



Choosing an Inventory Management Tool

JoAnn Garbin
PWI Energy

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Getting Started

- Pilot Program
- Once-Thru
- Purchase/Develop/Expand Tools

Choosing the Right Tool

- Establish Scope
- Know Your Users
- Incorporating Existing Systems
- Cost
- Flexibility

Spreadsheet vs. Database

Spreadsheet & Database, The Strengths of Each

Spreadsheet

Familiarity
Data Manipulation
On-the-fly Charts and PivotTables
Print Formatting

Database

Accessibility/Availability
Data Integrity/Consistency
Data Validation
Data Consolidation
Scalability
Security
Back-up and Recovery
Fast Performance

Bottom Line:

Store data in a database, work on it in a spreadsheet.

Third Party Data Hosting

- Maintain Ownership of Data
- Confidentiality Agreement
- Security
- Back-up
- Accessibility

Caution!!

It Looks Good, But Do You Need It?

And will you remember how to use it in a year??

A Few of My Favorite Things

- Export to Excel
- Built-in UOM and Currency Conversions
- “Tagged” Data
- Linked Documentation
- Consolidated Reporting Tools
- Quick Answers
- On-call Support
- Value Added

The “Must-Knows”

- Know your data
- Know your users
- Know your commitments

For More Information, Contact:

JoAnn Garbin

PWI Energy

215-241-9111 x158

jgarbin@pwius.com