

# *MAS 500*



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## *MAS 500 Version 7.0* *Pre-Release Guide*

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*October 2004*

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## Overview

The 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 being 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 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 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. 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, 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 Best Software.

## Availability

The current schedule for General Availability of MAS 500 version 7.0 is calendar Q3 2005

## Global Usability Enhancements

### Completion of new Lookup Engine

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 will continue 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 will leverage Windows integrated security as the default authentication method when logging into 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 is being redesigned for faster and easier data entry of sales orders. This new streamlined interface will allow users to customize their own sales entry process by placing the data elements they frequently edit in a Favorites section.

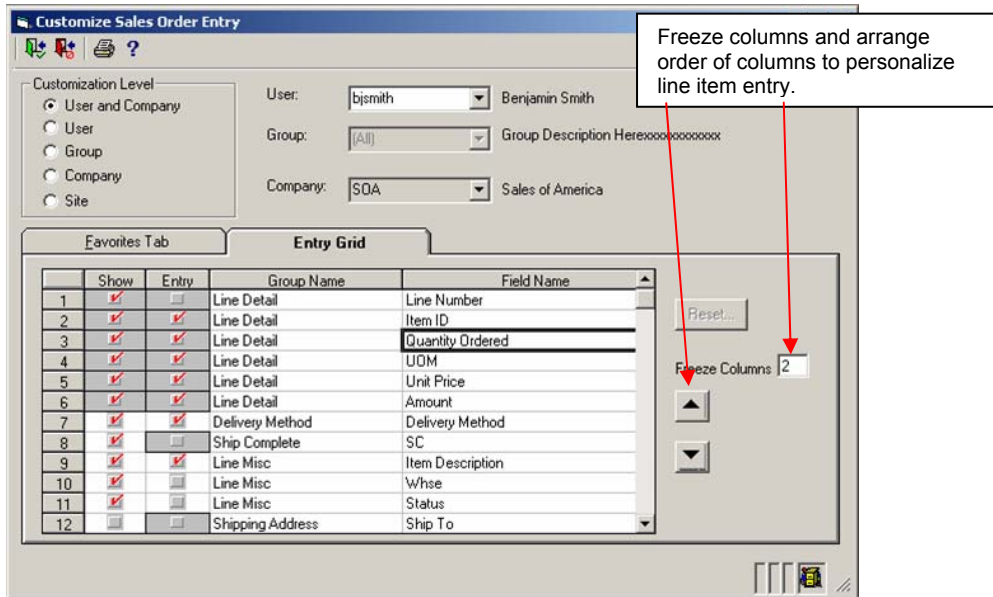
Sales order entry will be expanded to allow the entry of payments at time of order. It will also allow users to apply existing [posted] unapplied credit memos and cash receipts in sales order entry to the invoices that will be created for the sales order being entered. When the order's invoice is generated,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

Sales Order Entry will also allow 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 will be an optional feature. Users will also have the option to commit the goods picked and to automatically create the invoice.

The entire drop shipment process within sales order will also be revised and streamlined for ease of use. Users will 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 will also be 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 by warehouse, vendor or buyer. The user indicates which lines the vendor has shipped and automatically generates the customer invoice for the shipped goods.

Administrators of MAS 500 will now have the ability to customize the Sales Order entry screens by user, group or company through an easy-to-use interface. Users can choose which fields should be included or excluded from the primary line item grid entry and which fields should be delegated to the miscellaneous tab. In addition, columns within the grid entry can be frozen to help users retain visible context as they scroll from left to right.



## Gross Profit Display in SO

A popular feature in 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 will implement 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

Apply	Payment Date	Reference	Tender Type	Cur	Available Amt	To Be Applied	Orig Amt to Apply
1		0000000124	Check	CAD	870.00		870.00
2		0000000125	EmployeeDisc		65.25		65.25
3							
4							
5							
6							

For starters, when configuring sales order the actual cost for the gross profit calculation can be set to the average, last, standard, replacement or landed cost. A second option will allow operators to receive a warning in sales order entry for lines under a minimum gross profit percentage. When this option is selected, 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 will be 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 MAS 90 feature that is being added to 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 will now be available.

