

FieldManager Survey Responses
 Maine Department of Transportation
 Oct-06

Responses 24 of 95+/-

Yes	No
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Have you used FieldManager, FieldBook or FieldPad in 2006?	23	1
Do you have a PDA?	18	6
If you have a PDA, do you use FieldPad?	6	12
Do you use FieldManager only for estimates?	3	20
Do you have a copy of the FieldManager Users Guide?	22	2
Do you create *.pdf files of FieldManager documents?	15	9
Do you create *.pdf files of attachments for FieldManager documents?	9	14
Do you use soft or hardcover field books in addition to FieldManager?	19	5

Never	Occasionally	Weekly	Daily
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When you are assigned to a project under construction, how often do you use FieldManager?	3	2	3	16
When you are assigned to a project under construction, how often do you use FieldBook?	5	7		12
When you are assigned to a project under construction, how often do you use FieldPad?	17	3		4

How often do you use the following functions in FieldManager? (Note: Not all of these functions are available in all versions)

1 Under the Utilities Menu

1.1	User Preferences	4	19	1	
1.2	System Management- Maintain Users	4	20		
1.3	System Management- System Configuration	5	19		

2 Contracts Page - Windows Toolbar (default position is at the top of the page):

2.1	Contract Status	6	13	4	1
2.2	Filter	15	7	1	1
2.3	Sort	10	9	3	2
2.4	Multi Contract Inquiry	17	6		

3 Contracts Page - Application Toolbar (default position is along the left edge of the page):

3.1	Contractors.	3	8	4	6
3.2	Diaries	2	1	3	18
3.3	Items		2	7	15
3.4	Stockpiles	10	14		
3.5	Contract Mods	3	11	9	1
3.6	Inquiries	4	15	5	5

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4 When you enter an IDR, do you:

	Never	Occasionally	Weekly	Daily
4.1 Enter the weather.	1	2	1	20
4.2 Enter Comments		1	2	21
4.3 Enter contractor personnel under the contractors tab	2	3		19
4.4 Enter postings		3	3	18
4.5 Enter attachments	12	7	2	3

5 If you enter a Daily Diary, do you:

	Never	Occasionally	Weekly	Daily
5.1 Bring in Temperatures	5	5		9
5.2 Bring in Weather and Comments	7	3		10
5.3 Enter the weather.	2	3		15
5.4 Enter Comments				20
5.5 Enter information under the site time tab	7	7		5
5.6 Enter attachments	10	19	1	

If you use Inquiries (3.6 above), what are your top 3 inquiries?

Item History to Date	13
Item Postings by Item in IDR Order	3
Contract Status	2
Contract Mod Summary	2
Item Postings by Inspector	2
Item Posting by Item	2
Stockpile Summary by Stockpile	2
Item Postings by IDR Date	1
Items Completed to Date	1
Items Not Completed to Date	1
Item Posting by Item in Breakdown Order	1
Item Posting ***** (Uses several of them)	1
Item Postings by Contractor	1
Last Thing Posted (?)	1
Quantity Left, Numbers of Postings and Dates (?)	1
Estimate Payments by Item	1

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What version of FieldManager are you using? (In FieldManager go to "Help" then "About")

4.1a 14

3.4a-3 5

3.4 1

3.4a 1

Comments:

FieldManager is great but needs tweaking for day to day use with MaineDOT
Postings cannot be made in Daily Diary but requires a Resident to create IDR
then input into Daily Diary making multiple steps that are not needed. FieldPad
is a great idea but is not very user friendly when entering data in a PDA with a
small screen. The onscreen keyboard covers the entry field and some entries
have to be re-entered. It is far easier to make notes/entries in Word with the PDA
and cut/paste into FieldManager. Same with measurements and Excel.
The FieldNet aspect of FieldManager would be great to add as it is a pain
to manually move files out of folders and onto a server. It would be better
to make this feature a part of FieldManager. Also I would like to see the
attachments get simpler as to use this feature slows down the computer and
gives every option for attaching files under the sun. It would be nice to see the
attachments turn into a sketch only option with the PDA so dimensions could
be sketched in the field and uploaded into the diary/IDR. All in all FieldManager
is a great program that with a little bit of fine-tuning for MaineDOT would meet our
requirements.

I really like the use of field manager but usually have just as many books as a
book job.

The last two projects I have been assigned were with Resident Engineers who
didn't like or use FieldManager. Prior to that I have used both FieldManager
and FieldBook and like the programs. I prefer them to the regular orange field
books, although generally there is a need to keep at least one.

When working alone use Field Manager solely, posting items in IDR's. Use a Field
Book for measurements. If Inspectors are assigned use Field Book and or Field Pad
and import data weekly to the Field Manager. Have used the program solely since 2000.
When on a large project with multiple inspectors also use inquiries and items to
check quantities to ensure no duplication of payment of items.

Would like to be able to reuse Contract Modification #'s when deleting Contract Modifications

I enjoy using the programs but I would like it if Comments gave you the choice to
change fonts, Bold or colors to draw the eye to something you want to stick out.

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I think that once you are used to using the program it is easier than just books but we still use books and then refer to them when posting. I know that the new version gives us the option of scanning the field books and attaching it to the posting. I think that this is a good idea as long as it is not too big of a file.

My projects are non-traditional and so is the resulting use of field manager. I do all of my estimates in field manager, but the rest of the data is only entered occasionally because I do not have full time inspection by myself or an inspector.

Could be more user-friendly - be able to scan from one diary to another without having to open and close each one (if there is a way to do this, I don't know how). I don't have my inspectors post any items in their IDR's because there is a good chance that items will be double posted. Hard to keep track of this. I post items when it's time to do an estimate and take quantities from the Construction Book. Would really help to have a "find" capability when I am searching for an event that was written in the diaries or IDR's.

I have used field manager exclusively since it first came out. However I still use a hard cover field book, because I have never been able to get field pad to work. My biggest fault with the program is the lack of sort capabilities with the inquiry functions and the limited kinds of available reports. Also, the misc. reports would be extremely helpful if only they could be formatted to match the corresponding reports we are required to use.

Filter needs to search the whole Comments field in DDs & IDRs.
Should be allowed to do a negative or positive change (either whole or partial) to a lump sum item in Con Mods, in order to get a true Net Change figure.
MeDOT should be utilizing FieldNet.
Adding attachments to IDRs is somewhat cumbersome.
It would be nice to have additional forms added to Reports, (DREW, Flagger, Waste/Pit Area Permit, etc.)
5.5 I used to use this daily, even on Completion Date projects, but it was time consuming & I figured no one cared.
5.6 I might, if I knew how.

Field manager 4.1a I like this program and am working towards a paperless project. I find the new version very easy to use I think it should be required for all projects starting 2008 full use not just for estimates.

I like using field manager but I still like to keep a complete final quantity book. (Old school I guess)