ABSTRACT

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT
IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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Over the last two (2) decades numerous software packages have been
developed to assist the maintenance manager in the execution of his job
function. This study was undertaken to determine the extent to which
these developments in computer applications could be used to assist in
the management of the maintenance function in Trinidad and Tobago.

In order to identify areas suitable for Computer Aided Maintenance
Management (CAMM), it was necessary to define the scope of Maintenance
Management. The scope was established after reviewing the problems
encountered while executing the maintenance function.

Having identified the scope of Maintenance Management, the essentials
of an ideal CAMM system were identified. This ideal system was used
as the criterion for conducting surveys to determine the extent to which
CAMM was used in the local manufacturing sector and the availability
of related software (both general and specific application). From the
response of the manufacturing sector, ten percent (10%) of the firms
were using CAMM while another forty-three (43%) were interested. The
response from the software suppliers revealed that software packages
for CAMM were not readily available locally; however, there were various
general application software packages available on micros which can provide
most of the desired CAMM applications.

The ready availability of general application software packages and the
absence of CAMM packages prompted the exploration of using general
application software packages for CAMM applications. The integrated
software package 'JAZZ' was used on the Apple Macintosh microcomputer
to demonstrate two (2) modules of the ideal CAMM system.