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ADVANTAGE

BUSINESS COMPUTER SYSTEMS, LTD

Newsletter

May, 2005

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Document Imaging offers more options

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E-mail from within the software

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Another security option

New Imaging Features

Document Imaging and the Advantage software has proven to be an extremely efficient, winning combination. With the 0503 Release, those using Imaging will be enjoying some added enhancements.

- Document Imaging can image delivery tickets in addition to the scanned invoice. Do your customers sign a confirmation for all deliveries? If so, scanning those documents and storing them with all other documents pertaining to that order can save you time and money. Benefit from the peace of mind you'll get by knowing that you have proof that the customer was satisfied at the time of delivery.
- The ability to store images has been added to note categories available in the following applications: A/R Customers and jobs, Delivery Tracking, Inventory, A/P Vendors, Payroll, Purchasing, Sales reps, and Inventory Items. Imagine storing images of collection documents in customer notes or doctor's excuses for absent employees in payroll notes. This beneficial feature can eliminate all of that filing and space taken up by documents you have to keep "just in case".
- Point-of-sale now has the option to print the "cold captured" invoice if it is available. This enables those using signature pads to reprint the invoice with the customer's signature on it. This is a great tool for quick printing of an invoice. Since this feature is flag-controlled, please review the 0503 Release notes for more information about turning it on.
- The Accounts Receivable imaging configuration has a new feature for statement printing. You can now limit the invoices printed with the statement to open invoices only. This saves time and paper during your statement run. Only getting copies of invoices that need to be paid means less confusion for your customer, prompt payments and greater customer satisfaction.
- Another addition to the Accounts Receivable statement configuration is the ability to print the statement and invoices from separate printer trays. This option is only available on some HP LaserJet printers. Statements could be



**Point-of-Sale
can print a
"cold captured"
invoice**



printed on plain, white paper and invoices on another color paper. This simplifies the sorting process for you and makes viewing the statement easier for the customer. If you currently do not have two or more paper trays for your HP printer, contact the Sales Department at extension 242 or 216 to order additional trays.

- You can now capture any report and save it with the rest of your stored images. You don't have to print those reports in order to file them away. Let the computer store them for you, so they are right at your fingertips. Any report with a report parameter box at the top, regardless of module, can be stored as an image. See the Other Options-> How to reference files-> Printers-> "Imaging report capture" document for information on configuring a printer for this kind of imaging.

As you can see, we are constantly adding features to the Advantage Document Imaging to help your company run as efficiently as possible. The features above are in the new 0503 Release. If you are already using Imaging, you can get these new features today. Those customers on the 0310 Release with a Linux operating system can take advantage of our web download located in Systems Administration-> Operating systems utilities-> ABCS Software-> Patching via the Internet to receive and activate your release. Remember to review the Other Options-> How to reference files-> ABCS update documents-> "Internet patching of a release" document. Those customers on any release prior to the 0310 Release should call software support for release activation.

For information about Document Imaging, call the Sales Department, extension 216 or 242

The Document Imaging product has changed the way many people manage their business paper flow today. Advantage is proud to offer the most comprehensive and cost effective solution in the industry. Apart from the day-to-day features and benefits of using the package, the savings derived are very easily quantified. If you would like more information on how your company could benefit from Document Imaging, call the Sales Department at extension 216 or 242 to find out more.

Advantage E-mail



As we are all aware, Internet technology has become a large part of our business and personal lives. The convenience of instant e-mail communications is quickly replacing the need for mail correspondence or cumbersome faxing. Your Advantage software has the ability to send printable documents directly to an e-mail address as a "pdf" file or text attachment. The possible uses are limitless. Send quotes, estimates or invoices directly from Point-of-Sale. E-mail purchase orders from Purchasing directly to your suppliers. Accounts Receivable statements* can be sent without any user intervention. Even system reports can be e-mailed as easily as printing to a normal printer.

Those using Document Imaging have even more flexibility. Stored images from the Document Imaging module, such as vendor invoices, payments and customers' purchase orders, can be e-mailed to any specified e-mail address with just a few keystrokes.

System requirements for e-mailing include a static IP address and an existing domain name. For an additional fee, we can purchase and maintain the domain name for you. Call the Sales Department at extension 216 or 242 to find out about purchasing this additional functionality for your business today.

*May require a custom statement in some cases.

Customer Prepayments

Do you have customers who make prepayments against a job? Would you want to limit the customer's charges to the amount of the prepayment? Do you need to easily find out how much of a prepayment is left while creating the invoice for the customer? If you have answered "Yes" to any of these questions, the Advantage software has the solution. A "Prepaid" customer account allows you to accept a prepayment from the customer and limit the account to the amount of the prepayment.

