

TRACS

Product Specification

The complete computerised vehicle rental
system

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The Company

Laser Byte Ltd is a company composed of technical experts, not salesmen. We specialise in providing solutions to specific business problems. We are a company dedicated to quality.

As an independent software house we pride ourselves on our ability to offer to our customers a computer solution that enhances their businesses without compromising them in any way. Thus nearly all of our systems are tailored to meet the particular needs of our clients.

We use the latest technology in computers, coupled to the most sophisticated programming techniques to give solutions that have high capacity and the ability to grow and change as your business grows and changes.

Laser Byte Ltd also offers a wide range of services to deal with all of the aspects of computer systems. A total service for a totally effective computer solution. Whether it be design, installation, training, development, maintenance, backup, support or consultancy, Laser Byte Ltd has the ability to offer you the complete service.

Here are just some of the companies who have enjoyed the support and services that Laser Byte offer:

The Royal Opera House	Woods of Reigate
Hinton Rescue	Regional Vehicle Rentals
A.B.T.A. National Training Board	Martins of Basingstoke
Helphire	Fullers of Morden
Easirent Car Rental	Continental Reservations
Mansfield Group	McAllisters Recovery
British Medical Association	Cowans Motor Group
Budget Franchises	Malens
Ontime – Kenfields Recovery	Copthorne Hotel Group
Kartec UK	Stakis Hotel Group
Maypole Motors	Regal Rentals
Ontime – Kenfields Southern	Martins of Basingstoke
Platinum Vehicle Rental	British Society for Immunology
Davies Motors	Car Rental Solutions (C.R.S.)
Graham Baker Motors	W & H Group
D & G Cars Ltd	Dragon Rescue
Glyde Motors	Auto Recovery Services

..... and many, many more.

All of these discerning companies have chosen Laser Byte Ltd to fulfil their computer needs. Such is the quality of the total service that we offer.

Financial History

The microcomputer market is notorious for suppliers giving poor service and becoming insolvent. Laser Byte Ltd, as you will see, has carefully avoided these and many of the other pitfalls that often beset other businesses.

When Laser Byte Ltd was incorporated in 1983 three major policies were identified as being necessary to ensure that Laser Byte Ltd would grow to be one of the most successful computer companies in the Crawley area.

- 1) The paramount aim of Laser Byte Ltd would be to offer a very high quality of service to our users.
- 2) The company should be totally self-funding so that would not be reliant upon third party financial resources or interests.
- 3) Laser Byte Ltd would not actively advertise but would depend upon the promotion of our business by our reputation and "word of mouth".

As a result of these policies, Laser Byte Ltd has had a steady growth during its years of operation.

Since incorporation, the turnover of Laser Byte Ltd has consistently increased and our declared Nett Profit has kept pace with this turnover. These profits have not been wasted but have been reinvested in our Research and Development and development of technical skills. This has ensured that we are always capable of offering the best and most informed advice.

Finally, Laser Byte Ltd has always had a policy of only expanding when we have had the financial and manpower resources available. We have always been careful to ensure that we did not over stretch our resources.

As a bye-product of this policy Laser Byte Ltd has remained totally self funding with no external loans. To take up a loan would mean that we could not afford what we were purchasing or needing, and therefore we would be over stretching our financial resources.

This ensures our financial stability and therefore our continued ability to support our users for many years to come.

In the competitive world that we live in, these are very important factors that you should be looking at when you take on a new supplier.

You will never find Laser Byte Ltd to be the cheapest computer company to deal with, but you will find high standards of attention to your needs and a financial security of your supplying company that will ensure your continued support.

The Computers

Laser Byte Ltd. design solutions which are based upon the best balance in both computer technology, performance, growth capability and price.

We are extremely selective in the systems that we recommend. We only use the best computers and recommend that you do as well.

As a result, Laser Byte Ltd offer three main computer solutions:

Laser Byte Ltd recommend Fujitsu and Tulip PC's for all of our applications. The range goes from small desktop systems, notebook computers right through to multi processor servers capable of supporting 100's of users. The ranges are well known to us and fully supported by us.

Laser Byte Ltd are authorised Fujitsu and Tulip dealers, and therefore, are fully equipped to give you the full after sales service in keeping with the quality of the equipment.

Tulip, like all IBM PC compatibles, are really only single site or single user machines and therefore, for such applications, Laser Byte Ltd are able to offer multi-user solutions where many screens or remote site operation are required.