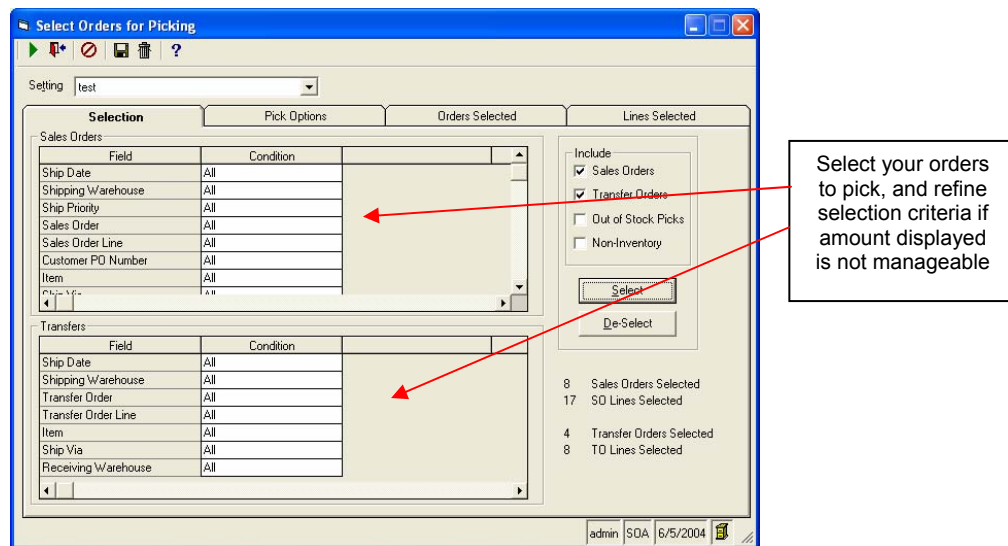
Promotional Pricing will allow users to configure a date specific promotion by item, warehouse, sales product line, purchase product line, product price group, primary vendor and product category. Fixed and percentage based discounts can be based on price or quantity ordered.

## 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 will be removed. This will allow 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 will be able to either save their work in a pending state or commit the given transaction. Once a transaction is committed, the inventory is relieved without having to wait for a batch to be posted. 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 MAS 500 is being enhanced to improve the workflow within distribution and help bridge functionality that currently exists in MAS 90.



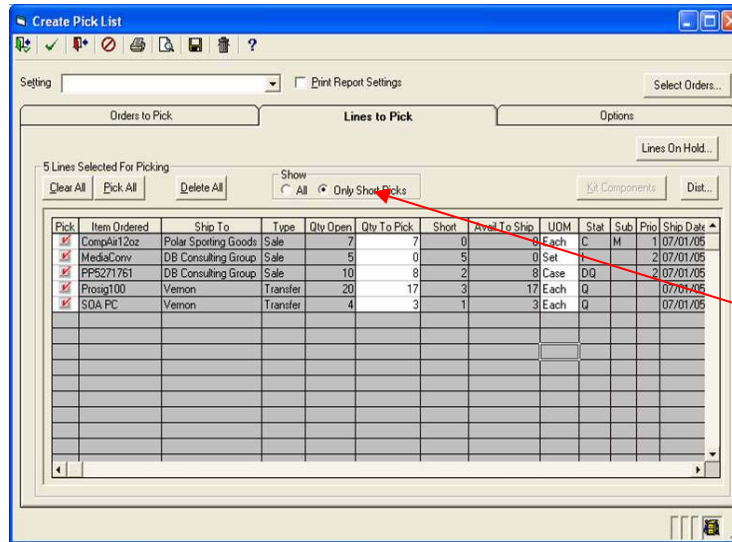
The picking enhancements will allow users to automatically generate shipments from picking so that they may skip that step later. Edits of lots, serials and bins may be done from within picking so that they may skip the picking confirmation or shipment edit task later.

Product substitution, both manual and automated, will be provided from picking. Both options are under the user's control. Users will be notified while still in picking that they have ship-complete rule violations for given items or customers and will be able to 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 will identify orders on hold that cannot be picked and allow the display of orders and lines on hold, thus giving the picking manager visibility into all orders that could potentially ship if and when holds are lifted. 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 will be readily identifiable to facilitate decision-making during the picking process. Both automated and manual item substitution will be available and visible from picking.