1. Create the customer or job record with the "Prepaid Account" field set to [Y]es and the credit limit set to \$0.00.
2. Post an unapplied payment to the account in the amount of the prepayment.
3. As an invoice is created at Point-of-Sale, a pop-up window informs the clerk that it is a prepaid account and shows the amount of prepayment that is available.
4. If the customer tries to charge more than the prepayment (credit balance), the system will warn you that the customer is over their credit limit. You will be required to follow your company's over the credit limit procedures at that point.
5. When the invoice is posted to this account, the system will automatically debit the unapplied payment and credit the charged invoice.

**Warning: this is a prepaid account.
The account balance is currently \$-150.00.
Charges should not be made which bring
the account balance above zero.**

Prepaid accounts are easy to configure and use. Read the Accounts Receivable-> How to reference files-> Setting up prepaid customer accounts document to complete information. There is also useful information on the "Prepaid Account" [F1] field help.

Welcome New Customers

*Cleveland Lumber & Supply
Boyce and Son, Inc.
Doyle Lumber Company
High Sierra Truss Co., Inc.
Montgomery Wholesale Lumber
Norman Door & Plywood, Inc.
Vanco Group, LP*



Moving Forward

The final stages of the acquisition of Versyss Data Systems are now complete. The system hardware has now been moved from its previous location in Rhode Island to the Advantage corporate office in Big Sandy, Texas. With the help of Jeff Bonin, Development Manager of Versyss Data Systems, Ltd., all of the servers that contain the development, accounting and support databases have been relocated without any inconvenience to the customers.

**With Advantage
and
Versyss Data
Systems**

In addition, the new phone lines are now in place. Versyss customers will notice that their regular 800 number is now answered by the Texas-accented voice of an Advantage employee. Your call is then dispatched to the Versyss staff with whom you are accustomed to working. We are trying to make this transition as smooth as possible and appreciate your patience while working out any issues.



**Jeff Bonin,
Development Manager**

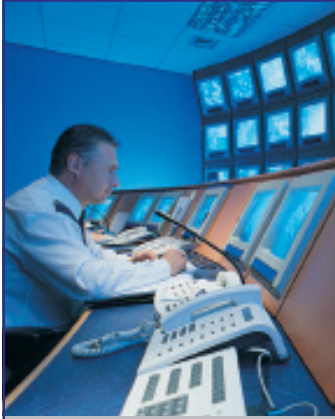
Advantage again would like to welcome each new Versyss customer to the Advantage family. You will find a renewed sense of focus on the customer service and that there are many new options available to you. While a change in company ownership can sometimes make customers feel lost, we are here to assure you that we will continue to provide exemplary service to *all* of our customers. We will support you as you continue to run your business in the manner you choose. We will also provide you with the options and tools needed to keep your business current with the newest technology, so that you can run your business effectively.

Conversion Equipment

In the past few weeks, several of our Versyss Data Systems customers have converted to the Advantage software. We are excited that they are choosing to utilize the tools the Advantage software has to offer their businesses. The feedback from other Versyss customers tells us that we can anticipate more of these conversions in the future.

**Attention
Versyss
Users**

While these companies transition to the Advantage system, it provides those who choose to stay with the Versyss software an opportunity to save on previously owned equipment that works with their existing hardware and the Versyss software package. Could you use a spare printer or workstation? By working together with those who have switched to Advantage, we can help you save on the purchase of additional equipment. For more information, please contact the Sales Department at extension 242 or 216.



Live**SURVEILLANCE**.tv

Affordable Video Guard Service

Protect Your Property with a 'Video Guard' Monitored System at Affordable Rates.

Deter or Stop Crime in Progress.
Enhance Your Existing Camera and Alarm System
with the Live**Surveillance**.tv Solution.

Here are some good—no, great!—reasons for you to update your existing security system with Live**Surveillance**.tv video monitoring:

- Monitoring large areas like a lumber yard is difficult and expensive with traditional alarm systems. Live**Surveillance**.tv has professional dispatchers viewing your site during motion or alarm detection, and we can cover your facility with only a few well-placed cameras. That's why we've aligned with **Advantage Business Computer Systems** to make sure your installation is professionally designed and installed.
- Don't just record crime. Stop it in progress!
- Increase the likelihood of quick police response to crime in progress.
- Replace expensive private guards.
- Reduce false alarms and fines with video verification.
- Property management solutions are also available. Night light and street sign light check, lot sweeping verification and loitering report are just a few examples.

Live**Surveillance**.tv is very affordable and gives you greater peace of mind. The average lumber yard can be covered with four cameras at night time for \$199/month.* Call **Advantage Business Computer Systems** today to find out how you can protect your facility, business, employees and home with the Live**Surveillance**.tv video guard solution.

*Based on night-time activity. Prices may vary based on activity level. A broadband internet connection and our Livideo server are required. Hardware fee not included.

If you are interested in this service, call Scott Stanford, extension 229, for more information.