

BARCELLOS LIMITED

NEWSLETTER

Sandbach House, 8 Salisbury Road, Leicester, LE1 7QR
Tel: 0116 233 5559 Fax: 0116 233 5560 Web Site: www.barcellos.co.uk

Introduction

Summer 2007 Edition

In this Issue:

- Introduction
- Portable Scanning Solution
- All is going well
- V6.0 Global 3000 is on the move
- Full Circle
- What's Hot and What's Not!
- Imagination, Integration, Information
- Touch Me!
- Just for Fun

Welcome to the Summer 2007 Barcellos Newsletter.

I would like to start by welcoming the new customers who have joined us in 2007.

It has been an interesting start to the year. John has been extremely busy promoting, demonstrating and selling the Global Schedule of Rates System. We have certainly seen a 'boom' within the construction industry. I'm sure John will expand on this in his own article.

A few of our laundry customers have expressed an interest in resurrecting the, 'Barcellos User Group'. If you are interested in this please contact Nick or Paul who will be more than happy to discuss your views.

I've had the V6 Global 3000 upgrade, and I love the new S.O.P. data entry via the transaction desktop facility. You can now key in your quotations, sales orders, invoices, credit notes, plus much more from the one screen. It saves me so much time, I can now have a sneaky look on the Big Brother Website :o)

I also survived my first ever VAT Inspection!! Not as bad as I thought it was going to be, but boy, was I glad when it was over. Hasten to add that my records were spot on.

I am pleased to announce that Gavin has finally taken the plunge and asked his long term girlfriend Kerri, to marry him. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating and wishing them all the best for the future.

Finally, I hope you find our Summer 2007 Newsletter of interest. If you have any questions regarding any of the articles, please email the author.

Happy reading !

debbie@barcellos.co.uk

Portable Scanning Solution

Many will remember the old PDT-3100 mobile batch scanning solution. This unit was loaded with bespoke Barcellos software, which integrated with Global. It's no secret that the Workwear system has developed significantly since; therefore the overdue requirement for an updated portable scanning solution has finally come to fruition.



We now have a fresh package available for mobile batch scanning. New bespoke Barcellos software is loaded onto a Casio DT-930 scanning terminal – a lightweight and rugged portable hand held device.

Scanned batches are downloaded to a file on a networked PC via a synchronisation cradle. This file is in turn imported into the Barcellos Workwear system via menu driven initiation.



Since the software's inception, various tweaks have been developed to achieve a practical working solution. On site testing has proven successful, with further devices being ordered.

Features of the Barcellos DT-930 include:

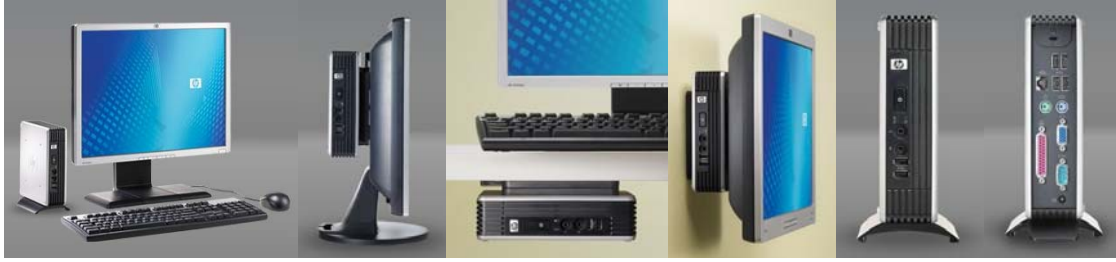
- Long battery life – Up to 200 hours with x AA alkaline batteries and up to 40 hours with a rechargeable (this is charged by the synchronisation cradle).
- Large memory, backlit keys & clear LCD display.
- Downward angled scanning, along with visible (LED and display), audible and vibration confirmation of scan – all ideal in laundry environments.
- Easy to use Barcellos scanning software.

We are also pleased to announce another hardware solution suited to the commercial laundry environment. A thin client device running the Microsoft Windows CE 5.0 operating system replaces a traditional PC base unit in the users workspace. It can be positioned in a variety of different ways. You can stand it on the desk both vertically or horizontally. It is even possible to mount it under a desk, on a wall, or the back of a VESA compatible LCD monitor via a secure quick release bracket.