Laser Byte Ltd can supply integrated networks based around either Novell servers or those based on Microsoft Windows 2000 servers

Networks from 5 to 500 users can be set up and no matter what level you start, you can always grow incrementally should you require. Future proof computing we call it.

For those users who already have PC's we can obviously make use of your existing equipment and configure it into a seamless integrated system.

Novell Netware and Windows servers, whilst being superb as a single site solution for multi-user access, is not appropriate for the situation where you have separate sites that you want to link up.

In this case we can supply systems based around Microsoft Terminal Server and Citrix technology.

Laser Byte Ltd are specialists in configuring and setting up multi-site solutions. And of course, our software is always fully compatible.

Remote terminals, from 50 yards to 6000 miles are easily accommodated using British Telecom lines or Satellite links. The latest technology coupled to high quality design means that the systems are compact, extraordinarily fast, rugged and very reliable.

The TRACS Program

LASER BYTE LTD's TRACS Car Hire System, is a fully functional software package that has been designed to cater for the needs of operating a car hire fleet.

TRACS was originally developed in 1983 in conjunction with one of the largest fleet operators in the U.K.

It is currently available as a Windows based Multi-user System. The system can be run over a Local Area Network (LAN) and / or can be linked to remote depots via Microsoft's Terminal Server products. These easy to implement solutions we have found will satisfy most of our clients needs.

Wherever possible and safe to do so, automatic processing has been used so that you only have to enter information once.

Security has been built into the system such that high security operations are Password Protected.

In order to clarify the functions that TRACS is capable of, we have split it into four main areas. There are also a number of options which may also be added.

1.Master Files

Master files are held for:

Vehicle Details	Bookings	Old Bookings
Vehicle Models	Accounts	Hire Rates
Vehicle Groups	Payments	Standard Rates
Vehicle Histories	Diary entries	Drivers Deliveries
Vehicle Availability	Vehicle Allocation	Management Stats

These files hold all of the information necessary to allow you to run your car hire company efficiently. Information on these files is validated automatically, where possible, when it is entered; thus minimising the risks of wrong information being entered.

Where it is safe to do so, information on these files can be added to or changed at any time.

Furthermore, the details on these files can be held for as long as you want, so long as you have adequate computer storage.

2.Processing

The processing part of the program allows you to manipulate, change or delete the information in the Master files. These are summarised below:

- *Add to/change/delete entries in the Master files.*
- *Enquire on screen quickly from any file*
- *Put vehicles out of service*
- *Change vehicle locations*
- *Change vehicle depots*
- *Check on vehicle availability*
- *Check on vehicle locations*
- *Allocate vehicles to bookings*
- *Allocate booking numbers*
- *Use optional pre-set hire rates*
- *Use optional pre-set discounts*
- *Use optional pre-set vehicle groups*
- *Use optional pre-set CDW and insurance*
- *Print out hire documents at any time and in batches*
- *Start Hires*
- *Change vehicle on hire to bookings*
- *Mark hires ready for collection*
- *End hires*
- *Complete hires*
- *Record drivers deliveries and costs*
- *Record deposits and payments against hires*
- *Archive hires to the old bookings file*
- *Record costs against vehicles*
- *Record One-way hires*
- *Archive Old bookings, Payments, Vehicle histories to floppy*
- *Produce Onscreen or printed Quotations*

Other features include:

- *Automated Batch Invoicing*
- *Export to Sage, Sun, Opera, SAP*
- *PDF generation and emailing of invoices*
- *4 different rates for different time zones*
- *Automatic calculation of value of hires*
- *Automatic calculation of length of hire*
- *Automatic calculation of 8 different period discounts*
- *Automatic calculation of outstanding balances*
- *Allocation bar charts*
- *Automatic cash book*
- *Automatic calculation of fleet utilisation*
- *Reinstating previous bookings*

In many cases, the master files are automatically updated when a particular function takes place. This minimises the amount of work that your staff have to do and the possibility of errors.

3.Reports

Whilst much of the day-to-day operation can be carried out using the powerful screen enquiries that are built into the system, it is important that the system should produce a wide range of printouts to suit all requirements.

The system is only as good as the information that it can give people.

