

PLATO



Planning, Logistics & Transport Optimisation

Introduction



What is PLATO?

PLATO is OPSI's enterprise software for dynamic, multi-day planning, scheduling and management across both primary and secondary distribution environments.

PLATO incorporates many factors for modelling complex transport operations, including shift-changes, external contractors, loading bays, variable stop times based on loading and offloading profiles and more!

Interaction with external systems, integration with multiple tracking and GPS service providers and precise control through **PLATO.Execution** ensures that, from start to finish, you are in control of the process.

The PLATO Suite

- ⦿ **PLATO.Scheduler:** Advanced planning and scheduling module provides superior route optimisation
- ⦿ **PLATO.Transact:** Quick and efficient management module for invoicing haulier lanes and rates
- ⦿ **PLATO.Execution:** Live tracking, modification and management of your schedule
- ⦿ **PLATO Web:** Online platform for your hauliers, clients and depots

Improve Your Logistics

PLATO offers a suite of enterprise-level software modules that provide superior transport management, route optimisation and resource utilisation.

Greater Control

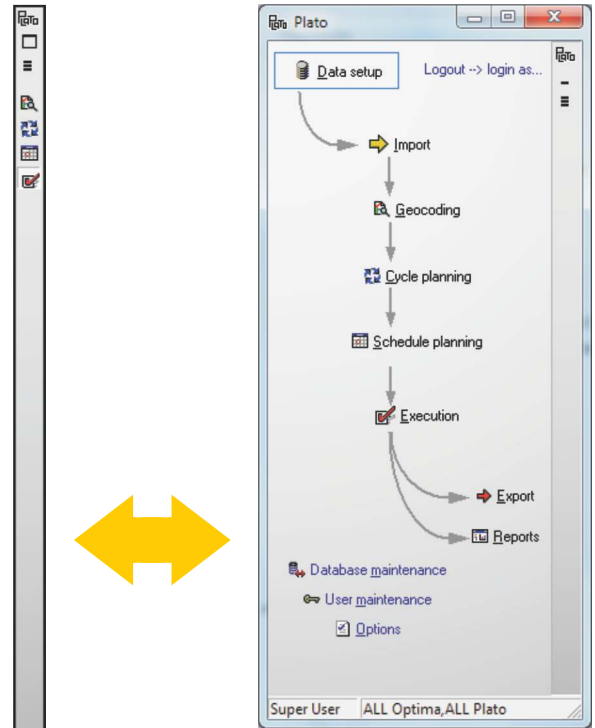
Our unique Control Panel describes the entire flow of operations and provides free-floating windows for each module of PLATO, giving users maximum control over PLATO's appearance. Support for multiple-screen display, a collapsible Control Panel and quick-switching between screens means your attention is always where it should be: optimising routes, maximising vehicle utilisation and improving your business' bottom line.

Ease of Integration

PLATO integrates with ERP, WMS and GPS tracking systems, mobile devices, online services and financial administration software while providing a high degree of control from a single access point.

PLATO modules can easily be added or removed with minimal interruption to your operations, ensuring that time constraints or lack of resources never prevent you from extending PLATO's functionality as your enterprise expands.

PLATO's Control Panel ensures that any information is a click away, maximising screen real estate and simplifying tabbing.



Name (14)	Code	Fleet	Active	Date	Default avail	Map point	Odometer	Core fleet	Make	Model	Class type	Tightness R.
G010	COLT1	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G011	COLT2	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G012	COLT3	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G013	COLT4	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G014	COLT5	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G015	COLT6	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G016	COLT7	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G017	COLT8	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
G018	COLT9	Col Transport	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Depot Site 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
H0001	H0001	H0001	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Widder Abode	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
H0002	H0002	H0002	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	Widder Abode	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
J001	J001	J & K	active	12	Ten Flat Deck 15	available	Down Gersom	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
J002	J002	J & K	active	34	Ten Tauliver 116	available	J & K TRANSPORT 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
J003	J003	J & K	active	34	Ten Tauliver 116	available	J & K TRANSPORT 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
J004	J004	J & K	active	34	Ten Tauliver 116	available	J & K TRANSPORT 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
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J029	J029	J & K	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	J & K TRANSPORT 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
J030	J030	J & K	active	72	Ten Flat Deck 34	available	Down Gersom	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
J031	J031	J & K	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	J & K TRANSPORT 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	
J032	J032	J & K	active	34	Ten Flat Deck 112	available	J & K TRANSPORT 01	<input type="checkbox"/>	non core		Vehicle	

PLATO.Scheduler

What is PLATO.Scheduler?