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

Some MAS 500 customers perform picking on an order by order basis; others prefer to pick all order lines and group them together to form one large picking run. To easily facilitate either method, both order views and line views of the pick list will be 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 will 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 is being enhanced to capture more bill of lading and packing information for shipped orders. Users will be able to enter the number of boxes for the shipment, tracking numbers for the boxes, items within each box and the quantity of each item in the boxes. Multiple items may be placed in one box and the goods that comprise a single ship line may be placed in multiple boxes. We will provide similar rapid entry features as one sees in MAS 90 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.

## Improved StarShip Integration

In addition to the improved shipment and packing process above, other features have been added to this release to strengthen the integration between StarShip and MAS 500. A carton table has been added which allows users to define all packing containers such as boxes, cases and pallets. If the carton dimensions are entered in the table, when each package is used in the packing process described above, those dimensions are automatically fed to StarShip, eliminating the need for warehouse personnel to manually enter package dimensions. In addition, inventory items that are considered hazardous material can now be flagged, and the hazardous designation flows through the order process into packaging, appears on bill of lading and on to StarShip.

Invc Only	Sales Order	SD Line	Item	Qty To Pick	Qty Picked	UOM	Item Description
1	0000000320	1	NEC17	9.00	7.00	Each	NEC 17" Monitor
2	0000000320	2	NEC15	8.00	8.00	Each	NEC 15" Monitor
3	0000000320	3	NEC19	5.00	5.00	Each	NEC 19" Monitor
4							
5							

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

From edit shipments we will provide several printing options:

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

The bill of lading print is an improved version of the standard legal document currently provided by 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 will commit the shipment before printing the invoice and allow 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 will include 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 will 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 will be retained as defaults for the session, which should expedite the data entry process. The user interface will also be tailored for the type of item being distributed and the type of transaction making it easier to enter the relevant data for the task at hand. For Transactions that increase stock, users will 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.

The screenshot shows the 'Distributions' window with the following details:

- Warehouse: Rialto Rialto Warehouse
- Item: 8.4GB Hard Drive
- 8.4GB Hard Drive 6500RPM 3.5-inch
- Total Available: 14
- TranQty: 7
- Distributed: 7
- Qty Remaining: 0 Each

Buttons: Clear, Auto Distribute, Current Distribution, All Available Stock, Show All Serial Numbers, Show Serial Ranges

	Quantity	Serial No	To Serial No	Bin	Pref	Available	On Hand
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	PE-2A101	PE-2A105	A1-01-01-01	1	4	4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	PE-2A105	PE-2A105	B2-10-01-03	n/a	1	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	XT45x551	XT45x552	A1-01-01-01	1	2	2

Buttons: Select, UnSelect

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

## New Warehouse Management Module

The 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)

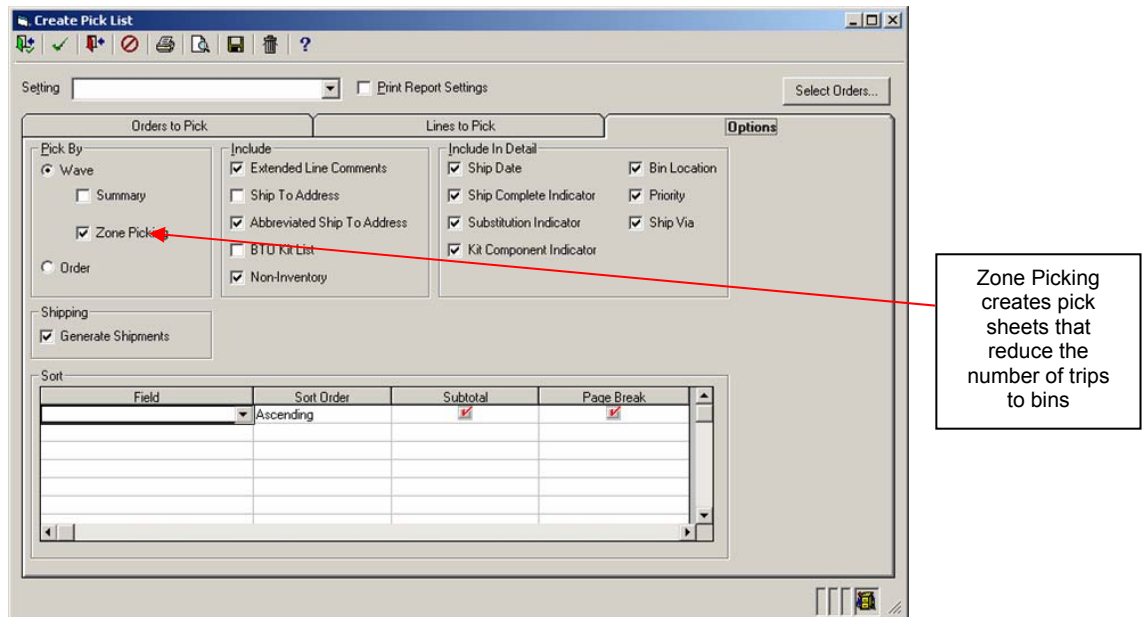
- Assign bins to zones for efficient warehouse layout
- Reduces number of trips to bins by pickers
- Enabled through Sales Order Picking

