The MPAQ TouchBatch™ Ready Mix is a Windows-based batch control system running on an Intel PC, with a PLC interface for plant control.

The system offers in one package all the features needed to run a modern ready mix operation:

- Order entry and ticketing
- Batch and discharge control
- Moisture compensation
- Batch records and inventory
- Production reports
- Links to Dispatch and Accounting
- Remote access and operation

The TouchBatch allows for a full range of ready mix plant configurations including transit-mix, central-mix, wet/dry (twin-bay) and decumulative. As your plant requirements grow, the software is easily updated, through the Internet, to automate new devices and meet new demands.

The system features a plant status screen that shows the batch progress in real-time and allows you to interact directly with your plant through on-screen buttons.

If required, a backup manual panel is available and can be customized to your plant. This backup option is equipped with 120V buttons and switches directly driving all plant devices, which guarantees uninterrupted operation.

To further safeguard your investment and protect against obsolescence, the system only uses industrial components available off-the-shelf from multiple sources.

**Easy to use software**

The TouchBatch interface is the only one in the industry truly designed to take full advantage of touch-screen technology. As such, the interface is clean and uncluttered for unparalleled ease of use; just touch the screen— or use a mouse—to operate the system.

A designated area at the top of the screen always shows the batch progress regardless of which window is in use; and a toolbar at the bottom of the screen allows you to quickly switch between tasks with one click, eliminating cumbersome drop-down menus present in other batch systems.

This is software that makes you feel right at home from the first time you use it.

**Full connectivity**

The TouchBatch is fully compatible with any dispatch software that uses the industry standard U-Link protocol. As such, it receives tickets for batching and allows storing of centrally managed mix designs in the batch PC.

Batch results for each load can be automatically sent back to central dispatch or quality control software.

Ticket data export to accounting software is available to facilitate next-day invoicing and avoid data entry errors. We interface with popular packages such as Quick Books and Accpac as well as enterprise class accounting systems.

**Remote operation / remote access**

The TouchBatch is fully equipped for remote operation, either through the Internet or within your local network. Every plant device can be remotely controlled, with real-time responsiveness.

With the Q/C Link companion software you can easily connect to multiple TouchBatch systems from any location and work remotely on mixes, inventory and reports. Q/C Link works in the background without interfering with the plant or inconveniencing the operator, even when batching is in progress.
Prompt and effective support
Producers switch to MPAQ products because of our long standing reputation for personalized support. Friendly, experienced technicians and easy to maintain systems are the key to great service; in most cases, a quick phone call or a remote assistance session through the Internet is all you need to troubleshoot or fine-tune your system.

Helping you take control
Settings and parameters are accessible on-screen in plain language and fully explained in the help file. While we are always available to answer questions and recommend the best solutions, you are in full control of your batch system and able to make changes to the settings without having to call for help.

Superior features

Full featured order entry module for concrete and additional products allows fast order entry in one step, eliminating paper forms. COD tickets include detailed prices and taxes for both concrete and add-on products.

One-click web mapping function displays and prints a Google map with driving instructions for your drivers, based on the delivery address entered on the order.

Concrete calculator pop-up is available at any time to quickly determine the concrete volume and pricing for a job. Store this information within the calculator for easy retrieval when needed.

Built-in organizer automatically sorts orders by delivery date and time. For orders with multiple-loads, you can set up estimated times for travelling, pouring and spacing to let the system automatically indicate which order to batch next.

Production reports and batch results can be viewed, printed or exported to spreadsheet for the current day or any date range. Convenient ‘drill down’ feature on ticket reports accesses detailed information for each ticket.

Batchable extra products, such as admixtures, can be added to an order without modifying the original mix design. In this case, batch targets are automatically calculated according to the amount of concrete to be batched.

User defined mix modifiers allow for automatic adjustments of concrete slump and other properties when required. These preset sequences of one or more steps are the perfect tool to temporarily—and consistently—modify a mix design at time of batching.

Manual batch recordation automatically updates the Q/C log and inventory whenever the operator uses the on-screen manual batch feature.

Advanced batch features
• Free-wheeling mode automatically starts batching for next truck while still finishing the current load. This maximizes production by loading trucks as soon as they can get under the plant.
• Individual rate of discharge for each truck, for optimum loading speed, with ribbon-feeding proportioning for cements and aggregates.
• Automatic free fall and jog time calculations. Parameters are self-tuned during every batch for optimum results.
• Automatic real-time compensation of moisture content in aggregates using advanced logic and microwave moisture sensors. For plants without sensors, moisture is adjusted according to percent moisture figures entered by the operator.
• Aggregate and water pre-loading, to reduce truck loading times.
• Flexible admix discharge timing.
• Choice to hold/resume water discharge.
• Cold/Hot/Recycle/Chilled water controls.

“We find the TouchBatch system easy to use, fast, accurate and reliable. The system’s 100% compatibility with our existing dispatch accounted for a painless migration to MPAQ. Most important, their support is always prompt and effective. I would not hesitate recommending both the product and the company.”

Jim Combest, President – Southern Concrete Materials, NC

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