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The Chips Module

OVERVIEW

ALDATA Software's Yard Boss system is one of the few fiber management systems that handles timberlands accounting processes and inventory for roundwood, chips and other wood residuals. In 2001, we developed a chip module for Yard Boss that works independently or together with the Yard Boss logs module. The system can be configured to track other wood residual products, such as shavings or sawdust.

The chips module enables you to track chip quality information on a load-by-load basis and to compare quality performance across vendors. These data provide valuable information to help pulpmills develop and execute quality incentive programs that reward vendors who provide chips that are the ideal size, thickness, diameter, etc. The chip attributes can be set up to match the sampling protocols of your company. Yard Boss sets up bonus schedules so that data entered at the chip lab can automatically be used to calculate bonuses during payment processing.

MANAGEMENT OF QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Most pulpmills track various chip quality attributes such as thickness, diameter, moisture content and bark percentage. Some of these attributes are tracked only for sample loads, while others are tracked for every load delivered to the mill. This information can be entered into Yard Boss and made available for comparisons of quality among vendors. The data can either be entered manually or Yard Boss can read directly from the lab weigh scale and calculate size-based attributes for each sample load.

Record	Load ID	Ticket No	Time In	Time Out	Contract	Sample	OD%	BARK%	>45MM	>10MM
1	171751	U076825	1/2/2002 8:42:00 AM	1/2/2002 9:08:00 AM	Vendor 15679		54.200	0.810	0.000	0.000
2	171754	U076259	1/2/2002 9:37:00 AM	1/2/2002 10:03:00 AM	Vendor 15679		54.200	0.810	0.000	0.000
3	171759	U077771	1/2/2002 11:31:00 AM	1/2/2002 12:04:00 PM	Vendor 15679		55.500	0.950	0.000	0.000
4	171759	U076360	1/2/2002 12:26:00 PM	1/2/2002 12:54:00 PM	Vendor 15679		51.600	0.810	0.000	0.000
5	171762	U077772	1/2/2002 2:21:00 PM	1/2/2002 2:11:00 PM	Vendor 15679		51.600	0.970	0.000	0.200
6	171765	U076351	1/2/2002 3:17:00 PM	1/2/2002 3:52:00 PM	Vendor 15679		50.800	0.970	0.000	0.000
7	171772	U076893	1/2/2002 5:55:00 PM	1/2/2002 6:17:00 PM	Vendor 15679		50.800	0.970	0.000	0.000
8	171774	U107822	1/2/2002 7:10:00 PM	1/2/2002 8:00:00 PM	Vendor 15679		53.000	0.970	0.000	0.000
9	171776	U078084	1/2/2002 8:25:00 PM	1/2/2002 8:45:00 PM	Vendor 15679		53.000	0.970	0.000	0.000
10	171779	U076353	1/2/2002 10:27:00 PM	1/2/2002 11:15:00 PM	Vendor 15679		53.000	0.980	2.200	7.000
11	171779	U076395	1/2/2002 10:59:00 PM	1/2/2002 11:36:00 PM	Vendor 15679		53.000	0.980	0.000	0.000
12	171782	U076364	1/3/2002 1:43:00 AM	1/3/2002 3:00:00 AM	Vendor 15679		49.500	0.990	0.000	0.000
13	171783	U076896	1/3/2002 1:47:00 AM	1/3/2002 2:23:00 AM	Vendor 15679		49.500	0.980	0.000	0.000
14										
15										
				Averages:			52.754	0.776	1.100	7.500

Enter CQI Data

Primary Contract:

Ticket #:

Show Active Drip

Sample Load

0.51 Oven Dried Percentage

0.20 Percentage of Bark

0.20 Chip Round Size > 45mm

0.00 Chip Thickness > 10mm

0.00 Chip Thickness > 8mm

0.00 Chip Thickness > 4mm

0.00 Chip Round Size > 7mm

0.00 Chip Round Size > 3mm

0.00 Chip Round Size < 3mm

0.20 Total

Tip: To enter a value of 3.6% type 3.6

Chip attributes are configurable ensuring that the Yard Boss system matches your unique sampling protocols.

Next>



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When the system is set-up with contractor information the bonus/penalty schedule is defined. The schedule is used to calculate bonuses or penalties for each vendor. Bonus schedules can vary from vendor to vendor, and bonus payments can be tracked under a separate account code from the main payment. Bonus and payment schedules can also be set-up for a specific timeframe.

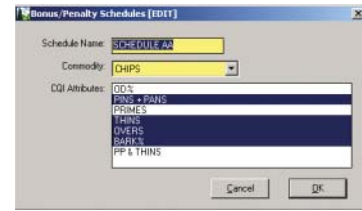
MANAGEMENT OF CHIP INVENTORY

Another valuable feature of Yard Boss is the ability to track chip inventory in the yard and to segment chips into different bins or piles. Closer management of your pulpmill chip inventory permits you to more accurately plan production and deliveries thus ensuring optimal levels of inventory.

Another important benefit of careful yard inventory management is that high-quality chips can be segmented into a separate pile from low-quality chips. By segregating raw materials in the yard, input into the digester can be managed proactively to help effect the desired variations in the quality of the final product.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Yard Boss is developed in MS Visual Basic 6.0. Its secure, relational database is built in MS SQL Server 7 and Oracle. It is a windows program.



Record	Commodity	Code	Description	Attribute Class	Bider
1	CHPS	<3MM	Chip Picked Size < 3mm	PRS & PANS	10
2	CHPS	ODS	Over Small Percentage	ODS	1
3	CHPS	>10MM	Chip Thickness > 10mm	OVERS	5
4	CHPS	>3MM	Chip Picked Size > 3mm	PRS & PANS	9
5	CHPS	>45MM	Chip Picked Size > 45mm	OVERS	4
6	CHPS	>4MM	Chip Thickness > 4mm	PRIMES	7
7	CHPS	>7MM	Chip Picked Size > 7mm	THINS	8
8	CHPS	>8MM	Chip Thickness > 8mm	PRIMES	6
9	CHPS	BAPK'S	Percentage of Bark	BAPK'S	2
10					

This screen shot illustrates the quality attributes that are being sampled. It also includes the parameters for the "ideal" chip. Parameters are used for bonuses and penalties. The screen shot also shows the screen order of each attribute. All these elements are configurable.