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Overview

The SAGE MAS 500® 7.0 release will focus on two primary themes: Improved access to information and streamlined distribution processes. Both current and new customers will immediately see the benefits of the improvements made in these two areas. In an age where new trends and rising costs can develop overnight, business owners are expecting more out of their systems to help solve issues and beat the competition.

The SAGE MAS 500 6.3 release introduced a new way of analyzing data across the enterprise with Business Insights Analyzer. With the 7.0 release of SAGE SAGE MAS 500, the bar has been raised once again with Business Insights Explorer. Powerful drill-down and drill-around features highlight the core features of Business Insights Explorer that will allow users to explore and navigate their day-to-day transactions in whatever way they feel appropriate. Built-in user preference capabilities puts the flexibility of how the data should be presented into the users hands, while creating a tool to which our partners can quickly and inexpensively add value.

As mentioned, this release also has a major emphasis on the distribution modules. Users will experience a substantial increase in productivity through an improved sales order workflow engine. For those in the warehouse, new pick, pack and shipping features will dramatically lower the margin of error, help streamline their processes and ultimately lower the total cost of ownership.

As always, SAGE MAS 500 is dedicated to all of its customers across the different disciplines it serves with customer satisfaction our number one priority. Customers that leverage the core financials, manufacturing and project accounting modules will benefit from enhancements ranging from tightened security, better time tracking and decimal precision. Finally, a large percentage of engineering time will also focus on product quality to ensure our customers are receiving the benefits they expect and are entitled to with their investment in Sage Software.

Availability

SAGE MAS 500 version 7.0 was released to manufacturing on October 17, 2005. Auto-shipments to resellers and customers currently on plan will be completed by the end of October.

Global Usability Enhancements

Completion of new Lookup Engine

SAGE MAS 500 6.3 included a new and enhanced lookup engine within the system, so that lookups could be more customizable by user in addition to behaving similarly to one another throughout the product. The primary entity and transaction lookups throughout the system were updated to leverage the new engine. The 7.0 release continues this effort through the remaining lookups within the product.

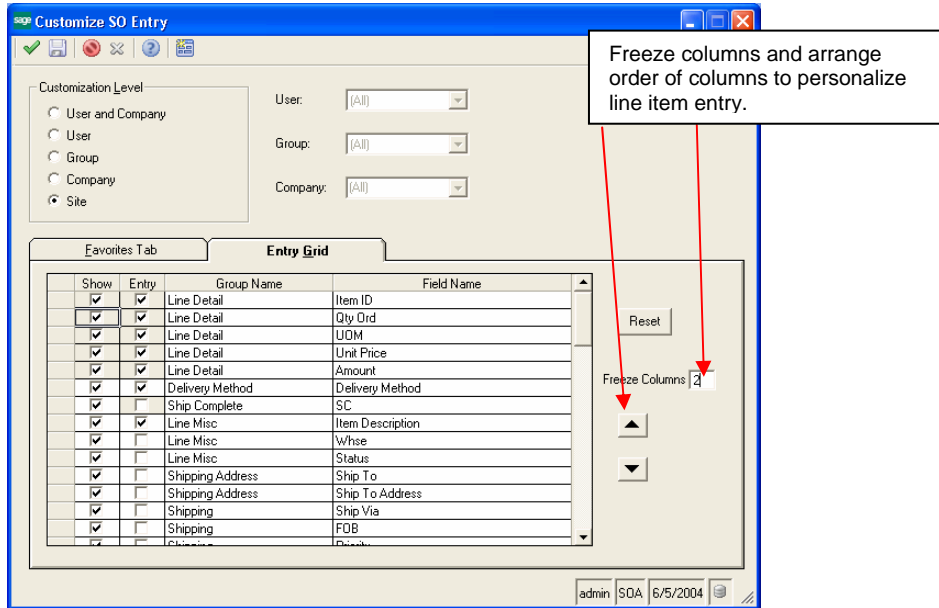
Security Improvements

With the added security pressures that IT managers are facing today and to help facilitate a single unified process for them to configure users throughout the system, the 7.0 release leverages Windows integrated security as the default authentication method when logging into SAGE MAS 500. Users will still have the option of leveraging standard SQL Server security.