### 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



By providing this advanced functionality as a new MAS 500 module, new and existing customers can choose the distribution functionality and configuration that best suits their processing needs. Existing MAS 500 Inventory Management customers will automatically receive Warehouse Management as a subscription benefit.

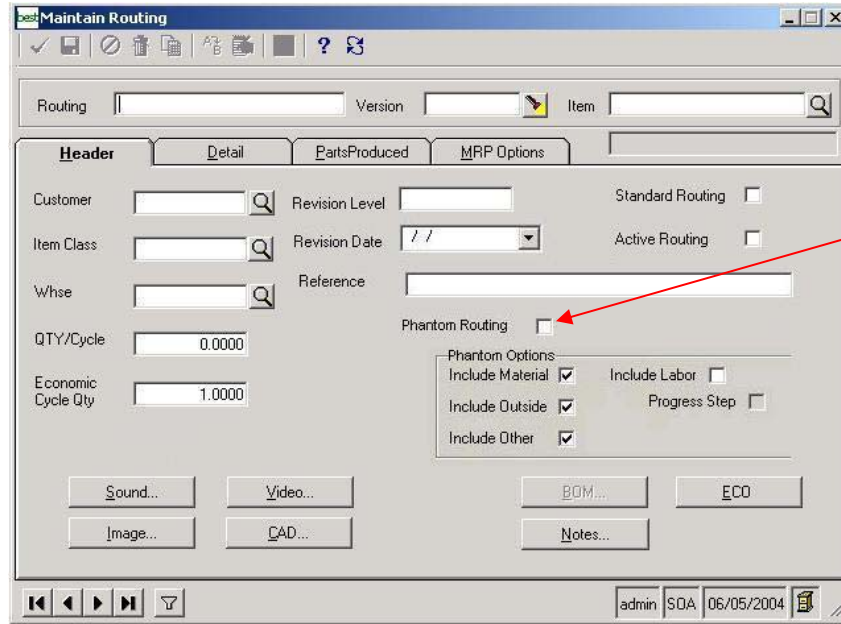
## Manufacturing Enhancements

### Phantom Routing Support

The number one request we have received from our existing 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 will support two types of phantom routings; Blowthrough, and Plan B.

Blowthrough Phantoms will 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.

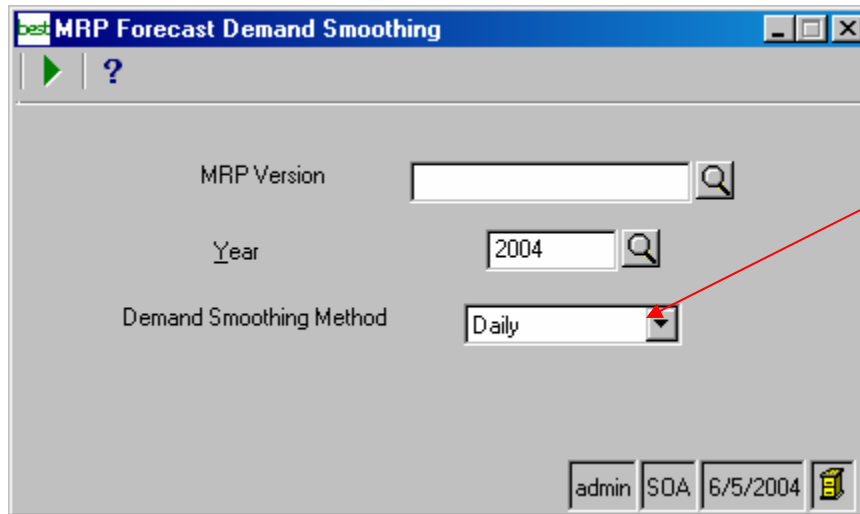
Plan B Phantoms can be used to create work orders and on hand inventory. Plan B Phantoms are especially useful in job shops where multiple phantoms are created for custom jobs and the extra subcomponents are stocked to provide replacement parts for after sale support. All Phantom Routings in MAS 500 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.