PLATO.Scheduler is the core that drives the **PLATO** suite. **PLATO.Scheduler** is a powerful dynamic scheduling and route optimisation tool that accurately models and generates schedules based on your requirements.

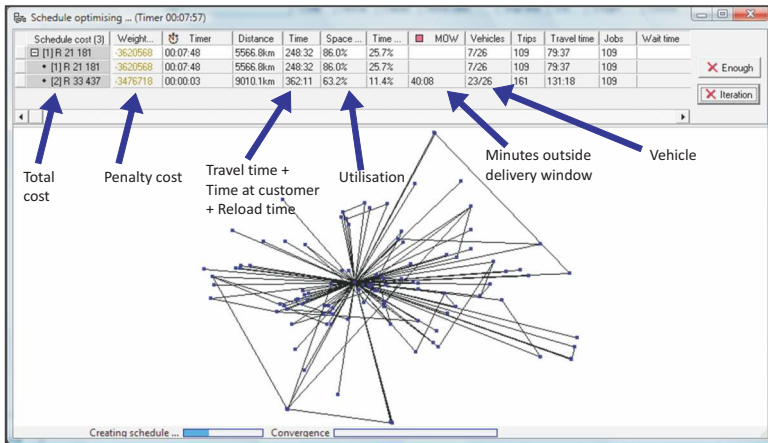
Using a unique class-based system for defining vehicles, staff, products, depots, sites and barriers, **PLATO.Scheduler** can accurately model real-world constraints such as client-specific requirements, country- and product-specific legislation and delivery windows amongst other variables.

PLATO.Scheduler Optimises:

- ✓ Horses/truck-trailers and prime movers
- ✓ Sleep-outs for drivers and shift changes
- ✓ Area vehicle restrictions
- ✓ Traffic factors
- ✓ External hauliers fleet and contract requirements
- ✓ Wash bays, security gate and weigh bridge slot allocations and management
- ✓ Product change and recovery time
- ✓ Loading bays and loading bay windows
- ✓ Back and empty leg scheduling
- ✓ Multi-vehicle loading
- ✓ Multiple costs: kilometre, hour, day, weight
- ✓ Depots, clients and vehicle yards
- ✓ Ferries and bridges
- ✓ Compartmentalisation of vehicles
- ✓ Priority loads
- ✓ Product exclusions
- ✓ Vehicle exclusions
- ✓ Delivery windows

Optimise Your Schedules

PLATO.Scheduler is a powerful dynamic scheduling and routing module that helps planners easily and effectively track resources and generate optimised schedules.



PLATO.Scheduler provides visual feedback as it optimises vehicle trips, clearly showing the number and efficiency of solutions as it works.