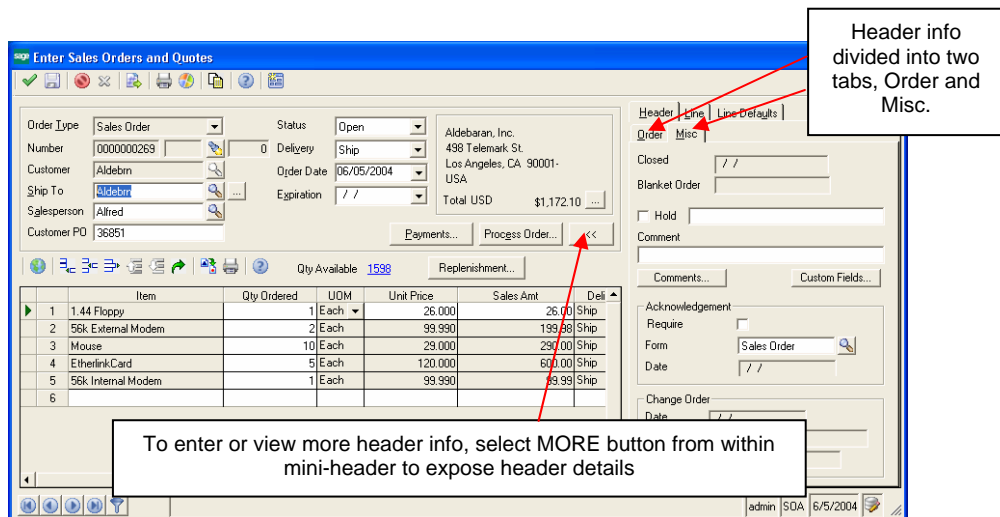
Distribution Enhancements

Streamlined Sales Order Workflow

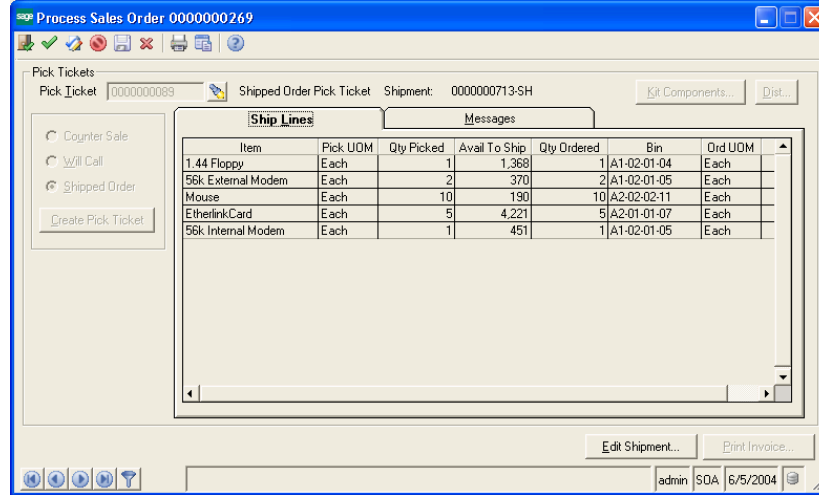
The sales order entry interface has been redesigned for faster and easier data entry of sales orders. This new streamlined interface allows users to customize their own sales entry process by placing the data elements they frequently edit in a Favorites section.



Sales order entry has been expanded to allow the entry of payments at time of order. It also allows users to apply existing [posted] unapplied credit memos and cash receipts in sales order entry to the invoices that will be created for the sales order being entered. When the order's invoice is generated, the memo or payments applied during order entry is automatically applied to the invoice created for the sales order.



Sales Order Entry also allows users to pick the order or the will call lines while in sales order entry. If necessary, they may modify the allocation of inventory determined by picking, selecting lot numbers, selecting serial numbers and modifying pick bins and quantities. Pick ticket printing from sales order entry is an optional feature. Users also have the option to commit the goods picked and to automatically create the invoice.



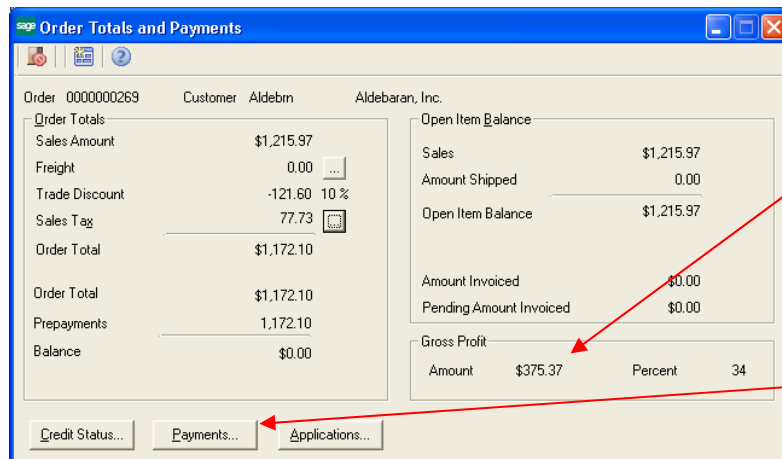
Complete workflow from this screen! Distribute lot and serial numbers, create Pick Tickets, Edit Shipments, Commit and Invoice all in one.

The entire drop shipment process within sales order has also been revised and streamlined for ease of use. Users have the option to select the purchase-from vendor in sales order entry in addition to choosing to acknowledge and pick drop ship orders. A new multi-purpose drop ship report is also provided.

When the user receives notification from a vendor that a drop ship PO has been shipped to the customer, the user may release the drop shipped lines to AR invoicing. The release drop ship process displays all drop ships that haven't been invoiced yet in an easy to use grid. The user may filter which drop shipments to view such as by warehouse, vendor or buyer. The user indicates which lines the vendor has shipped and automatically generates the customer invoice for the shipped goods.

Gross Profit Display in SO

A popular feature in Sage MAS 90 is the ability to optionally view the gross profit of each sales order line as it is entered to ensure salespeople are quoting prices within the company's accepted margins. Version 7.0 includes this feature with some added flexibility.



Gross Profit amount and profit percentage provide insight into profitability

Click Enter Payments to add deposits to this order

For starters, when configuring sales order the actual cost for the calculation can be set to the average, last, standard, replacement or landed cost. A second option allows operators to receive a warning in sales order entry for lines under a minimum gross profit percentage. When this option is configured, the minimum gross profit requirements are stated at the item or sales product line level, and the estimated gross profit will be calculated in sales order entry for each line item. If the minimum gross profit percentage is not met, the user is given a warning for the line that fails to meet the minimum requirement. The default minimum gross profit percentage can be configured from the sales product line or the actual item.

New Copy Sales Order

Another popular Sage MAS 90 feature that has been added to SAGE MAS 500 is the ability to copy existing sales orders to further streamline the data entry process. In addition to copying an order, once the order has been copied, it can be re-priced to ensure that the customer is charged the appropriate amounts.

Promotional Pricing Enhancement

In an ongoing effort to help our customers configure pricing based on the many different practices used today, the ability to establish promotional pricing is now available.