The device connects to the Global system in non-resilient mode via a Windows Remote Desktop connection straight into a Windows server running Terminal Services. Secure Group Policies tie down system access so the user is only presented with specific programs and folders. Sound and Adobe printing is reproduced at the workstation. Each user set up on the server runs from their own unique GSM directory and physical printing to laser or dot matrix printers is independently controlled via print servers that are managed from the server.

Advantages of a thin client solution include:

- Centrally managed users, printers, programs and Group Policies – the thin client device acts similarly to your old dumb terminal – it is merely a portal to your server.
- Minimal downtime in the event of a workstation failure – same day fix by keeping a spare on site so you can swap it over yourself with minimal configuration.
- Tidier desk area - as not only are these devices smaller than a PC, but they can be safely positioned in a variety of ways.
- Low cost workstation – cheaper than a PC.
- Hardly any administration at the thin client itself.



If you would like further information or are interested in a demonstration of either of our new solutions, please contact Mark or myself.

On a personal note, the first half of 2007 has been a good one for me away from the working environment.

I've now reached 30, which was a double celebration in that I got engaged the same day. But before you ask – we haven't set a date for the big day as yet!

On a football note, Burnley didn't get relegated – thankfully the 19 games run without a win from November to April was complimented with 5 wins from the last 8 games to secure Championship status for the 07-08 season.

After a rather wet & dull May, it looks like summer could finally be here so enjoy your holidays.

All the best, Gavin.

gavin@barcellos.co.uk

All is going well

steven@barcellos.co.uk

It has been an interesting six months since the last newsletter. I have been getting involved in more areas of the software side of things than the hardware. The Payroll upgrades went through very smoothly again and I don't think there were any major problems at all, which is very good.

I have been using more applications like Corel Draw and image editing applications for new projects for the Workwear department. New backdrops are being created for Invoices, Credits, Delivery Notes, Linen and lots more. These will be available sometime in the future. I have really enjoyed doing these because I have the opportunity to be quite creative and use and learn the tools available in the applications.

If you don't already know, I am a big Formula 1 fan. The new season has started and it has been very exciting so far. The new British talent of Lewis Hamilton has been amazing and I can't wait to cheer him on when I go to the British Grand Prix in Silverstone and the Italian Grand Prix in Monza. I think it is going to be a great season and I'm predicting Fernando Alonso to be world champion again for 2007.

Hope you all have a great summer and lets hope we get some great weather too.

V6.0 Global 3000 is on the move

mark@barcellos.co.uk

I cannot believe that it is 6 months since I had to think of what to write for the last newsletter. Time goes by so quickly. So what have we been working on since the last newsletter?

We have been very busy upgrading our V5.0 Global 3000 sites to V6.0. This has been received well with a seamless upgrade path. All bespoke routines are upgraded and tested by our team before the actual upgrade takes place to provide zero downtime.

Since V6.0 has been released there have been numerous enhancements made to provide some very good facilities. These range from simple things like suppressing accounts no longer in use on the Creditors and Debtors ledger, to the brand new transaction desktop in SOP which will take you back to the simple data entry of the Global 2000 days.

Transaction Desktop

Transaction Details

Account: ANDR001 Customer: Andrew Leonard Ltd Net: 0.00

Type: Invoice Address: Eppinal Way Value: 0.00

Our ref: INV00204 Postcode: LE11 0QE Phone: 0116 3652351 VAT: 0.00

Date: 30/04/05 Status: Overdue Currency: GBP Gross: 0.00

Required: Customer ref: INV00204 Profit: 0.00%

Weight: 0.00

Product	Description	Quantity	Unit	Price	Per	Net
BAN2850	Banner Lev.Arch File A4 - Grn	10	ITEM	2.77	ITEM	27.70

Line Quantities

Free stock: 7040

Allocated: 10

Delivered: 0

Back ordered: 0

On order: 0

Line Values

Line price: 27.70

Discount: 0.00%

Line value: 27.70

Cost: 20.00

Profit: 38.50%

Line Codes

Required by:

Weight: 2.50

VAT code: S

Stock location: MID

Origin: From stock

Functions

Search, Set-up, Amend, Find, New A/c, Exit, Enquiry, Copy

Transaction

Details, Delivery, Payment, Account, Invoice, Process, Print, Status, Finish

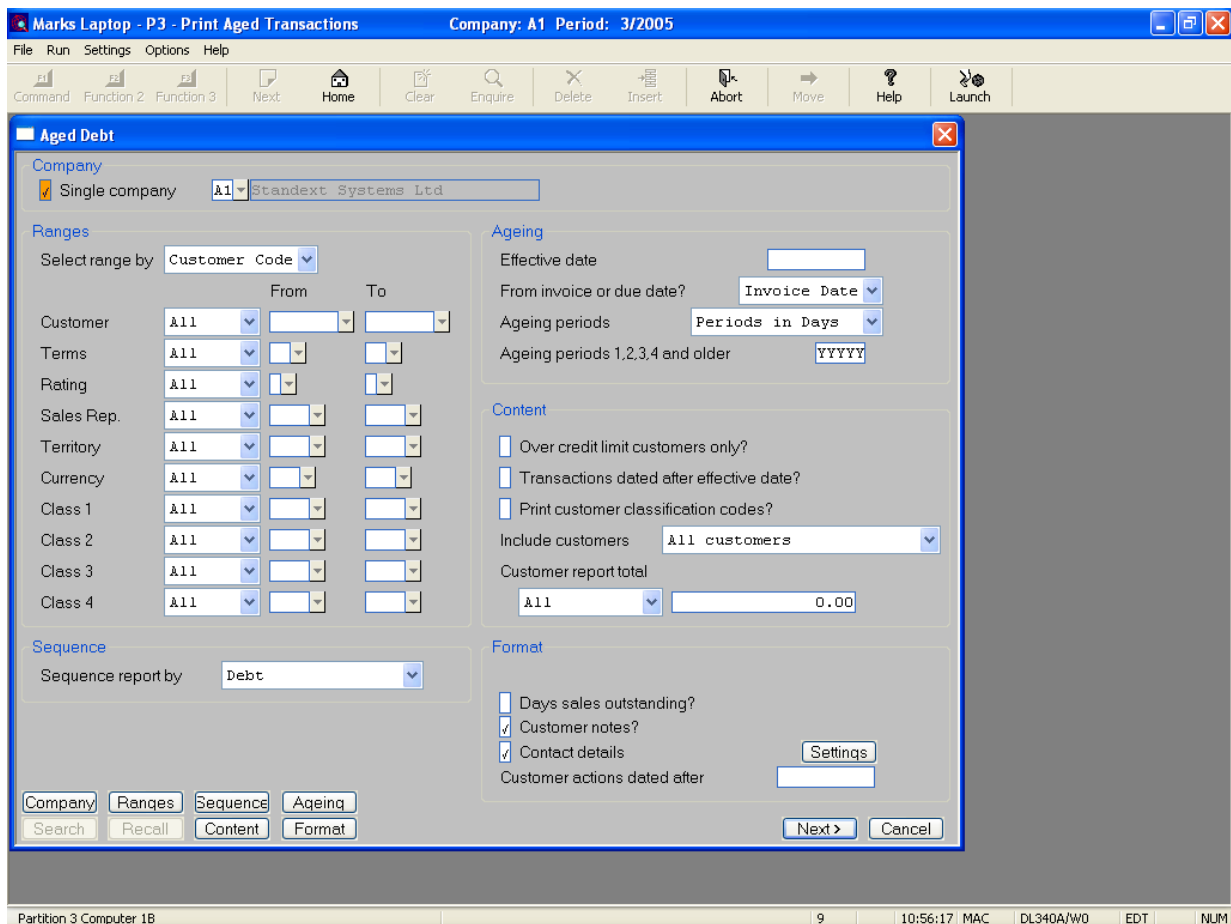
Line

Quantity, Dates, Codes, Comments, Prices, Pricing, Origin, Stock, Amend, History, Delete, Confirm

Partition 1 Computer 1B 12 10:38:43 MAC 50900/TD ADD CAPS NUM

This is how you can carry out the data entry with the new transaction desktop. All transaction details are entered from one screen keeping data input to the minimum.

All reporting has now been enhanced. A greater use of range criteria allows for more flexible reporting.



As you can see above, the aged debt can now be sequenced by debt to see who owes you the most or the least.

If you would like to have a demonstration of the new V6.0 Accounts or would like to order your upgrade please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be more than eager to take your order.

