#### Integrated Explosives Management System

TLC Engineering Solutions

## System Description



Manages all aspects of an open-cast mine's explosives system from the manufacturing of the explosive through the design of the blast to the explosive in the hole and beyond . . . .

#### **Functions**



- QUALITY CONTROL
- ► INVENTORY MANAGEMENT
- MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
- SCHEDULING
- HOLE CHARGING
- CLOSED-LOOP CONTROL OF TRUCKS
- RECONCILIATION
- RAW MATERIALS TRACKING

## Operation



- Explosives raw materials arrive at the mine
- QC is done and Stock is recorded
- Formulations are specified with the available raw materials
- Bench charging is planned using available formulations
- Raw materials are loaded onto the delivery truck
- The plans are loaded into the truck's controller
- The bench is charged directly from the bench plan
- The controller measures the explosives quantity
- Bench information is transferred from Truck to PC
- Blast performance is measured and reconciliation done
- Management reports are produced

# **Operating Flowchart**

Blast Designed

Design data directly loaded into hand-held micro (multiple designs at a time)

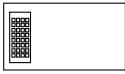
Entire Blast design(s) loaded from micro to on-board controller

Holes charged as per design -Recording of densities and amounts used











Results processed to give reconciliation, time studies PM etc.





Results loaded from hh micro to PC



Results loaded from on-board controller into hand-held micro



# **Quality Control Module**



- As raw materials enter the mine, they are sampled according to predefined limits. Each batch is uniquely identified, so that tracking of each material is assured from the bench back to the raw material
- A history of acceptance limits and conformance is built up as the system is used. Exception reporting and X,r analysis is performed on each batch
- Each time raw materials leave the storage tanks, their batch numbers are recorded on the explosives delivery truck controller.
- Calibration data for all gauges and trucks used is done routinely and recorded
- VOD measurements are done, and their results entered into the system
- The results of field control checks are recorded to form a history
- All aspects of the QC module can be queried according to any form of search criteria. The structure of the database is relational

## QC Module



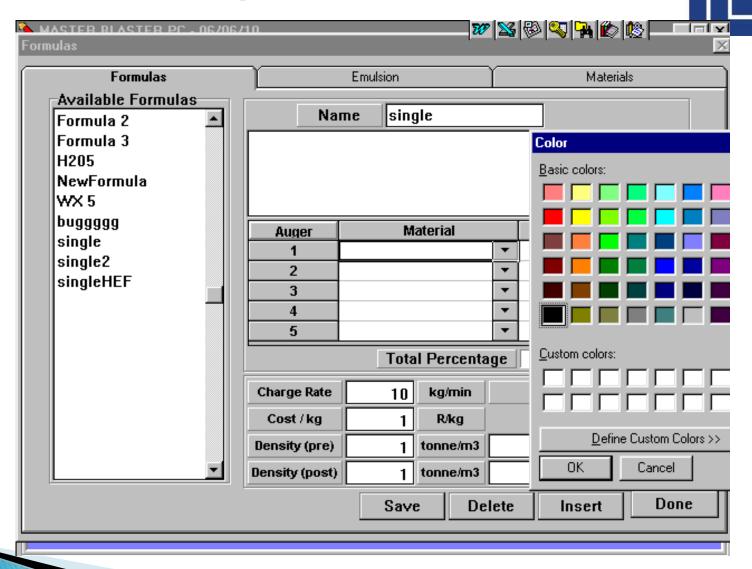


## **Explosives Formulations**



- Each formulation is defined as an exact combination, by mass, of any of the available raw materials
- The formulation cost is calculated as being the sum of the constituent raw material costs
- Each raw material used retains it's identity within the formulation for purposes of tracking in case of sub-optimal blasting performance
- Each formulation is mixed on the truck as it goes into the hole
- The formulation can consist of raw materials and compounds (such as emulsion, which contains it's own raw materials)
- There is no limit to the number of formulation which the system can accommodate