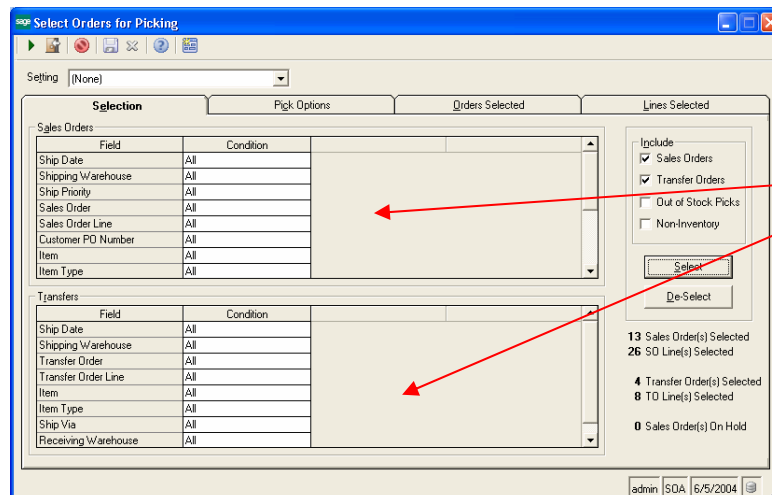
Promotional Pricing allows users to configure a date specific promotion by item, warehouse, sales prod line, purchase product line, product price group, primary vendor and product category. Fixed and percentage based discounts can be based on price or quantity ordered.

Real-time Inventory Processing

As an addition to the streamlined sales order entry process for distributors, the batch process for transfer shipments, customer shipments and customer returns has been removed. This allows our customers to more quickly and easily enter and update sales transactions in a manner that more accurately reflects their daily activities and to better manage their inventory levels. The user can either save their work in a pending state or commit the given transaction. After entering the transaction they may proof their work directly on the screen or through a printed document.

Enhanced Picking for Distributors

The picking process for distributors within SAGE MAS 500 has been enhanced to improve the workflow within distribution and help bridge functionality that currently exists in Sage MAS 90.



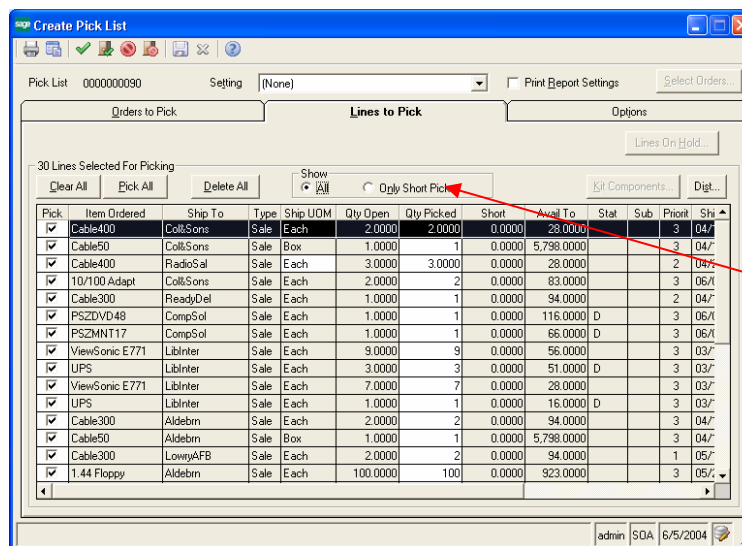
The picking enhancements allow users to automatically generate shipments from picking so that they may skip that step later. Edits of lots, serials and bins may be done from within picking so that they may skip the picking confirmation or shipment edit task later.

Product substitution, both manual and automated, is provided from picking. Both options are under the user's control. Users are notified while still in picking that they have ship-complete rule violations for given items or customers and can take immediate action to resolve the violations, thus providing powerful, yet flexible picking management.

A new optional credit check routine can place orders on credit hold as well as lift credit holds from orders for customers with resolved credit issues. The picking process identifies orders on hold that cannot be picked and allow the display of orders and lines on hold. Only users with security privilege may lift order holds, order line holds and credit holds within picking.

Shipments may optionally be created for pick lists automatically. This saves the user from performing a separate shipment generation step for picks. Shipment numbers will be printed on the pick tickets to more readily identify the transaction to edit if the user chooses to make any changes to the picks within the edit shipment task.

Short picks (pick lines with a pick quantity less than the open to ship quantity), incomplete ship items and incomplete shipments are readily identifiable based on configurable options in the system. Both automated and manual item substitution will be available.



This snapshot of all Lines to Pick makes it easy to re-allocate lines to fill as many orders as possible

Show "Only Short Picks" to see what needs attention, then go to "Lines to Pick" to see all lines on all orders, or click "Orders to Pick" to see the lines on an individual order

Both order views and line views of the pick list are available. Users can remove an entire order from the list to pick by simply checking a checkbox. Groups of picks may be added or removed by the standard selection/de-selection process.

If desired, the user may pre-allocate bins and bin quantities, lot numbers and lot quantities as well as serial numbers prior to printing the pick tickets. Any lot/serial/bin selections or edits performed prior to printing will appear on the printed pick tickets.

Comprehensive allocation rules allow the users to optionally fill sales orders before transfers, prioritize backorders, fill by order date or by priority to name a few of the flexible options available in the system. To complement the allocation rules, users have the ability to specify picking methods. Methods such as picking from a lot by expiration date, requiring all items shipped to be from a specific lot, exhausting preferred bins first or rotating out inventory by oldest receipt date are some of the new methods supported by the system.

