



## Car Rental Service Implements ERP For Accuracy

Here's a car rental service that relies only on its ERP software to keep track of its daily bookings, accounts and operations.

Ashish Rent-a-Car Pvt Ltd ( Mumbai ) is a comparatively travel service with about Thirty Five drivers and Six employees in the management team. It provides its cab service throughout Mumbai and owns 35 cars and 450 Cars with associated car operator. Until a few months ago, the company did not rely much on technology and manual entry of records was the norm. They used Carsoft, a tailor-made dos-based software, for maintaining daily transactions of booking vehicles, generating duty slips and billing. Financial data and accounts were maintained by repeating the data entry into Tally 6.3 software.

The employees were content with this way of working. However, the number of clientele grew with reputed names like Mumbai International Airport, Air India and Singapore Airport Terminal Services, Srilankan Airlines and Oman Airlines, and the task of dual entry got more cumbersome. "Not only was this double work, but it also gave room for error," states Ravi Jain, Director, Ashish Rent-a-Car Pvt Ltd. "We had to manually export the data From Carsoft to Tally by typing the details in once again. We approached 4 Quadrant Solutions (4QS), a Tally Partner, and shared our requirements with them," he added. 4QS evaluated their requirements and developed a customised solution to maintain booking, billing, outstanding and statutory return. Ramesh Mudliyar, Director, 4QS reveals, "We recommended Ashish Rent-a-Car to implement Tally.ERP 9 with some customisations pertaining to masters, transactions and reports. This solution was planned carefully to ease out the operations."

### Customisations done on the ERP

4QS started the customisations with meeting the basic needs first. Masters were created to easily record details about the

vehicles. A vehicle group master was first created under which vehicles were grouped under names like Toyota, Tata and Maruti. The second master was based on the vehicle type -Indica, Innova and Logan- and the vehicle details were recorded here too. The next master was based on packages given to different vehicle types like Local 8 hours/ 80 km, out station. A vehicle detail master was also created to include details like chasis number, engine number, fuel type, make, insurance and PUC (Pollution Unit Control). A master which included customers name, vehicle type and product package details was made to create a tariff master. A customer master, supplier master and driver master were also created. Based on the masters, employees enter details of transactions on booking, duty slip, service billing, walk-in customer, contract billing, fuel expenses and attendance for driver.

### Challenges faced

Ashish Rent-a-Car Pvt Ltd was aware of already available solutions in the market but none of them displayed a single entry mode for reminders to pop up while the user does his routine work. 4QS developed a solution around this request to enable users to make booking entries, generate a duty slip and even seek information about suppliers, drivers and customers in the same screen.

### How did they benefit

Tally.ERP 9 solved the issue of dual entry as details have to be entered on the ERP only once. As a result, the task of manually entering data that earlier took eight hours now takes only two hours. Moreover, information has to be fed into the

Tally.ERP 9 masters just once and reports can be generated easily with just a click using this information.

It generates reports about booking, billing, price list, vehicles, drivers, outstanding payments, booking view and even fuel mileage reports. Tally.ERP 9 generates reminders about the vehicle insurance dates, PUC date expiry and pending bookings. Jain elaborates, "When a user requests for a report, information is generated from the masters and the result is calculated. For example, employees can easily generate reports like duty slips based on the pending cab bookings for the week. Billing has been made simplified by selecting duty slip records with information like start and end time, end time, starting and ending km etc." Since it generates soft copies of reports quickly, the company can share bills and outstanding reports with customers and get quicker results. Tally.ERP 9 also calculates the mileage that each vehicle gives and with this system, the users can easily find out when a vehicle has a technical problem or if the drivers are misusing the vehicle.



Ramesh Mudliyar  
4 Quadrant Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

### What lies ahead

Currently, all the communication takes place through mobile phones. Once a driver has completed his assignment, he calls up the office and informs the management team. He is allotted the next pick-up or drop based on his location. The company eventually plans to invest in a GPS technology to keep track of the location and speed of its vehicles so that assignments can be planned accordingly. The company also plans to customise its ERP further by using its direct SMS service once it is developed. "Ashish Rent-a-Car informs its customers with details about the vehicle number, driver's name and contact details by manually sending an SMS or by using ways2sms.com to send free SMSs. We are working on an application by which the ERP system notifies customers with SMSs by itself soon after the customer's details are entered into the system. This will be implemented into the ERP as soon as it is available in the market," Mudliyar concludes.