

PROADVISOR review

Misys Small Business Manufacturing

Overall Rating

9.3

[Insert Developer Logo Here]

Product Name

MISys Small Business Manufacturing

Reviewed By

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Summary

MISys Small Business Manufacturing (MISys SBM) is designed for make-to-stock, make-to-order, and custom job manufacturers that need many advanced manufacturing and inventory functions while still maintaining affordability and ease of use.

Strengths

MISys SBM has many strengths including: multiple warehouses/locations, inventory control, multi-level bills of material, revision control, production work orders, job tracking, multiple units of measurement, inventory valuation using FIFO, LIFO, standard or average cost methods, activity monitors, physical inventory cycle tracking, supplier pricing, some material requirements planning capabilities, and a seamless integration with QuickBooks. More advanced functions are available for additional fees: bin tracking, advanced purchasing, master production scheduling, bar coding, shop floor control, and serial/lot number tracking. Additional modules are also available such as an advanced production module which allows manufacturing orders for the job shops or "one off" manufacturers and helps with cost estimation. There is also a material requirements planning module that allows for a schedule-driven MRP that can result in the automatic creation of purchase and work orders for areas of need identified by the MRP schedule. The newest module now available is the Labor Tracker which allows employees to track the time they spend on jobs and for that information to be assigned costs and included in production and job costs in MISys SBM.

Limitations

There are no obvious limitations to this product at this point.

Wish List

For internal control purposes, it would be helpful to see an audit trail report to log users' activity.

Product Ratings	Rating	Ratings Definitions
<p>Setup and Installation:</p> <p>The software is easy to install and set-up. It is very important to read the Quick Start Guide completely before the software is installed or used. Once installed, the ability to import from Excel, QuickBooks, and other applications is a very helpful and time-saving feature during the set-up process.</p>	8.8	<p>10.0 (Perfect): This exceedingly rare score is reserved for a product that is as perfect as it could be.</p>
<p>Interface:</p> <p>The interface is very straightforward and user-friendly. All tasks are organized by related groups (planning, purchasing, production, etc.), which makes it easy to find tasks and information. There are also flow charts at the beginning of each category which helps show the flow of transactions and information (similar to the Navigators in QuickBooks) and drill-down capabilities in many areas.</p>	9.0	<p>9.0 to 9.9 (Spectacular): A product that receives a rating in this range succeeds at meeting all of its intended users' needs and has no meaningful drawbacks.</p> <p>8.0 to 8.9 (Excellent): A product that receives a rating in this range is superior in so many ways that its relatively few drawbacks are not very important.</p> <p>7.0 to 7.9 (Very good): While the strengths of a product scoring in this range certainly outweigh its weaknesses, it has some minor faults that certain users should be aware of.</p>
<p>Features:</p> <p>The basic features provide deep functionality for the manufacturing and inventory functions required by manufacturers while still maintaining ease of use. The additional modules such as the advanced production, material requirements planning, and labor tracker provide extensive advanced features that make MISys SBM a completely modular system that can be customized to fit a wide range of needs and budgets.</p>	9.5	<p>6.0 to 6.9 (Good): This range represents a product that is above average. Its strengths slightly outweigh its weaknesses, making it good for most uses but not a standout.</p> <p>5.0 to 5.9 (Average): A product that scores in this range is functional but unremarkable.</p>
<p>Follow-through on Claims</p> <p>The product is effective at following-through on the claims it makes in its packaging and on its website.</p>	9.6	<p>4.0 to 4.9 (Mediocre): Products in this range are below average. They fall in the middle of the pack for most features, but suffer from a few additional major flaws.</p>
<p>Ease of Use/Service and Support</p> <p>The product is easy to use but it is very important to read the Quick Start Guide before installing, setting-up, and using to make sure that the software is set-up properly. Every MISys SBM user is also paired with their own personal Sure Start Coach who connects remotely to help the user get their system up and running successfully. Beyond the Quick Start Guide and the Sure Start Coach, other support options include in-product Help topics, a sample company, free peer support, community forums, paid training, and paid support plans. Paid support is available with either yearly telephone support, e-mail support, or per incident support from the technical support staff. Any of the paid support plans allow a request for technical support to be initiated with an on-line request form available within the product. A response should be received from technical support within 24 hours except over weekends and holidays. Direct telephone support with technical support staff is available only with the priority support plan but that support is available on a month-by-month basis with the ability to switch to the e-mail support option.</p>	9.0	<p>3.0 to 3.9 (Poor): A customer should probably not consider purchasing a product in this range or lower. There may be one or two specialized circumstances, however, that could justify the purchase of this product for a very low price for a specific demand.</p> <p>2.0 to 2.9 (Terrible): A product that receives a rating in this range does not satisfy any of its intended users' needs and has no meaningful strengths.</p> <p>1.0 to 1.9 (Abysmal): A product in this range should never have been produced. This product has no redeeming qualities and worse, may actually harm the user or the user's productivity.</p>

<p>Data Security</p> <p>MISys SBM does allow multiple users with separate user ids and passwords for each user and passwords are required for all users. There is no requirement to use a mixture of lower-case and upper-case letters and at least one number or to periodically change passwords however the user id and password are case-sensitive, which is good. Permissions for users are established by using security groups that are set up and customized as needed. Users are then assigned to the appropriate security group and their individual permissions are those checked as allowed in the assigned security group.</p>	8.9
<p>Privacy</p> <p>The stated privacy policy was found on the website for MISys SBM at http://www.misysinc.com/privacy.php.</p>	10.0
<p>Integration with QuickBooks</p> <p>MISys SBM seamlessly integrates with QuickBooks. Inventory items and the chart of accounts can be imported and exported between QuickBooks and MISys SBM at any time, even after the initial set-up of MISys SBM. The items maintained in QuickBooks are considered to be the sales inventory items, or the inventory that is available for sale. The items maintained within MISys SBM are the inventory items used in the manufacturing process and inventory that is held in reserve.</p> <p>All tasks related to the manufacturing inventory are performed in MISys SBM and tasks related to the sales inventory are performed in QuickBooks. The transfer of items between the manufacturing stock (MISys SBM) and the sales stock (QuickBooks) are done in MISys SBM and the transfers can be made in either direction. There is also a useful finder tool within the MISys software that allows QuickBooks sales item numbers to be searched and attached to any MISys SBM item. This feature accommodates companies that do not use the same numbering system for both inventories.</p> <p>The software allows for the vendor invoices related to inventory receipts to be entered in MISys SBM and attached to a purchase order. A purchase order invoicing function automatically creates a corresponding bill in QuickBooks in accounts payable.</p> <p>Some transactions from MISys SBM, such as the vendor invoices, are automatically posted in QuickBooks and some transactions are not posted until the Period End process is performed. This is to allow the user to determine the proper accounting period for posting purposes of certain transactions.</p> <p>With regards to the serial/lot tracking, QuickBooks does not currently support the tracking of such information within QuickBooks however MISys has done a good job of working around this limitation and has systems in place to help track the sales of serial/lot tracked items.</p>	9.3