Enhanced Shipment and Packing Process

The shipment and packing process has been enhanced to capture more bill of lading and packing information for shipped orders. Users can enter the number of boxes for the shipment lines, tracking numbers for the boxes, input which items are within each box and the quantity of the item in the boxes. Multiple items may be placed in one box and a ship line item may be placed in multiple boxes. These particular features will also help extend the integration between StarShip and SAGE MAS 500. Similar rapid entry features as one sees in MAS 90 have been provided such as the ability to pop a dialog that allows users to move available items into or out of the current box or the ability to push the rest of the shipment into the current box with one keystroke. The information entered in Edit Shipments will serve for both pack list printing and bill of lading printing.

Batchless "Edit Shipments" now contains Quick Pack feature that creates BOL and/or launches StarShip

Edit shipments provides several printing options:

- Shipment proof document
- Bill of lading
- Summary pack list print
- Pack list with contents print
- Commit shipment and print invoice

The bill of lading print is the standard legal document currently provided by SAGE MAS 500 today. The summary pack list prints the total number of boxes in the shipment and lists the items shipped along with ship quantity. The pack list with contents version prints a sheet for each box, listing the individual contents and quantities of that box. The invoice print option commits the shipment before printing the invoice and allows users to include the printed invoice with the shipment, if desired.

Enhanced Bin, Serial and Lot Distribution

One of the most common requests we receive from our distribution customers today involves the assignment of serial numbers. The 7.0 release includes the ability to enter a range of serial numbers, simplifying the data entry process and eliminating the margin for operator error. Alphanumeric serial number ranges may be entered through an easy to use grid form. Users still have the option of entering a single serial number if they choose. In addition, for repetitive entry against the same Bin and/or lot number, the values are retained as defaults for the session, which should expedite the data entry process. The user interface has been tailored for the type of item being distributed and the type of transaction making it easier for them to enter the relevant data for the task at hand. For Transactions that increase stock, users have the ability to specify a preferred

bin as the default. Ranged entry will be extended into the manufacturing modules as well for picking lot/serial/bin controlled items or creating finished good lot/serial numbers.

	Sale Qty	From Serial No	To Serial No	Lot No	Expire Date	Bin	Pref	Available
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	PSZMM100001	PSZMM100012	Lot P1_10	12/31/2007	A1-01-01-01	n/a	4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	PSZMM100044	PSZMM100044	Lot P1_10	12/31/2007	A1-01-01-01	n/a	1

New Distributions form shows serial numbers in ranges, with the quantity in each bin for each range

New Warehouse Management Module

The SAGE MAS 500 7.0 release will introduce a new Warehouse Management module. This module includes some of the more advanced distribution functionality found today within Inventory Management in addition to some new functionality being introduced in 7.0. The first release of Warehouse Management will include the following core capabilities:

Zones in Warehouse (New with 7.0)

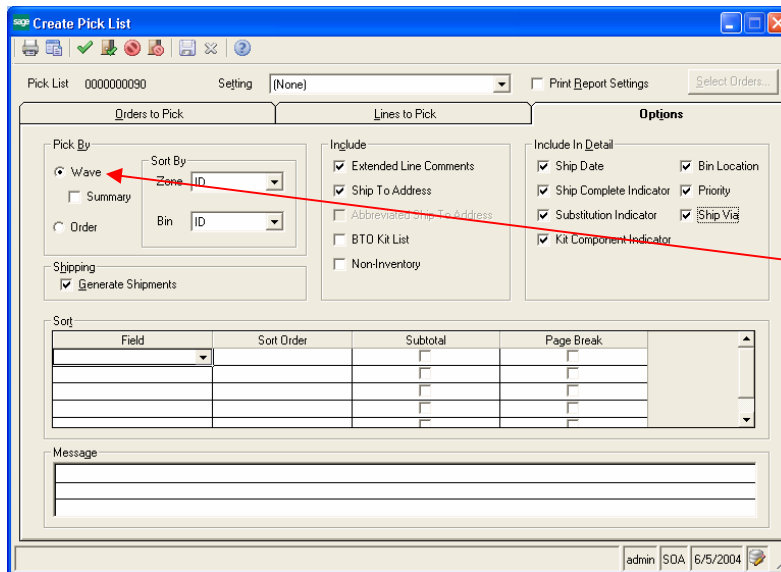
- Assign bins to zones for efficient warehouse layout
- Reduces number of trips to bins by pickers
- Enabled through Sales Order Picking

Track Quantity by Bin

- Includes improved Distribution screens
- Users without WM can track lot and serials, but not quantity, at the bin level

Three-Step Transfers

- Select transfer order shipments with sales order shipments for streamlined processing



Wave Picking creates pick sheets that reduce the number of trips to bins

By providing this advanced functionality as a new SAGE MAS 500 module, new and existing customers can choose the distribution functionality and configuration that best suits their processing needs. Existing SAGE MAS 500 6.3 Inventory Management customers will automatically receive Warehouse Management as a subscription benefit. Warehouse Management is also a powerful complement to the up and coming Warehouse Automation module (due to be released shortly after 7.0) for advanced bar code scanning and Radio Frequency support. For more information on Warehouse Automation please refer to the [Warehouse Automation pre-release guide](#).

Manufacturing Enhancements

Phantom Routing Support

The number one request we have received from our existing SAGE MAS 500 manufacturing customers has been the support for Phantom routings and bills of material. A phantom routing represents an item that is physically built, but rarely stocked, before being used in the next step or level of manufacturing. This permits MRP logic to drive requirements straight through the phantom items to its components. This technique also facilitates the use of common bills of material for engineering and manufacturing. The 7.0 release supports two types of phantom routings; Blowthrough, and Plan B.

