

## Gaining Full Control



Macclesfield Motor Bodies, with 33,000 sq ft, says it is the UK's largest independent manufacturer-approved bodyshop.

### estimating tips

In the October issue of BODY magazine the Estimating article (p26) gave an incorrect web address for the estimating tips. For these tips, and the full article, please visit: [www.emacs.org.uk/Body/October.html](http://www.emacs.org.uk/Body/October.html)

**M**acclesfield Motor Bodies, one of the largest independent manufacturer-approved bodyshops in the UK, has installed E.M.A. Computer Solution's Business Manager to load and manage its 33,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility.

The EMACS system has replaced Macclesfield Motor Bodies 6 year old system that had, in the bodyshop management's opinion, failed to keep pace with developments in the industry, and the ways in which bodyshops must now do business. **David Yeoman, Bodyshop Manager**, comments: "The EMACS system has given me complete control of the bodyshop and, by automating many processes and with 'Status' panels displaying current information relevant to each employee's responsibilities, has made us an extremely efficient operation".

"Before installing EMACS our throughput was significantly lower, and the car park certainly had more vehicles awaiting estimates or authorisation than is now the case," recalls Yeoman. "Also,

*the previous system could not show us the status of each job, for example awaiting estimate, parts, booking, authority and invoicing."*

### Challenging Installation

The installation took place in June and proved to be EMACS' most challenging to date, due to: the size of the site; key personnel being away on holiday; and England's first World Cup game of 2006.

In total the EMACS system is running on five time recording touch-screens (on the shop floor) and 16 PCs sited thus: two in parts, four with the site's estimators, five on the management/admin floor, one with the workshop controller, two with front reception and two with the receptionists in the back office. Yeoman: "All the PCs and touch-screens are networked and provide a clear view of who is currently doing what, when it needs to be completed by and what needs doing next.

### System Welcomed on Shopfloor

The system has been warmly received throughout the



The new system with touch screens has been welcome by shopfloor technicians.

The bodyshop has 35 productives (11 panelbeaters + 14 painters + 10 MET technicians), 4 receptionists, 4 spraybooths and an area dedicated to repairing aluminium-bodied vehicles. Current throughput is around 90 vehicles per week and, at any one time, there are about 12 vehicles awaiting authority but no more than 15 vehicles awaiting estimates.

