



4th Quarter
2010

Sage MAS 500 Newsletter

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New Inventory Features You Can “Count” On

If your business carries inventory, thinking about the year end physical inventory process might conjure up nightmares. But it doesn't have to be that way. That's because the Physical Count process in Sage ERP MAS 500 Version 7.3 has been enhanced with significant workflow and user interface improvements. Let's take a look at some of the new features you can count on.

Easier Data Entry and Better Control

The “Enter Counts” screen now offers an easy to use Grid Entry interface that has become popular and prevalent throughout MAS 500. Entering counts directly in the grid provides for fast and efficient data entry without having to navigate through a lot of fields and screens.

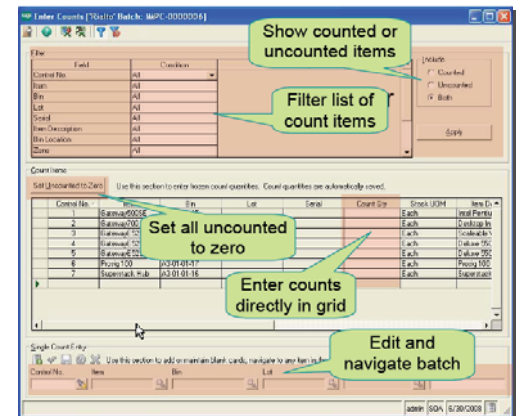
The Version 7.3 Physical Count process also offers expanded item selection criteria and sort order control, making it easier than ever to select which items to display, set the control order, and save your count settings for future use.

When in the Enter Counts task, you can now filter a list of count items, include counted or uncounted items (or both), enter counts directly into a grid, and edit batch information.

My Old Friend, Excel

If you're someone who loves Microsoft Excel and prefer to enter counts there, you'll be happy to learn that you can now select items to be counted in Sage MAS 500, export them to Excel, and enter count quantities using a spreadsheet. Once the count is complete, you can use the DataPorter module to seamlessly bring that information back into MAS 500 without duplicate data entry or manual reconciliation.

A couple of other nice features include the ability to automatically set uncounted items to zero, delete frozen controls from a batch, and a new detailed transaction report and history table that will come in handy during an audit.



Easy-to-use Grid Entry and powerful filter criteria saves time and keystrokes.



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EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT SMI

With the retirement date for FRx just around the corner, it's time to get familiar with your new reporting tool - Sage MAS Intelligence.

[Contact us](#) for a copy of “Everything You Want to Know About SMI”

Year End Tools and Tips

This section contains information and resources that should help make your year end closing process a little easier. As always, please be sure to contact us if you need assistance.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND TAX INFO

January 31, 2011 - Deadline to issue W-2, 1098, and 1099 forms to employees & independent contractors AND deadline for filing quarterly payroll & annual sales tax returns.

Depreciation and Section 179 Expense - The Small Business Jobs Act (SBJA) of 2010 **increases** the Section 179 deduction to **\$500,000**. The definition of "Qualifying Property" has also been expanded under the act. [Click here](#) for details.

Standard Mileage Rate - Beginning on January 1, 2010, the standard mileage rate for operating an automobile for business use is **50 cents per mile**.

HIRE Act - The HIRE act of 2010 provides tax benefits to small businesses directly related to hiring employees and writing off investments in equipment. [Click here](#) for details about payroll processing and tax implications for year end.

FRx REMINDER

As a result of Microsoft's decision to retire FRx, the module will no longer be distributed with Sage MAS products after **January 31, 2011**. Customers currently using FRx **and** on a current maintenance plan will continue receiving support from Sage. However Microsoft will no longer provide bug fixes to resolve issues in the FRx product.

While you still have plenty of time to make the transition, we recommend that you become familiar with and implement [Sage ERP MAS Intelligence](#) as soon as possible.

PRODUCT LIFECYCLE SUPPORT CALENDAR

As you probably know, Sage has established a standard support policy for Sage MAS 500. If you're running an older version, here are some dates to be aware of:

Version	Release Date	End of Support
7.05	Nov. 2005	At 7.4 Release
7.0	Oct. 2005	Sept. 2010
6.3	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2010

DATA MAINTENANCE TIPS

CREATE A BACK UP - The first thing you should do before beginning **any** year end processing task is to execute a complete back up of your Sage MAS 500 data. This point cannot be emphasized enough. You should also **test the back up** to ensure it was successful and the data is readable.

CHECK DATA RETENTION SETTINGS - MAS 500 is designed to automatically purge data at preset periods of time by module. So it's a good idea to double check the settings for all modules and company databases so you don't lose important data when creating a new fiscal year.

CREATE A NEW FISCAL CALENDAR - MAS 500 allows you to begin entering transactions for the new year without having to close the current year. However you must first set up a new fiscal calendar before you can begin entering transactions. You can create a new fiscal calendar at any time so it's a good idea to set it up early so you're ready to go when it's time to enter transactions



TIP: While it's a good idea to close modules in a timely fashion, remember that your General Ledger module can remain open for as long as you need while awaiting audit adjustments or final processing in other modules. A GL that's still open for 2010 will NOT prevent you from entering transactions for the new year.

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