Blowthrough Phantoms ultimately replace the single phantom routing step with its components in the work order and can not be used for on hand inventory. In addition, Blowthrough phantoms will be used whenever the Phantom Routing is used as part of another assembly.

Plan B Phantoms can be used to create work orders and on hand inventory. Plan B Phantoms are especially useful in job shops where multiple phantoms are created for custom jobs and the extra subcomponents are stocked to provide replacement parts for after sale support. All Phantom Routings in SAGE MAS 500 that meet the criteria of a valid production routing, such as being flagged as active and containing a progress step, will be Plan B Phantoms. If the Phantom routing is part of a sales order, then it will be treated as a Plan B Phantom.

The screenshot shows the 'Maintain Routing' window for item 'FBA-1000' (Blade). The 'Phantom Options' dialog is open, allowing configuration of routing options. A red arrow points from a text box to the 'Phantom Options' dialog.

Define various
Phantom Routing
configurations

MRP Forecast Demand Smoothing Process

A new MRP Forecast Demand Smoothing process allows customers to process projected demand over various inventory periods through one of six different methods. This allows for the Forecasting of product sales in one set of easily defined business periods, while using the data to drive MRP and production in a shop floor or production facility set of working periods. The six methods are Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Annually, and Planning.

The smoothing process allows a user to choose a smoothing method against an existing MRP Version. The revised version can then be selected for use in any MRP generation.

Item and Warehouse Costing

Routing maintenance now allows users to mark multiple item and warehouse combinations as a standard routing for costing purposes. This allows customers to take into consideration the different efficiencies that may exist within the various warehouse locations such as labor rates, raw materials, shipping costs and available equipment.

Enhanced Decimal Precision

Another popular enhancement request has been the ability to leverage the common decimal precision settings in SAGE MAS 500 throughout the manufacturing modules. The precision settings are currently configurable at 8 decimal places for quantities and 5 for the unit price and cost. All quantity, price and cost fields available from the advanced and light manufacturing modules now leverage these advanced settings giving our customers the added flexibility and reporting they need when dealing with precision based quantities and amounts.

Project Accounting Enhancements

TimeSheet Professional

The 7.0 release will include TimeSheet Professional as part of the standard SAGE MAS 500 package shortly after the release of 7.0. This powerful time and expense application provides an alternative for the current eTimesheets application, allowing our customers to choose the time-tracking application that best meets their business practices. eTimesheets will continue to be included with SAGE MAS 500. The following features in TimeSheet Professional highlight the 9.5 release:

Expenses – Several new features have been added to enhance expense-tracking within TimeSheet Professional v9.5:

- **Expense Sheet View** – Resources now have the ability to enter expenses directly into a separate entry grid without loading a dialog from the time entry view. The expense sheet is similar to a spreadsheet, where the rows represent tasks and the columns represent dates. Employees can expand a task to view the expense codes (or expense groups) associated with the task. The intersection of each expense code row and column forms a cell where an employee can enter an expense.

Whether the expense is quantity-based or cost-based, TimeSheet Professional v9.5 always displays the total value of the expense on the Expense Sheet View. Additionally, TimeSheet Professional v9.5 applies any markup/markdown and/or tax percentage to the expense before displaying the total value.

				Mon Jan 26	Tue Jan 27	Wed Jan 28	Thu Jan 29	Fri Jan 30	Sat Jan 31	
Amelia Harrison										
1/26/2004 \$0.00										
Stanford Decelerator Labs	MKTNG	CONSULT	+							
Stanford Decelerator Labs	PUBOFF	DESIGN	+							
Stanford Decelerator Labs	SALES	COMPEVAL	+							
Yankee Technologies, Inc.	CONPLAN		-	\$12.45		\$206.04	\$189.83	\$20.30		\$428.62
	Hotel room					\$150.00	\$150.00			\$300.00
	Meals					\$35.74	\$39.83			\$75.57
	Mileage					\$20.30		\$20.30		\$40.60
	Photocopies			\$12.45						\$12.45
Yankee Technologies, Inc.	PUBOFF	DESIGN	+							
<Non-task-based>										
				\$12.45		\$206.04	\$189.83	\$20.30		\$428.62

The Expense Sheet View displays the value of each individual expense, as well as an expense total for each date and expense sheet period.

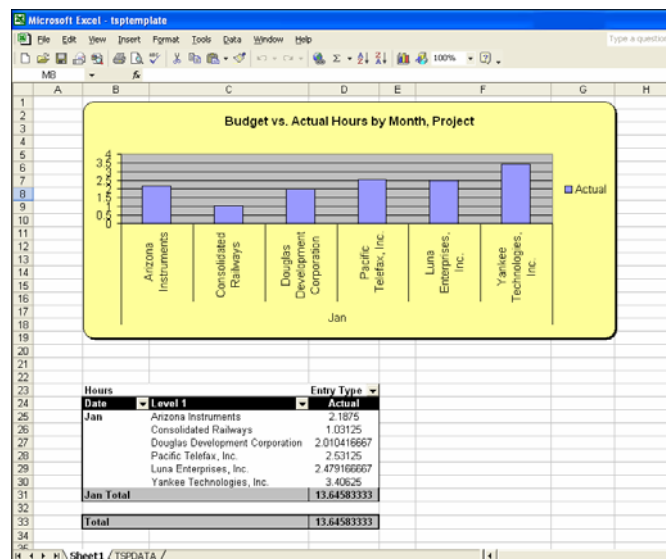
- **Expense Approval Process** – Organizations can leverage the TimeSheet Professional approval process to track and manage expense sheets independently from time sheets. Group managers can apply an approval process step to an expense sheet without affecting the employee's time sheet. This is convenient if your organization finalizes expenses and payroll for employees separately. For example, your organization may approve employee time sheets on a weekly basis but expense sheets on a monthly basis.