The system provides over 30 standard reports which cater for the day to day needs of the car hire operator. In addition there is a C.S.V. generator to create ASCII data outputs that can then be imported and manipulated in MS-Word or MS-Excel

Some of the standard reports are:

- *Vehicle groups descriptions*
- *Vehicle group rates*
- *Vehicle model descriptions*
- *Fleet vehicle details*
- *Vehicle allocation*
- *Vehicle tax dates*
- *Vehicles out of service*
- *Vehicle servicing schedule*
- *Vehicle locations*
- *Vehicles ready for collection*
- *Vehicle utilisation*
- *Vehicle histories*
- *Vehicles due out between any range of dates*
- *Vehicles due back between any range of dates*
- *Vehicles late back*
- *Mailshot labels to customers*
- *Bookings by name, account, number or date of booking*
- *Bookings added on any day*
- *Bookings with or without CDW*
- *Accounts details (Full or Abbreviated)*
- *Standard rates*
- *Cash book*
- *Payments transaction summary*
- *Payments listings for each hire*
- *Drivers deliveries*
- *Management summary reports*
- *Diary entries between any range of dates*
- *Car damage reports*
- *One way hire reports*
- *Tax disk returns reconciliation*
- *Print Confirmation / Quotation letters*

This list of reports is constantly being increased as new needs are recognised. Suffice to say that the system can support hundreds of reports.

4.Accounts

Whilst there is a lot of financial information that is gathered when running TRACS, it has not been designed to complete the functions of an Accounts system. This, we feel, is better left to a proper computer accounts system.

There are three ways in which TRACS can work:

Manual Accounts.

The Car Hire System can produce summary information about the value of your hires and the amount of money that you have received, who it was from and which accounts still owe money.

This summary information can then be used straight away in your accounts system.

Computerised accounts - no link with TRACS.

The summary information that is produced by TRACS is entered manually into the computer accounts system. The validation of the information is performed as the data is entered and so there is not as great an overhead as might be originally expected.

Computerised accounts - linked with TRACS.

The information that is stored on TRACS can be fed straight into another Sales Ledger, thus saving duplication of effort, time and ensuring accuracy.

For instance, invoices against your agents can be created automatically by the Car Hire System and posted through to the Sales Ledger.

This sophisticated option gives you the best of both worlds: A Car Hire System that does not have to compromise because of the accounts system, and an accounts system that does not have to compromise because of the Car Hire System.

Laser Byte Ltd recommend the Pegasus Opera or SAGE set of accounts which offer full Nominal, Sales and Purchase Ledger to compliment our system.

This system offers all of the functions that you would expect from a professional Accounts System, plus a few which are only options on other systems.

Virtually unlimited accounts, transactions, invoices, nominal accounts and multi-company accounting are built in and this means that the system has the scope for every business.

Further options of Stock control, Sales Order Processing, Bill of Materials, Job Costing etc. are available.

Screenshots

Above - Browse Bookings Screen showing all current bookings, sorted into various orders ie By Ref, By Name, By Account.

Screenshot

Above – An example of the Booking Update screen

Options

We do not consider TRACS to be static and so it is constantly being upgraded and new features being added.

Some of these will automatically appear in the system whilst other, larger options are offered as optional items which may be purchased at any time.

Accounts/TRACS interface

This is the link that is mentioned on the previous section and provides for the automatic validation and posting of items from TRACS.

Car Fleet Control system

This option, is designed to allow you to manage the procurement, taking off fleet and the payment schedules for the fleet of vehicles used by the TRACS system.

Multi User Electronic Mail and systems tools.

This set of programs allows you to send messages around the terminals of your system, to see who is doing what and to set up automatic jobs that start themselves up at a set time. This also allows you to send emails.

Insurance Claims system

This option is designed to deal with the needs of the fleet manager who is trying to keep control of outstanding insurance claims.

Agents System

This system is similar to TRACS, but is intended to control the bookings from an agents standpoint.

Support Services

Laser Byte Ltd offer a number of support services which are designed to help you run your system as well as possible, and to help you develop your system as you grow and your needs develop.

These services come in four main areas:

Hardware Support.

Laser Byte Ltd can cover all your hardware. Please contact Laser Byte regarding your exact requirements.

Telephone Software Support.

Laser Byte Ltd offer a telephone support service to answer your enquiries and questions. After the first year this service is charged at a rate per annum.

This telephone support service is there to help any of our users who have problems in the operation of their computer systems. This service is also available to other users for an economical rate.

Consultancy and Modifications.

Laser Byte Ltd are always pleased to offer their services as consultants and programmers. In this way, we are available to advise on changes to existing systems, should your needs change, or the best options for new systems. If you want you can then take advantage of our programming staff who will write, test and install the system for you.

Consultancy and software development is charged at £75.00 per hour