During the summer I will be offering a deal to all existing Barcellos customers, in that if you are upgrading from V5.0 to V6.0, I will do the data conversion free of charge. All that you will pay for is the modules and any bespoke software that you have had written. If you do not use Global 3000 already then you will not miss out, as I will also do static data conversion, meaning we can transfer your customers, suppliers and products totally free of charge. All you will need to purchase is the software, obviously as you do not have it, and any transaction data that you want transferring. Training will also be required but this can be done at Leicester at our competitive rates.

If that is not enough of a bargain then I will also throw in a copy of our Debtors and Creditors BACS modules for free.

I am really keen for our users to be on the latest software. This will provide the best facilities whether you are using our Workwear/Linen products linked to Global 3000 or you are just using Global 3000 as a standalone product. With Workwear/Linen Nick has put buttons for some of the common tasks like account enquiry on the contract enquiry screen and account creation in the contract maintenance window. Either way you can control all of your software with just one click of a mouse.

I would like to thank all of our customers for their business over the past six months and if you would like to start making your software wish list for Christmas then we will see what we can do.

Full circle

Many years ago, 1983 to be precise, Barcellos developed a Schedule of Rates system for Restormel Borough Council in Cornwall. It was written in Microcobol and used floppy disks of 500kb capacity to hold as much of the schedule as possible, approximately a fifth of the schedule was held on one floppy. Windows of course did not exist then. The system and Microcobol were so good that the software lasted for many years before finally being rewritten in Visual Basic. However, there are still one or two users with the old system. Anyway, guess who has just ordered a copy of the Visual Basic system, that's right, Restormel Borough Council.

The second user of Global Schedule of Rates, also from 1983, was the London Borough of Hillingdon. Will we be reporting on them coming full circle in the next newsletter? The third user, from 1987, is Alan Skipper and he has been an invaluable customer ever since.

We have new Contractor users with a diverse and interesting range of contracts, including; North West Prisons, Warwick University, the Royal Palaces, Metropolitan Police, Manchester University, John Moore's University Liverpool, Marks and Spencer and Leicester City Council.

Yet another new schedule has been created, thankfully it was not such a big job as the PSA Mechanical and Electrical schedules. It is the PSA 2005 Landscape Management schedule; this was required for the Metropolitan Police contract.

Demand for the Psa Schedules for Mechanical and Electrical Work 2006 databases, created last year, has been very healthy. The considerable time spent creating them was worthwhile, thank goodness.

A Manchester University bespoke schedule was imported from Excel. One peculiarity of this schedule was that each code has four rates, for quantities used of 1-9, 10-50, 51-100 and over 100. A simple change to the software and this quirk has been covered.

We have carried out a number of enhancements to the software recently, including several listed. These will be released

shortly when fully tested in the field. But if you would like a copy now then let us know.

Several Users have asked about producing .pdf files of reports, possibly for emailing to clients. To achieve this you need to have a package that will produce .pdf format files. There are many, www.cutepdf.com is one and is free. When Cutepdf Writer has been downloaded it will appear on your list of printers. If selected as default then any reports produced will be in pdf format. When normal printing is required again then set your printer back as default. So, as well as being able to email data to the Client in Excel or Word format, the exact printout can be emailed for any report.

There is an option that instead of non-schedule codes appearing in the body of an order they can be set to appear after the contract percentages have been applied. This applies to Net rate, Dayworks, Supply Only, Invoice, SubContractor, Second SubContractor, Material, PC Sums and Hired Plant. If set to appear at the end then each non schedule type will have its entries grouped together and there is the option not to show dimensions. To achieve this there is a new menu entry, Enter/Amend System Variables (Program Defaults/Actions – Part 3).

With the NSR schedules, a timesing factor that only adjusts the labour content of the rate can be entered against selected code(s) on an order. This covers, for example, overtime rates such as 1.5 or 2 (double time) or where a second man has to attend. The plant and material part of the rate are untouched. If this option is required then in Enter/Amend System Variables (Program Defaults/Actions – Part 1), near the bottom of the Enter Order Details frame is 'Ability to adjust NSR Labour Rates by a Timesing Factor', tick if you want to use it.