TimeSheet Professional v9.5 allows employees to use the Approval Process dialog box to approve an expense sheet.

- Default Expense Values** - Each expense item can now have a default price, quantity, markup/markdown percentage, or tax percentage. Additionally, TimeSheet Professional v9.5 allows your organization to define a default description for each expense. For example, your organization can define an expense component that uses the default description *Hotel room* with a default quantity of one. When using the Expense Sheet View, your organization can also configure TimeSheet Professional v9.5 to use only cost-based or only quantity-based expenses.

Project-Level Approval Process – Project managers can now review and approve hours and expenses that an employee works on by the project they manage. This is useful if employees in your organization work on multiple projects. For example, your organization may have a *Contingency Planning* project and a *Sales Analysis* project. Employees in your organization may work on both of these projects; however, each project may have a different project manager. This feature allows both project managers to review and approve the number of hours and expenses an employee worked exclusively on the project that they manage.

Excel-Based Reporting – TimeSheet Professional v9.5 extends the rich reporting and analysis capabilities by allowing users to display detail report data in a predefined Microsoft Excel worksheet (*.xls) template. This allows your organization to create a report template in Excel that includes specialized report features, such as pivot tables or pivot charts. By leveraging Microsoft Excel, users and project managers can create additional analytical reports in a format that is familiar to most users.



Employees in your organization can generate TimeSheet Professional v9.5 entry data to a predefined Microsoft Excel template.

Core Module Enhancements

AP-AR Invoice Settlement

SAGE MAS 500 includes a new settlement facility within Accounts Payable to help streamline the netting of AP and AR invoices where the vendor and the customer are the same company. Users have the option of establishing a relationship between a given vendor and one or more customers. A new settlement entry form displays the current vendor balance in addition to the associated customer's balances. The user has the option of picking specific open invoices to apply against the vendor balance. The actual settlement amount per invoice can be overwritten at this point. The posting process automatically creates the appropriate memo transactions in both Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable.

Create New from Existing Support

A popular feature in Sage MAS 90 has been the ability to quickly establish a new vendor, customer, or item by basing it on an existing record. Similar functionality has been incorporated throughout SAGE MAS 500 as a standard feature within the product.

Business Insights

New Business Insights Explorer Module

Building on the success of the popular Business Insights Analyzer module, SAGE MAS 500 is raising the bar once again with Business Insights Explorer. As the newest member of the BI suite, Business Insights Explorer takes inquiry, drill-down, drill-around and analysis to a whole new level within the SAGE MAS 500 7.0 release. New users as well as current users of to the SAGE MAS 500 system will immediately reap benefits from the extensive set of usability and customization features included with Business Insights Explorer. Business Insights Explorer includes the following core features:

Preview

The Preview option within Business Insights Explorer (BIE) allows a user to view key information about a specific entity such as customer or vendor, combined with related transaction header information such as invoices, vouchers, orders or projects. Filters can also be applied to any view, allowing the data displayed to be restricted according to user preference. By selecting a customer, for example, the context of the related view will automatically change to only show the rows that apply to the highlighted customer. SAGE MAS 500 is bundled with a series of pre-defined relationships including; customers, vendors, items, warehouses, projects, work orders and many more.

Customer							
Customer Name	Status	Aging Date	Current	Over 30 Days	Over 60 Days	Over 90 Days	
Abbott Worldwide	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Aldebaran, Inc.	Active	6/5/2004	(9,726.75)	4,704.75	(253.20)	1,151.37	
Dawson Computer Products	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	103,264.75	
Explore Travel Agency	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Fountain Valley Florists	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	12,753.36	

Open Invoices						
Transaction	Invoice Date	Due Date	Customer Name	Customer PO Number	Currency	Invoice Amount
0000000370-IN	3/6/2004	4/5/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	560132	USD	7,151.37
0000001008-IN	1/20/2004	2/19/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	34781	USD	4,491.37
0000001009-IN	1/20/2004	2/19/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	34934	USD	4,784.75
0000001049-IN	4/18/2004	5/18/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	BES EVAL	USD	4,704.75
0000001050-CM	3/21/2004	3/21/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.		USD	(253.20)
0000001082-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	ENT EVAL	USD	2,430.75
0000001083-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	Network	USD	13,912.36
0000001085-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	ENT EVAL	USD	39,973.36
0000001086-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	Network	USD	19,520.75

This image illustrates the different previews that are related to a customer. In this example, it is displaying the list of open invoices for the customer Aldebaran, Inc.

Drill Into

As an extension to the Preview option within Business Insights Explorer (BIE), the Drill Into option allows a user to “drill around” into data related to the original records and change the primary view and context of BIE to a new set of views. At the same time, context (e.g. the specific customer) is passed from the original starting point to the new set of views as a filter. For example, a customer service agent might receive a call from a customer regarding a recent transaction. After locating the customer, the agent can Drill Into recent shipments or invoice payments. After locating the specific invoice to be discussed, the agent may need additional information relating to that invoice such as the payments applied to it. This can be accomplished by drilling into the invoice to view applications against that invoice.

Another powerful feature of the Drill Into option is the ability to navigate to a related view that contains custom preferences and pre-defined filters. A good example would be a view that lists orders placed in the last 30 days. This customized view can then be saved for future use and navigation; when looking at any customer, the orders placed in the last 30 days can be quickly viewed.

