

****Forward to your Advantage System Administrator****

January 2004



(903) 636-5200

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Newsletter

**P O Box 421
Big Sandy, Tx 75755-0421**

Have You Registered?

ADVANTAGE ACADEMY classes will be held Monday, March 8, through Thursday, March 11, at the Ramada Ltd. Suites in Longview, Texas. Don't miss this opportunity to participate in the Advantage Academy Classes. The classes are free for all Advantage users. Learn new ways that you can more efficiently use the software. Tape recorders are welcome. See last month's newsletter for a detailed class schedule.

Learn what the applications are about, how they are used, and what you can hope to gain from them. These issues will all be addressed throughout the classes. The more you use the Advantage System, the more benefit you will receive from your investment.

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION AND DATABASE MAINTENANCE:

History archiving, setting up terminals, printers, users, forms, reorganizing data and other routine maintenance procedures will be discussed. A must for all new users. End-of-Month and End-of-Year procedures will also be fully covered.

ACCOUNTING APPLICATIONS:

Designed for bookkeepers, owners and system administrators, these accounting classes will provide additional insight into routine procedures. New users and existing users should plan on attending these in-depth classes to gain a well-rounded understanding of the system as a whole. These classes will assist in implementing new applications of the system and to improve the accuracy and efficiency of routinely used applications.

INVENTORY, PURCHASING AND SALES:

Purchasing agents, receiving clerks, inventory control managers, bookkeepers and store managers are all excellent candidates for this session. You're using these applications now, but learn how you can utilize these applications more effectively. Accuracy, efficiency and effectiveness are the reasons most companies computerize. Learn about tools that will allow you to get the most usage of the Advantage System.

REPORT GENERATOR:

The Report Generator class will be held Monday morning from 8:00 to 12:00. This class is for advanced users only, such as system administrators or users who are truly familiar with the software.

We must have 35 users preregistered in order to make a class. We need your registration form by the end of January. Use the registration form on the last page of this newsletter. There's no need to send the refundable deposit now, just send in the registration form.



~**Advantage Academy** -
Have you registered for the next session?

~**Letter From**
Mr. Matatall -
New Year's Greetings from Advantage's CEO

~**Paperless Options** -
E-mail documents directly from the software.

~**Trade Show Schedule** -
Look for the Advantage booth.

~**Advantage Academy** -
Registration form.

Greetings from Mr. Matatali

To our valued customers,

As the New Year begins, many of you will reflect on your business; reviewing progress made and changes in financial positions. Advantage is no different in that aspect, however, not only do we reflect on our company, but also on every one of our customers. Your future is our future, and therefore, we are busy running out ahead to create the tools and resources you will need to keep you competitive.

It has been an innovative year for Advantage. Innovation for us means improvements for you. As we have mentioned in previous newsletters, we are in the process of writing entirely new software. By embracing new technologies and advanced programming languages, we are able to tap into a vast library of resources made available through the continued growth of the Internet. For you this means that a new graphical Windows-type of software is coming your way soon. Using industry standards and commercial databases, ODBC compliance and standard SQL tools will be available in the new packages.

Within the next couple of months, you will be receiving a 'Sneak Preview' demo CD of a software package being created for all existing Advantage customers. Your software support dollars assure you of your free version of this special package, when it is ready. We are confident that you will be as excited as we are to see the new graphical presentation of clean, redesigned maintenance and application screens. Underlying audit tables enhance the design assuring that the "who, when and where of occurring changes" is fully traceable. Management concerns have been addressed by creating a customized alert trigger system to keep your finger on the 'pulse' of your company automatically. Each report, query screen and data entry table may be customized to your preferences. These few features are only the beginning of what the new 'Pulse' software packages will include. Be watching for your 'Sneak Preview' in April.

The Linux operating system has continued to open new doors on multiple fronts. Its cost reduction over SCO is the first obvious advantage being felt by all who are upgrading. The aggressiveness of its development in the industry has also provided new resources for us to utilize in our software. Linux has allowed us to introduce the use of the PostScript tool, which creates graphics, shading, and different fonts in a range of sizes to create a custom, plain-paper, laser form. The results are a professional looking form that rivals a preprinted form at a fraction of the cost. Create your own invoices, statements, purchase orders, or signs with custom programming and enhance the image of your company to your business partners.

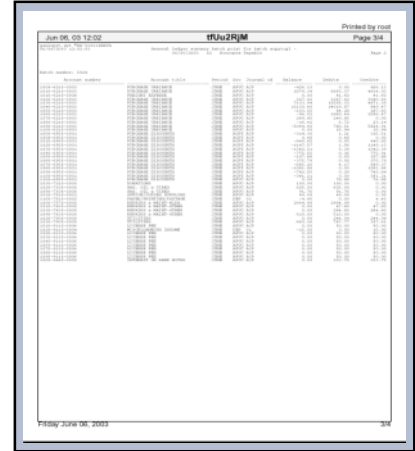
Linux has also opened doors allowing us to create our own Document Imaging Package at a fraction of the price of a third-party package. This allows even the smallest company to take advantage of the benefits of imaging without excessive cost. These benefits include elimination of filing invoices, freight slips, vendor invoices, P.O.'s, statements, etc. They can all be imaged and saved on your hard drive.