Complete Control

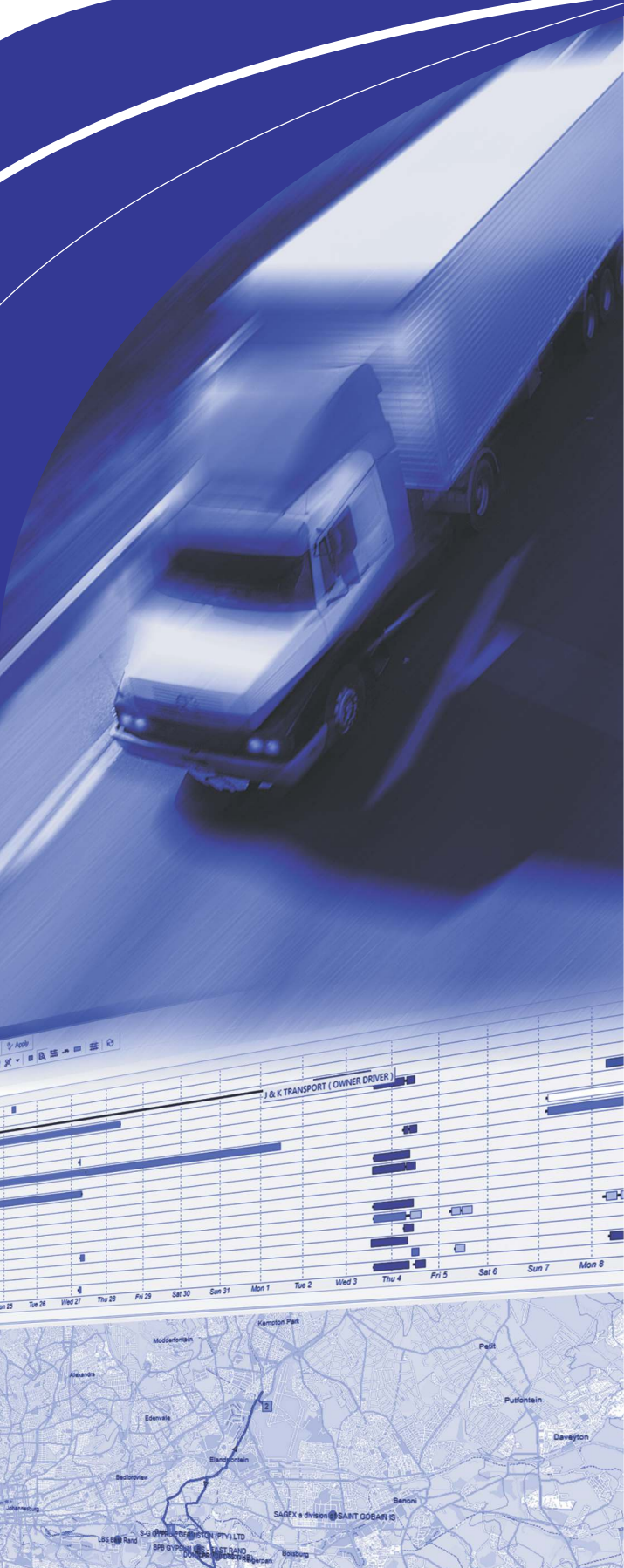
PLATO.Scheduler has been caters for multi-user, multi-depot, multi-fleet environments with a robust user policy that ensures you never duplicate schedules or create inconsistencies in your master data.

Furthermore, PLATO.Scheduler gives you access to the inner workings of the optimisation engine through an extensive range of options that can be tailored to suit every client and industry. If you value timeliness over cost, want to reduce the number of trips your vehicles perform or allow only tight delivery paths, PLATO.Scheduler gives you the flexibility to tweak the engine to suit your operations.

Scheduling Benefits

- Lower km by better route planning
- Fewer vehicles by better packing
- Fewer vehicles by better routing
- Fewer vehicles by second and subsequent loads
- Reduced hire-in by sharing vehicles
- Fewer loads by allowing multiple pick ups
- Minimise queuing by scheduling loading bays and other resources
- Better utilisation by optimising loads and assigning of vehicles to loads
- Better planning by building in all restrictions and windows
- Reduced administration in proof of delivery process
- Lower carbon footprint
- Shorter planning and debriefing time
- Better driver control
- Better customer service by communicating delivery times
- Corporate memory stored in system rather than individuals
- Cost of service to customers can be accurately compared to profit per customer
- Detailed setup parameters such as offload time per product per vehicle type per site

PLATO.Execution



What is PLATO.Execution?

PLATO.Execution is the operation, management and tracking module of PLATO. It gives complete visibility of real-time resources, trips, schedules, tracked trips and vehicles while allowing planners to easily reassign trips and resources in an optimised manner.

PLATO.Execution ensures that any changes, deviations and GPS data are automatically captured in the background, reducing process clutter and improving operator efficiency.

Rateable Deliveries

In mill-based and factory environments that require rateable deliveries, **PLATO.Execution** will track vehicles that are currently en route, returning or waiting to be dispatched within its belt scheduler function and identify which trips are best suited for each vehicle. With a single click, planners can review and assign the chosen trips automatically. You can therefore ensure a continual cycle of deliveries that preserves your production floor space and fully utilises your fleet.