Schedule Search on NSR, if used to search for a description, currently only reports on those codes that contain a rate, i.e. codes with a letter and seven digits. Headings were not searched, they are now.

john@barcellos.co.uk

What's Hot and What's Not!

Well the English summer looks like it's definitely Not! I see we have another beautiful English summer ahead of us, full of rain, showers and the odd bit of sun thrown in just to keep our hopes going for an India summer! The Year is almost at the half waypoint, and I can't believe we are already into the holiday season. So what have we been up to since our last newsletter at Christmas?

Let me tell you what is Hot this summer! Well we have put a lot of hard work into making the system work more efficiently, to try and reduce the amount of clicks and the backwards and forwarding that is required to navigate your way around the system.

For those of you that have taken on board the Version 8 of the software, you will have already benefited from the way the menus have changed to help make the system a more friendly, easier to use piece of software. But believe it or not the Best just got Better!

Nick has worked hard to bring together a single enquiry screen that brings all of your customer information together. With the imminent release of the New Invoice Module (which we hope will in time replace the Invoice Line Database), this means that the Better becomes Great!

The New Invoice package will allow you to have almost every piece of customer information that you would want on a single screen. Throw into that the new Central Invoice system, it will virtually tell you what invoicing needs to be run and allows you to run it all from a single screen. You can then begin to see just how things have moved on and how we are listening to things that you tell us will make your life easier. From your single enquiry you will be able to see, Wearers, Products, Contract Detail, Deliveries, Invoices and much, much more. It has to be seen to be believed.

For those of you who have not yet moved to Version 8, as Delia Smith once famously said "where are ya, lets be avin ya!".

I am beginning to organise my regular site visits so please feel free to contact me to arrange a visit (if I haven't already contacted you), where I will happily go through the new changes, and take on board any feed back that you may have. I would also be interested to get some views on your thoughts in bringing back a Barcellos user group (something I think Debbie has brought up in the newsletter), and would be interested to get your views and comments.

Look forward to seeing you all soon!

paul@barcellos.co.uk

Imagination, Integration, Information

Without a doubt, everyone wants more from their computer software. We all want the programs we use to be instantly accessible and provide accurate results, in a format we can most readily interpret and digest.

From a development viewpoint this very often leads to bespoke programming, which can be right down to a per user level. The short of it is that we all want something different and have differing ideas on what is best.

So how can we provide a completely tailored user software experience? Well, that's easy. Its called OneOffice 3000.

And here it is...

The screenshot displays the OneOffice 3000 software interface. The main window is titled 'Contracts' and shows a list of contracts with columns for Contract, Account, Reference, Location, Date, Start, End, Wk Year, Dur, and Type. The selected contract is 'GAL01' with a weekly value of 65.76. Below the list, there are various tabs and sections for contract details, including 'Contract Info', 'Daily Info', and 'Ledger Info'. A 'Contract Products' window is open at the bottom, showing a table of products with columns for Product, Type, Issue, Thr Ot, Change, Sale £, Clean £, Split £, and Standard £. The 'GAL01' product is highlighted, showing a sale value of 0.00 and a clean value of 0.5000. On the left side, there are several panels: 'ANDE001 Account Balances', 'Customer Contacts', 'Customer Notes', 'Customer Address', 'GAL01 Details', 'GAL01 on Hand', and 'Previous Prices for GAL01'. The 'GAL01 on Hand' panel shows a table with columns for Loc, Stock, Allocated, and Restricted. The 'Previous Prices for GAL01' panel shows a table with columns for Order, Date, Quantity, Unit, and Price.

Integration with financials is easy. In fact, any ODBC compliant data source can be accessed and information presented how you want on the screen. In the above example, the new Workwear/Linen contract enquiry has drilled off to the Global 3000 debtors ledger and displayed the information on the left. Stock information has also been displayed from the stock system.