Signature Capture at POS is now possible with Document Imaging, which means you don't have to scan in all POS invoices any longer. Store the signature and we can recreate the invoice for reprints or to be included in the statements.

High-speed modem or Internet-based credit card processing is quick and easy on a Linux operating system. The reduction of double work when processing a credit card is only the beginning of the cost benefits to you when integrating with credit card processing. Your increased customer service and competitive processing rates are only two of the good reasons you should call and see what is available.

Another Paperless Solution

With the increasing demand for a paperless business, Advantage is now offering an e-mail package that allows you to e-mail any report or screen print directly from your Advantage software. Instead of printing your management reports, making numerous copies, and faxing or hand distributing them to others, simply send them by e-mail. The report will be received as an Adobe PDF file that can be easily viewed and printed if necessary. Not only is this a great interoffice tool, it can also simplify communication with Advantage's software support. By e-mailing the exact screen or report you are viewing, the software technician can better assess the issue at hand. It is faster and gives Support a clear, distortion-free copy of your issue.



This is not a separate e-mail set up from your personal or business e-mail account. It works with all e-mail clients including PC or web-based, such as Outlook Express or Hotmail. This feature is set up as a printer in the Advantage printer configuration, so learning how to use it is simple. You pick the e-mail printer, enter the e-mail address, and send the document. There are no attachments or opening other e-mail service providers.

Don't waste any more time or paper. Call the Advantage Sales Department at (903) 636 4605 Extension 216 or 242 to see how you can get the Advantage e-mail package for your business.



Advantage Trade Show Schedule

During the next few months the Advantage sales staff will be hosting booths at the following shows. Please come and visit us if you are attending one or more of these shows. We enjoy visiting with our customers and showing both customers and prospective customers what the Advantage system can do. We look forward to seeing you.

DATES	SHOW	BOOTH	LOCATION	CITY/STATE
JAN 8	ALLIED BLD. STORES	519	ARLINGTON CONVENTION CENTER	ARLINGTON, TX
JAN 30-FEB 1	MBMDA MID-SOUTH	91	NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER	NATCHEZ, MS
JAN 30-31	HOUSE HASSON	250	OPRYLAND HOTEL	NASHVILLE, TN
FEB 9-10	ILLINOIS LUMBER	416	PEORIA CIVIC CENTER	PEORIA, IL
FEB 13-15	HANDY HARDWARE	1017	GEORGE R. BROWN CONVENTION CENTER	HOUSTON, TX
FEB 12-14	ORGILL SPRING DEALER MARKET	2704, 2805	ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER	ORLANDO, FL
FEB 20-22	MOORE-HANDLEY, INC.	810	BIRMINGHAM JEFFERSON CONVENTION COMPLEX	BIRMINGHAM, AL
MAR 4-6	LMC SPRING MEETING		TAMPA CONVENTION CENTER	TAMPA, FL
MAR 19-21	BLISH MIZE	456	OVERLAND PARK CONVENTION CENTER	OVERLAND PARK, KS
APR 16-17	LAT	532	HENRY B. GONZALES CONVENTION CENTER	SAN ANTONIO, TX

ADVANTAGE ACADEMY

REGISTRATION

FORM

MARCH 8 - 11, 2004

**Class will be held at:
Ramada Limited Suites
419 N. Spur 63
Longview, TX
(903)757-0500**

To secure your reservation, please complete this form and fax it to 903-636-4605 at your earliest convenience.

Seating is limited. However we must have at least 35 reservations to make a class. If we do not receive that many reservations, the class will not be held. You will be notified near the end of January if the class is scheduled or cancelled. Please do not make travel or hotel arrangements or send your deposit until the class is confirmed.

\$250 (PER PERSON) DEPOSIT REQUIRED BY FEB. 27, 2004, if class is confirmed. Make checks payable to Advantage Business Computer Systems, Inc.

Deposits will be returned the first day of class. Cancellations are nonrefundable.

COMPANY NAME: _____

CITY: _____

CONTACT: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX: _____

Names of individuals attending: _____

DAYS ATTENDING:

MAR 8 Mar 9

MAR 10 Mar 11

(please indicate number of people attending each day)

**Mail Deposits To:
Advantage Business Computers Systems, Inc.
Attn: J. Matatall
PO Box 421
Big Sandy, TX 75755**

If you have questions, call 903-636-5200 Ext. 216 or 242.

During the Advantage Academy class sessions we would like to address the issues/questions that are of the most concern to you and your company. Therefore, with your registration please submit five (5) areas you would like to see discussed. Also if you think you will need more specific help with any of these items, please check the box. See "Hands On Help" on the previous page for more information about one-on-one help.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Those who attend Advantage Academy classes are responsible for their own room reservations and expenses. Be sure to mention that you are with the Advantage group to receive a room discount. There are airports in Longview and Tyler for those who will be making flight arrangements.