A summary tab provides operators with a quick summary of the current schedules total distance, cost, time, space utilisation, empty legs and current scheduled jobs. ►

Precise Control

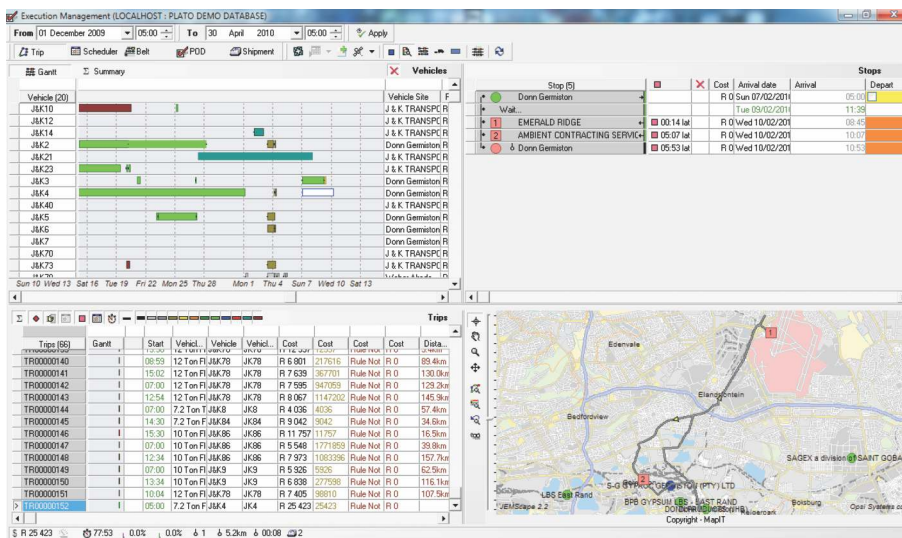
PLATO.Execution is a detailed, multi-grid operations module with precise control simultaneously linked to the scheduling engine for on-the-fly optimisation.

Hierarchy of Information

Operators need access to detailed information, but not all the time. **PLATO.Execution's** grid-view gives operators complete control over how much information they have access to at any time, allowing for exception-based management without disabling any of the functionality available to **PLATO**.

GPS Tracking

PLATO.Execution features real-time GPS tracking that updates customer ETAs. It features an interactive map with stop highlights, current vehicle position, the ability to compare the real versus actual driver location and delivery order - all in the execution window for quick access and reference. The view can be customised according to the user's preference.



Dynamic Resource Allocation

The operations environment is subject to last-minute changes, route deviations, order lateness and numerous other factors that can impact the quality of a schedule. The real value of an operation tool is the ability to make adjustments to a live schedule.

PLATO.Execution allows for real-time reallocation of trips, orders and vehicles and, when combined with **PLATO.Scheduler**, determines the best adjustments to make in order to accommodate your change.

Intelligent Data Capture

PLATO.Execution seamlessly melds automatic and manual real-time data capture, controlling the processing of crucial information. Delivery and travel

windows, proof-of-delivery confirmations, trip assignment and other critical planning information can be easily edited and adjusted via the same execution window.

PLATO.Execution includes a full module to track accountability for late trips, product damage and route deviations - times, reasons, and travel logs can all be recorded and presented.

PLATO & The Web



PLATO's Web Offerings

OPSI Systems has extensive experience with creating online portals and applications that work directly with **PLATO**.

Whether you need an off-the shelf solution that allows you to access your trip information or ETAs online, or need a custom solution to incorporate your unique business criteria, OPSI Systems has the solution.

Custom Development

OPSI Systems has created numerous custom online portals that allow remote depots, hauliers, clients, warehouse managers and other parties to interact with **PLATO** through a standard browser, regardless of their location.

