

Datafile Software
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Information
Systems

Established 1985

Datafile News

Welcome to the December issue of Reseller News.

This year has been quite busy for us and I hope you have seen the results of our efforts in the new features added to Datafile.

For those resellers that have visited our new office I appreciate the time you have taken out of the office and the feedback you have given on both Datafile the product and Datafile the company.

Next year will just as busy for us and, we hope, yourselves.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Steve Ashcroft

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Datafile Software Reseller News

The UK's number one flexible accounting solution

Christmas & New Year Office Hours



Please note that the Datafile Office will be closed from 5pm on Tuesday 23rd December and will re-open at 9am on Monday 5th January. If you have an urgent query during this period please phone 0845 643 2766 and we will arrange for your call to be answered and passed on to support staff.

Highlights from 2008

- Steve Ashcroft's first full year as sole owner and Managing Director of Datafile - Steve took control of the company by buying out his fellow partners in mid 2007. Steve is the original author of the software and is totally committed to the product and the company.
- New website - set up in February with a bold new colour scheme. The Reseller section includes technical and support information along with latest downloads.
- Top Ten Tips - produced in Spring and very well received. It is now available on our website under the "User" section.
- Webshop - The Datafile web shop is a PHP and mySQL driven e-commerce system. As Web orders are created, XML format order files are used to create live Datafile sales order processing orders which are then processed using the standard Datafile sales order processing acknowledgements, delivery notes and invoices.
- New Office - we moved into a new office at the end of August. This is a purpose built building and we have introduced significant improvements in our telephone and networks.



- Increase in staff - staff numbers have doubled with the take on of development, support and business management personnel.
- Newsletters - we have produced a monthly newsletter for Resellers which keeps you up to date with new features of the product and latest events happening in Datafile.
- Intelliscan Partner - we became a partner with Intelliscan who provide digital pens and associated applications. This is an exciting technology that we will be using ourselves and are developing a link with Datafile for a major washroom services company.



- Open Days - we have held a few Open Days with more to come in the New Year. Feedback from Resellers has been good and we encourage you to bring customers along as well.

'Probably like many resellers who have been involved with the product for a number of years we had become increasingly frustrated with the lack of product development in previous years, however, after my recent visit to the new offices and meeting some new faces I left feeling very positive about the future investment in the product and have already communicated this to our client base - many thanks for the session - it was well worth it'

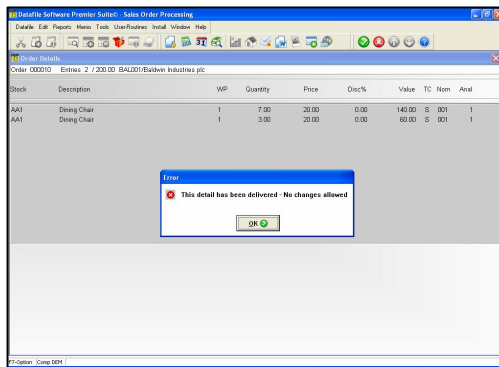
Matt Garman, Director dhc Ltd

Release 6.1 New Option - Create New Back Order Lines



When processing Delivery Notes (or Goods Received Notes in POP) there are times when the full outstanding delivery cannot be processed – you have insufficient stock available for delivery, or you have not yet received the full shipment – and you can decide (subject to document configuration) whether to write off the remainder or leave on back order.

This new option allows, if the outstanding delivery quantity is left on back order, the system to create a new order line for the back-ordered quantity and reduce the order quantity on the original line to that delivered. This allows for greater clarity on invoice documents when produce one invoice covering multiple deliveries and improves traceability on later enquiries.



The back-order detail line is created at the end of the existing order and is identical to the original order line except for the quantity items (where the order qty is updated to the back-order qty, and the delivered/invoiced quantities are all zero). The original order line is updated with a reduced order quantity equal to that actually delivered.

During Delivery Note production the operator will notice no differences from standard write-off/back-order processing. On update of the order files new order lines will be created for any lines actually processed (non-zero action quantity) but with a quantity left on back-order. If you amend the order afterwards then the system will warn if amend the detail for which the back order was created and not allow changes although an <F7-Option> override is available.

If the order has already been invoiced then the new back-order line is created for the difference between the order quantity and the higher of the delivered or invoiced quantities. For example, if order 10 of an item, invoice 7 and then deliver 5 the current line is updated with an order quantity of 7 and the new detail is created for 3 items.

Late Payments - reminder of what we said in September



Late payers can hinder cash flow significantly in any business but particularly for small businesses. This is a recognised problem and regulations have been defined to provide businesses with a statutory right to claim interest and compensation.

As a supplier we too experience problems with late payments so we will start to claim interest and compensation in accordance with these regulations from 1st January 2009.

Product Development - What's coming in 2009?



Through regular new releases we will continue major developments to the Datafile product so that users can fully integrate it into their business.

Key developments in 2009 will centre on the CRM feature, which will be further improved and strengthened. The inclusion of Task Management will allow users to monitor and process accounts more effectively. There will be more features that will enable build and review of key management information relating to business performance. The link to Excel and creation of Pivot Tables will be improved further to enable more effective analysis of a business.

Please let us know if there are developments and features you would like to see in Datafile or any links to other well known applications so that we can take them into consideration when planning future releases.