Customer							
Customer Name	Status	Aging Date	Current	Over 30 Days	Over 60 Days	Over 90 Days	
Abbott Worldwide	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Aldebaran, Inc.	Active	6/5/2004	(9,726.75)	4,704.75	(253.20)	1,151.37	
Dawson Computer Products	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	103,264.75	
Explore Travel Agency	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Fountain Valley Florists	Active	6/5/2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	12,753.38	

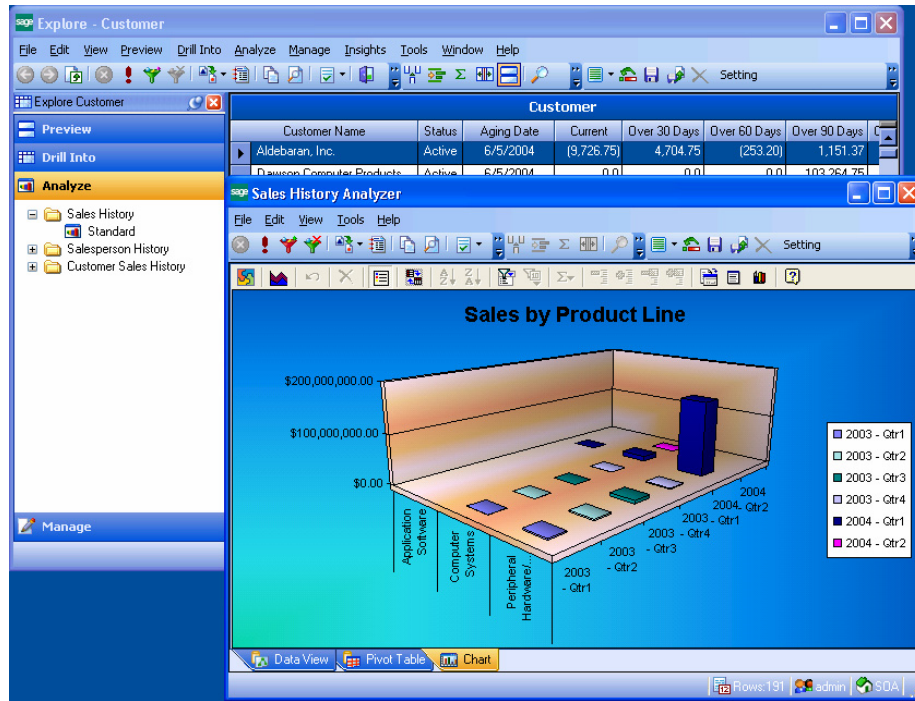
Open Invoices						
Transaction	Invoice Date	Due Date	Customer Name	Customer PO Number	Currency	Invoice Amount
0000000970-IN	3/6/2004	4/5/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	560132	USD	7,151.37
0000001008-IN	1/20/2004	2/19/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	34781	USD	4,491.37
0000001009-IN	1/20/2004	2/19/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	34934	USD	4,784.75
0000001049-IN	4/18/2004	5/18/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	BES EVAL	USD	4,704.75
0000001050-CM	3/21/2004	3/21/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.		USD	(253.20)
0000001082-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	ENT EVAL	USD	2,430.75
0000001083-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	Network	USD	13,912.75
0000001085-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	ENT EVAL	USD	39,973.38
0000001086-IN	6/12/2004	7/12/2004	Aldebaran, Inc.	Network	USD	19,520.75

This image illustrates the different Explore options that are related to a customer. Notice the customized sales order views and the ability to drill into to a specific view by right clicking on a given row within the spreadsheet style interface.

Analyze

The SAGE MAS 500 6.3 release introduced a new paradigm for analysis and reporting with the introduction of the Business Insights Analyzer (BIA) module. With this module, users have the ability to organize, graph, and format summarized information within the SAGE MAS 500 system. The new Business Insights Explorer (BIE) module is tightly integrated to the Analyzer module, allowing users to navigate into Business Insights Analyzer for more detailed study.

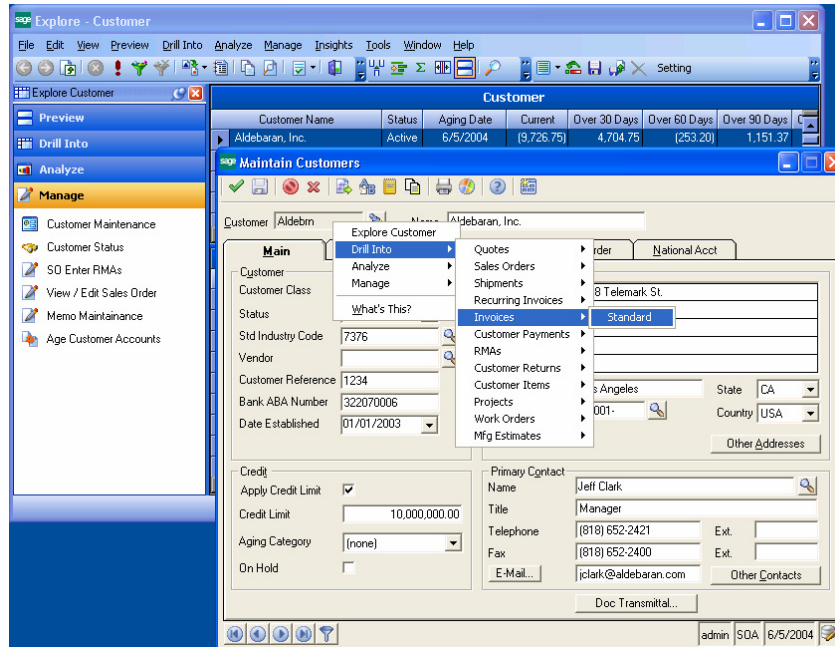
Contextual mappings have been configured within both BIE and the SAGE MAS 500 application forms that allow a user to jump directly to specific BIA views. In addition to the direct BIA link, custom filters are passed to BIA, forcing the BIA engine to maintain the original BIE context.



