial components running the synchrotron, whilst keeping control of their entire asset base in the register.

Benefits

- Visibility of Critical core components to be regularly maintained
- All assets and stock components can be accounted for
- Complete audit trail on each and every work order raised

The Solution

Hardcat was implemented in early 2004, as a barcode asset tracking solution designed to record all the components being built into the synchrotron. The initial asset tracking solution was then expanded to include Hardcat's Stock Module, to enable capture and tracking of non-asset stock inventories where required.

During 2006, the solution was further expanded to incorporate the Hardcat Maintenance module and a browser-based user interface. After configuration, Synchrotron have been raising Work Orders on the web around the entire facility for faulty parts that require servicing or a replacement. They are able to raise Work Orders, add specific notes to it, and create actions to show what has been done, when, where and why.

The Benefits

"The Hardcat solution helps engineers to ensure the Synchrotron's components are regularly maintained to keep successful operation."

Other benefits include:

- The rapid implementation of Hardcat enabled component asset items to be barcoded and data-captured as soon as they were acquired, allowing tight asset control from Day One.
- At the completion of the project, Major Projects Victoria was able to hand the solution over with a highly detailed inventory of all components, with everything barcoded and easily audited
- The Hardcat Maintenance Module allowed for coordinated management of reactive maintenance tasks as they emerged, and its task-based planned maintenance capability further allowed for planned scheduling of regular cyclic maintenance tasks
- The Hardcat web interface enabled users with no specific Hardcat training (such as maintenance staff) to quickly look up and record maintenance work undertaken via an easy-to-use intuitive user interface

The implementation of Hardcat has not only met the initial asset tracking requirements of the Australian Synchrotron Project, it has also successfully expanded into the ongoing day-to-day management of asset tracking and maintenance tasks at the facility.