## **Defining The Formula**

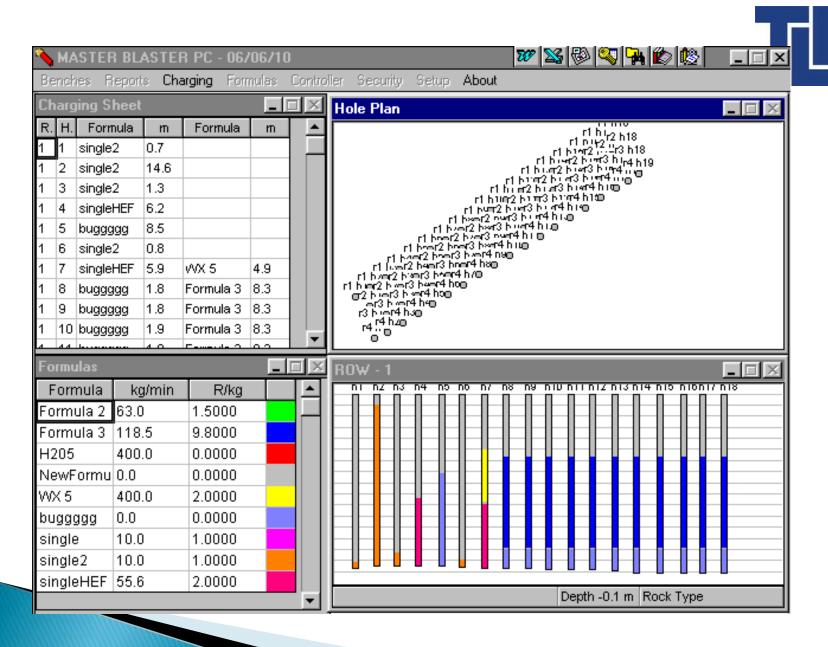


### Scheduling And Charge Planning

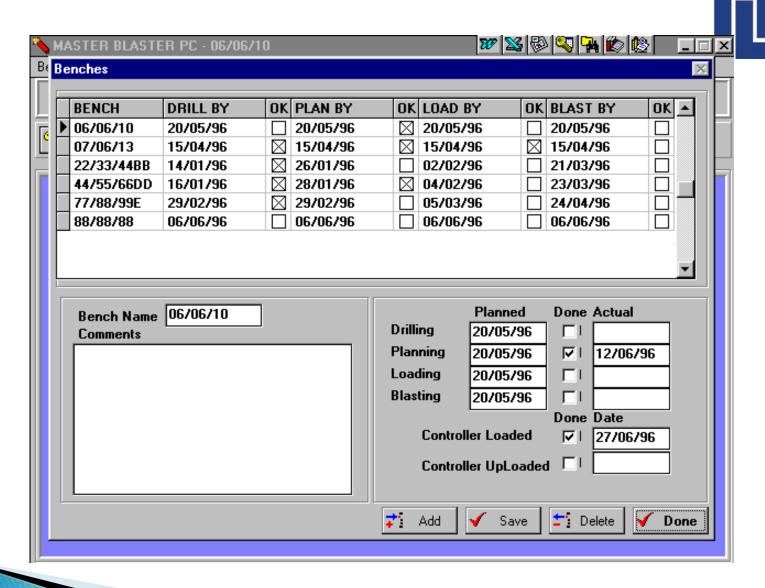


- Benches are scheduled in terms of plan by, charge by and blast by dates
- The hole plan is translated into a top view graphic, and a cross sectional graphic of each row
- The charging is done graphically on the cross sectional view of the rows
- As soon as the holes have been planned in terms of charge, the theoretical amounts of formulation is available as well as the projected cost of the bench
- Accessory usage is specified as part of the charge planning

#### **Charging The Holes Graphically**



#### **Bench Scheduling**

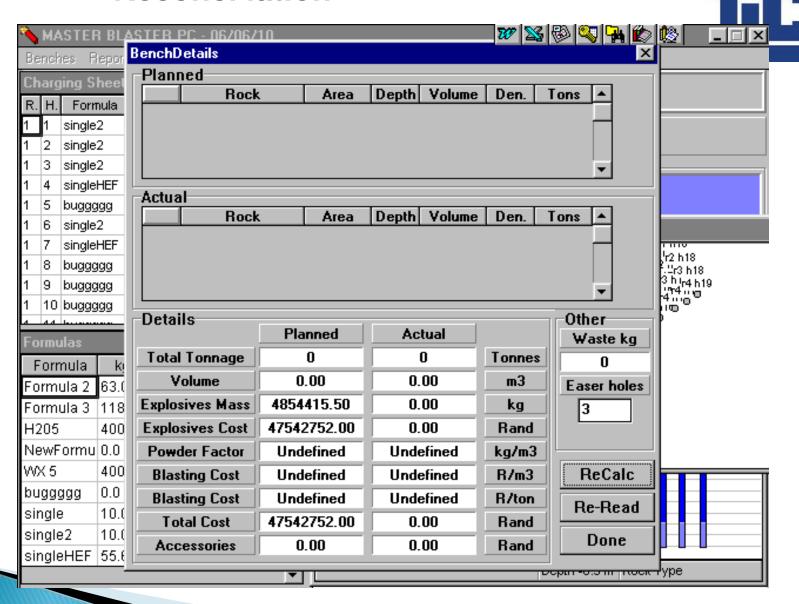


#### Reconciliation



- The system accepts a budget cost, a planned cost and an actual cost. Reconciliation between these three quantities is a measure of the drilling quality, the accuracy of the closed-loop control system, and the calibration of the delivery trucks
- Reconciliation between stock due to stock-taking and measured amounts is done, as the actual usage is accurately recorded on the delivery truck. This highlights discrepancies due to truck calibration, theft or fraud

#### Reconciliation



# Reporting



- Exception reporting from QC module
- Date-to-date reporting of costs and quantities
- Bench-by-bench reporting of costs and quantities
- Inventory reporting

# Explosives Truck Controller



- Functions for calibration, checking, and running independently without the balance of the system)
- The Bench plan is loaded into the computer
- The operator checks that the batch numbers of the components in the truck have been correctly assigned
- The controller prompts for the row number and the hole number
- The hole depth is measured, and entered into the controller
- The densities are checked and entered into the controller
- The holes are charged, and the exact amounts of raw materials used are measured
- Bench results are loaded into via a hand-held data transfer device onto the computer
- The controller is microprocessor based, and employs standard closed-loop control methodology. It is constructed for very rugged conditions
- Up to 5 benches of 200 holes per bench may be stored in the controller at any one time

### **Contact Details**



#### For more information contact:

TLC ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS (Pty) Ltd

Web: <u>www.tlc.co.za</u>

E-mail: <u>sales@tlc.co.za</u>

Office: +27-11-463-3860

Fax: +27-11-463-2591