This image illustrates the Analyzer options that are related to the customer BIE view (in this case, the Sales and Salesperson history views). The graph in this example is filtered by the customer context passed to the view.

Manage

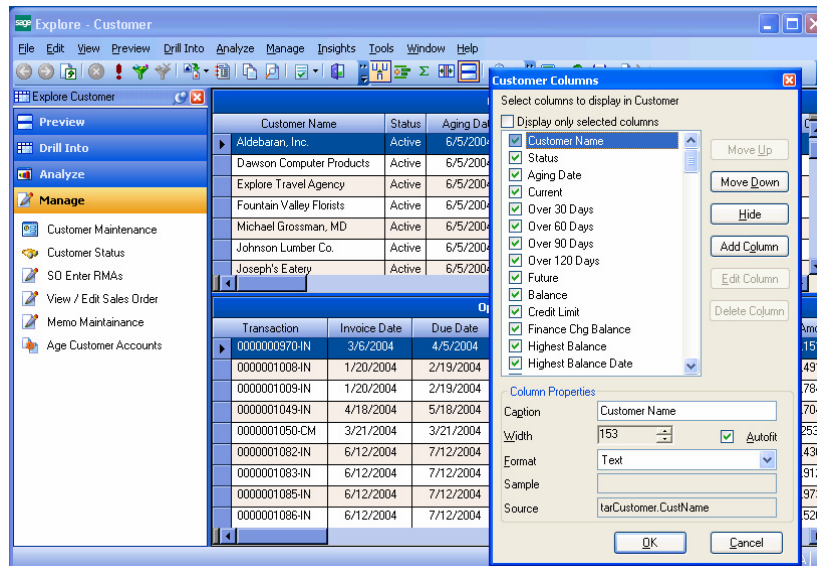
The ability to act on information quickly is a critical advantage for any business. With the task management options provided by Business Insights Explorer (BIE), users will have an easy mechanism for quickly accessing key SAGE MAS 500 tasks for the entity being displayed. Each BIE view contains a set of tasks that are related to the view, for example when viewing a customer, the tasks for updating the customer information, or creating an order are all readily accessible. When the SAGE MAS 500 task is loaded, the appropriate context is maintained from BIE; for example, the customer code is set automatically if the order entry screen is loaded.



This image illustrates the different manage options that are related to customers. In this example, the customer maintenance task was selected with Aldebaran, Inc. as the filtered customer.

Personalize

The customization and personalization features pioneered with Business Insights Analyzer (BIA) are continued within Business Insights Explorer (BIE). Users have the same options for sorting, grouping, reorganizing and renaming columns within the grid as well as saving filtered views for future use. Uniquely, custom views can be used within the Explore function so that they can be leveraged for navigation purposes from other related views.



This image illustrates the ability to reorganize and rename columns. In this example, the field list dialog for the customer view is loaded.

Technology Features

Platform Support

The following are general platform support guidelines for this release. Please refer to the Current Compatibility and Resource Guide found on Best Online Support and Services (BOSS) for detailed compatibility requirements.

- **SQL Server 2000:** Full SQL Server 8.0 Mode Supported within the SAGE MAS 500 databases
- **Accounting Server OS:** Windows 2000 Server and Windows 2003 Server
- **Thin-Client Configurations:** Terminal Services on Windows 2000 Server and Windows 2003 Server and Citrix Metaframe
- **Accounting Client OS:** Windows 2000 Professional, Windows XP.
- **Web Server OS:** Windows 2000 server and Windows 2003 Server
- **Browser:** Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0 on a Windows 32-bit platform
- **Microsoft Office:** Office 2000, Office XP and Office 2003
- **Microsoft Project:** Project 2000, Project 2002 and Project 2003

Minimum System Requirements

Server for Standard or Advanced Editions

Dual Intel Pentium III, 450 MHz or better, 512 MB RAM, 1 GB free disk space

Server for Small Business Edition

Single Intel Pentium III, 450 MHz or better, 512 MB RAM, 1 GB free disk space

Client

Pentium III processor with 512 MB RAM

Hosting

SAGE MAS 500 version 7.0 will support the IBM hosting certification program requirements

SQL Server 8.0 Compliance

The 7.0 release of SAGE MAS 500 has full SQL Server 8.0 and ANSI setting compliance. These updated compliance standards allows SAGE MAS 500 to retain its technology leadership in the mid-market and improves the error checking features of SQL Server which will ultimately benefit our customers through improved reporting.

Unified Database Support

With the added support of SQL Sever 8.0 compliance, there is no longer a reason to leverage multiple databases within SAGE MAS 500. In addition, some of the added security measures applied through the latest SQL Server service packs have made the management of the separate databases more difficult. The SAGE MAS 500 7.0 release unifies the multiple databases used into one, which should help alleviate many of the current database management issues. Third party developers will also benefit from this change through their integrations with SAGE MAS 500.

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Registry Usage Improvements

SAGE MAS 500's ongoing commitment to leveraging the Windows operating system to its fullest continues in the 7.0 release. SAGE MAS 500's use of the Windows registry has been tuned for our customers that deploy SAGE MAS 500 via Terminal Services and Citrix Metaframe. IT managers that have strict rules that govern the use of the Windows registry will benefit from these enhancements.

Retirements

SAGE MAS 500 Version 6.0

Monthly updates and code fixes ended in December 2003 with 1099 support through January 2004. CSS support for Version 6.0 ended in March 2004.

SAGE MAS 500 Version 6.1

Monthly updates and code fixes ended in September 2005.

Platform Retirements

Microsoft Office 97 will no longer be supported through any of the existing office Integration facilities within SAGE MAS 500.