- ⦿ Customers can view estimated time of arrival and real-time tracking of vehicles en route
- ⦿ Hauliers are able to review, update, accept or reject available or ongoing trips
- ⦿ Dispatchers can see in- and out-going depot loads while updating load bay times and availability
- ⦿ Warehouse managers can update actual order quantities and available/received stock

Online portals help improve customer satisfaction by providing your clients direct access to your daily operations. Similarly, businesses that rely on several interlocking systems can centralise information and visibility in a single location.

Greater Accessibility

PLATO's online interface ensures you are in constant contact with all your stakeholders, providing operational integrity across all your divisions.

PLATO.Web Interface

Logged in as (Super User) [Load Requests](#) : [Pending Exports](#) : [Exported](#) : [Dispatched Loads](#) [Cancelled](#) [My account](#) [Logout](#)

Vehicle	Job Code	ETA	Collection Date	Delivery Date	From Location	To Location
NP156605 Mzo	SR-10130	2014/05/30	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Montague Gardens	Centurion
NP183751 Faizal	SR-10132	2014/05/26	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Babelegi	Germany
NP172584 Myaka	SR-10134	2014/05/29	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Babelegi	Belville
NP156605 Mzo	SR-10136	2014/05/29	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Longmeadow DC	Belville
NP171784 Bheki Jnr	SR-10138	2014/05/26	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Longmeadow DC	Germany
NP141542 MZO	SR-10139	2014/05/26	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Estcourt	Germany
NP188040 Vassen	SR-10133	2014/05/28	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Babelegi	Germany
NP 91097 Vusumuzi	SR-10131	2014/05/29	2014/05/26	2014/05/28	Estcourt	Belville
BIG BLACK ZN Tno	SR-10135	2014/05/28	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Estcourt	Longmeadow DC
NP156605 Mzo	SR-10137	2014/05/28	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Estcourt	Longmeadow DC
NP694 Pappa	SR-10141	2014/05/28	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Estcourt	Germany
NP155096 Dambuzza	SR-10144	2014/05/28	2014/05/26	2014/05/27	Estcourt	Germany

PLATO.Web

PLATO.Web is a standard online solution available for clients who want to provide greater visibility into the activities of their fleet and monitor delivery performance.

PLATO.Web can be customised with alerts to notify users of specific activity or vehicle deviations, allowing them to quickly respond to changes in the schedule and alert customers of potentially late deliveries.

PLATO.Web uses an online map component to provide accurate road coverage, display vehicle location and route information.

PLATO.Web gives access to trip statuses and current vehicle positions via an online portal in a dashboard-like interface for ease-of-use.

Receiving Shipment Details for TR14917 Date: 29-04-2010

Comments

Incoming Orders: 2

Order#	Sch.Quantity	Receiving Quantity	Comments
516489	4.77	4.77	

Shipment	Sch.Quantity	Receiving Quantity	Unit Weight	Unit	Type
SH741213	0.77	0.77	997	pallet (code1)	chilled
SH741214	0.00	0.00	258	pallet (code1)	chilled
SH741215	4.00	4.00	972	pallet (code1)	chilled

Order#	Sch.Quantity	Receiving Quantity	Comments
516491	9.00	9.00	

Shipment	Sch.Quantity	Receiving Quantity	Unit Weight	Unit	Type
SH741207	9.00	9.00	1,208	pallet (code1)	chilled

Stop	Location	Arrival	Departure	Task	Stop Units	Stop Weight	Load Weight
1	SITE 01	14-04-2009 13:10	14-04-2009 14:51	PickUp	14	15,529	15,529
2	SITE 02	14-04-2009 18:08	14-04-2009 18:08	DropOff	14	15,529	0
3	SITE 03	15-04-2009 09:34	15-04-2009 11:10		0	0	0

A web application can offer multiple views, modules, forms, layouts - all within a standard web browser for 24/7 connectivity regardless of your location.

PLATO.Transact

What is PLATO.Transact?

PLATO.Transact is an advanced information management and financial administration system designed specifically for the logistics environment. An in-depth tariff structure and order, haulier, client and contract management system keeps track of all tariff-related costs.

PLATO.Transact will ensure that any financial activities and documentation generated is auditable and traceable.

Reduce Costs

PLATO.Transact automatically manages and applies tariffs, rates and charges, improving your cash flow and reducing outstanding invoices.

