

Do I Need Computerised Vehicle Scheduling?

- How many vehicles do you operate?
Under 6 vehicles, highly unlikely to be needed
Over 10 vehicles, it could be useful
Over 50 vehicles, you should be using
- How often do you plan your loads?
The time taken is important, as this can be a cost saving.
For example, full loads planned once per week, takes less time, than multi drop planning every day.
- Do you have access to the computer file containing orders?
Sales Order Processing downloads (from typically A5400/Unix Systems in ASC11 file format to PC's), are very successful
- What types of customers are being delivered to?
The delivery point details must be accurate
For example, "in house" retail store deliveries are different to home delivery.
The former is regular and known, the latter place maybe served only once.
- What software suppliers are there?
Check the Institute of Logistics & Transport Software Guide for details of suppliers. (www.iolt.org.uk)
- Important Questions to verify with Software Suppliers are the following:
Where is the software written?
Was it written for Windows?
How often are maps updated?
What benefits do the suppliers expect?
Where have the systems been used?
Which users can you talk to/visit?
How easy is the package to use?
How easy will it import data?
What does it cost?
How much does support cost?
What level of training is required?