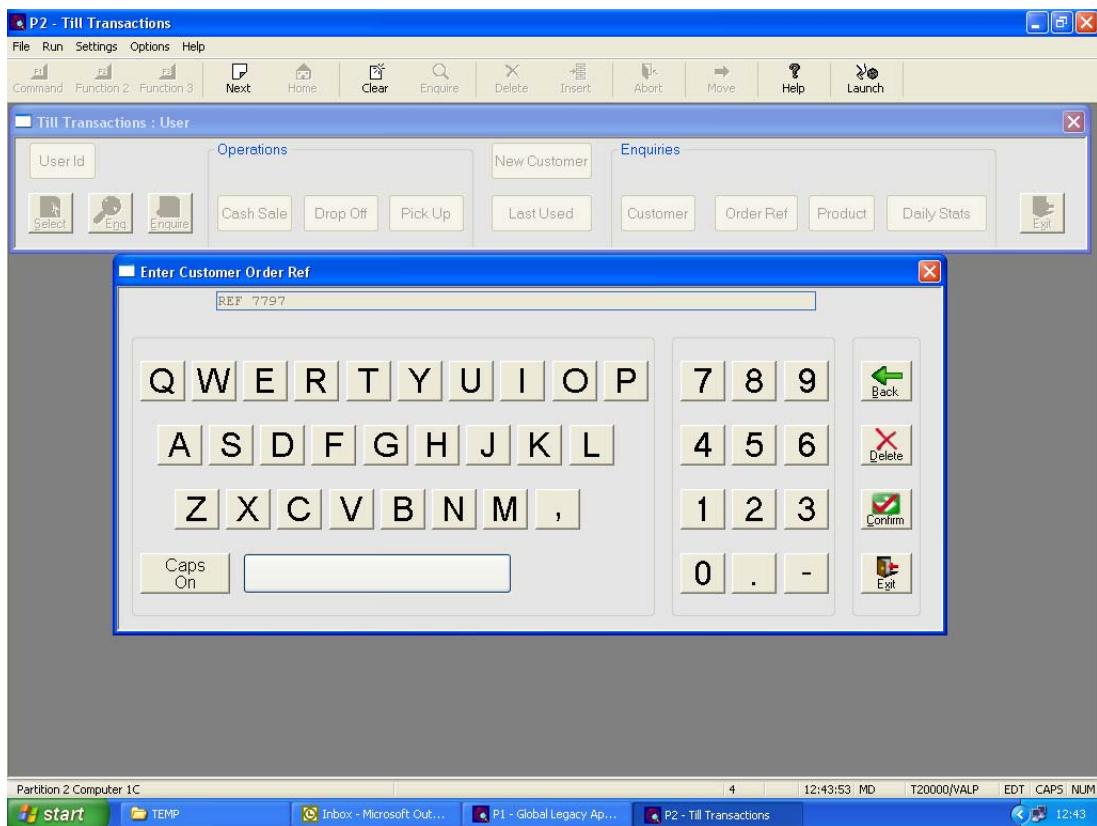
"Too good to be true", well give me a ring and I'll be happy to come and demonstrate the power of OneOffice....

nick@barcellos.co.uk

Touch Me!

Well, I can't believe another six months have passed. I've been heavily involved with the development of our Workwear Multi-Frequency software. Nick predicted in the previous newsletter, "Martin will soon be fully certified In Workwear" – I apologise for the error in this statement, where he said IN and not DUE TO.

What's next? The title might give you a clue... Having established the functionality and reliability of our till system, we are now going to put the icing on the cake, by making it 'Touch Screen'. Call me sad but this is exciting.



On a personal front the highlight has been going to see Les Miserables in the West End – highly recommend it.

The downsides have been the relegation (unless the arbitration hearing says otherwise) of Sheffield United FC, and the continuing lack of chocolate and liquorice allsorts in my life.

martin@barcellos.co.uk

"Computer Crazy"

N B L T V F V G Z B P O Z V H
E M T R F B D X J S A X Q P H
E O G J B O E R K J B T B R R
R U X A G P S H J A E F C I E
C S T N E M P O L E V E D N T
S E W X O L G S R L V R C T U
Y S W N G J C I M C A G N E P
S O F T W A R E G O I P H R M
S W O D N I W E B A T M T Q O
D L P N K D R Y K P B I E O C
Z T E L F I E T U O M Y F G P
P R M R N K Y K K J P J T D Y
S E R V E R C U H R K S M E I
R E W G W A C Z I K H C E F M
E N B S B P C W Z Q I G S B C

BACKUP

DEVELOPMENT

LAPTOP

PRINTER

SERVER

BESPOKE

GIGABYTE

MICROSOFT

SCANNER

SOFTWARE

COMPUTER

KEYBOARD

MOUSE

SCREEN

WINDOWS