

Time and Materials Maintenance

The overwhelming majority of GA maintenance is done on a "time & materials" basis where the shop charges the aircraft owner an hourly rate for labor expended plus the retail cost of parts. This means the owner doesn't know what the work will cost until it's done and he receives an invoice. This scheme places all the risk of cost overruns on the owner and none on the shop, and that doesn't seem fair since it's the shop that in the best position to control the risk. Contrast this with automotive maintenance, where almost every maintenance task has a published fixed price. In this webinar, GA maintenance advocate Mike Busch A&P/IA discusses this issue, and suggests some better ways to deal with aircraft maintenance pricing.

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