Detailed financial reports and visibility help you identify efficiencies and leverage them to obtain greater financial gains. Accurate modeling and tracking of haulier and client activity allow you to promote and streamline your operations for increased financial efficiency.

Furthermore, **PLATO.Transact** automatically recommends the best hauliers for your trips, ensuring that deliveries are optimised and made by the suitable haulier on the suitable lane.

Trip Management offers extensive info and can be easily customised via the various trip filters to present data in a understandable format without sacrificing in-depth control. ▶

Refine Your Financials

PLATO.Transact gives you visibility and minute control over the increasingly complex logistical finance and accounting environment.

Role Based Security

PLATO.Transact employs the same multi-user, role-based security and user profile system of the PLATO Suite, while constantly monitoring and logging system and user activity. A comprehensive reporting system and detailed management of historical data ensures transparency at all times.

Order Management

PLATO.Transact is easily integrated with industry-standard ERP accounting, forecasting and management systems, providing crucial sequence and external service-related information.

Haulier and client information, goods value for insurance purposes, delivery windows, site addresses, loading and offloading details, order priority and many other items ensure complete control and financial visibility.

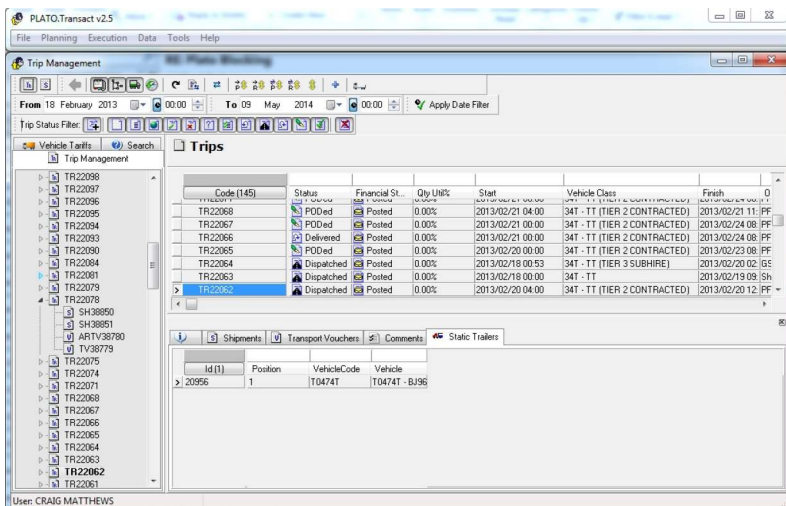
Detailed Tariff Options

Being able to accurately cost and model a large number of highly-detailed tariffs allows competitive and custom contracts to be offered to hauliers and clients.

PLATO.Transact supports both accounts-payable and accounts-receivable tariffs, featuring:

- Transactional tariffs that are applied per trip
- Tariffs that are defined for fully customisable date ranges
- Flat and variable lane rates based on numerous metrics
- Fuel charges, labour charges and toll fees
- Rates based on planned and actual quantities
- Discount structures based on bulk orders
- Defining detailed conditions that determine the amount to be applied under certain or unique circumstances

PLATO.Transact easily merges financial information with existing ERP systems and can generate financial reports, invoices and purchase orders with a detailed breakdown of the information. PLATO.Transact's reports can be customised to suit the specific needs and requirements of your organisation.



About OPSI Systems

OPSI Systems, established in 1997, is a software development and consulting house specialising in the supply chain, with a specific focus on vehicle logistics and demand prediction. OPSI Systems has a suite of routing and scheduling packages in addition to specifying, developing and rolling out custom solutions for individual clients. OPSI Systems' software is used by many world leading companies

OPSI Systems has a commitment to innovation, service quality and product excellence that ensures our software is always current and ready to take advantage of the latest developments in route optimisation and fleet management methodology.

OPSI Systems continues to design and deliver open, flexible and scalable fleet logistics software that optimises all aspects of our customers' supply chain. By combining our standard software solutions with our ability to create custom options and middleware solutions, OPSI Systems products can be easily integrated into any company's structure.

OPSI Systems HO - JHB

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