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.



Select from one of 6 different demand smoothing methods

The smoothing process will allow 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.

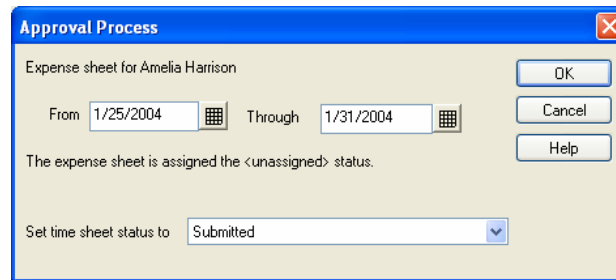
### Item and Warehouse Costing

Routing maintenance will now allow users to mark multiple item and warehouse combinations as a standard routing for costing purposes. This allows customers to take into consideration the different



*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.

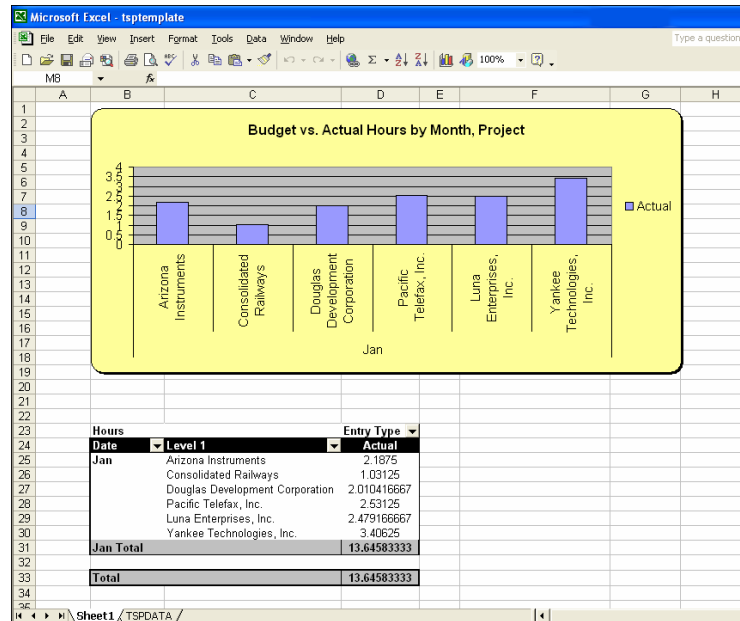
**Project Budgeting** – Enables the forecasting and tracking of budgets for each project in TimeSheet Professional v9.5. The project-budgeting feature includes the following core components:

- **Budget View** – Allows your organization to allocate a budget for each project in one of two formats. The “rolled-up” format allows your organization to predefine the budget of each project phase, which is then useful to determine the total budget of the project. This format allows your organization to first detail the work for each project phase, and then adjust the project budget as necessary. The “pushed down” format allows your organization to define the project budget first, and then assign a percentage to each project phase.
- **Resource Allocation View** – Allows your organization to schedule work hours for employees by creating budget entries. TimeSheet Professional adjusts the budget total for each task according to the budget entries that your organization schedules. When an employee enters hours for the task, TimeSheet Professional automatically updates the budget totals accordingly.

**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.

**E-mail Alerts** – Allow your organization to configure TimeSheet Professional v9.5 to send e-mail message notifications to employees under specific conditions. For example, your organization can configure TimeSheet Professional v9.5 to send an e-mail message to a project manager when an employee creates an expense entry that totals more than \$500.00 for his or her project.

**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

MAS 500 will include 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 will have the option of establishing a relationship between a given vendor and one or more customers. A new settlement entry form will display the current vendor balance in addition to the associated customer's balances. The user will have 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 will automatically create the appropriate memo transactions in both Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable.

### Create New from Existing Support

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

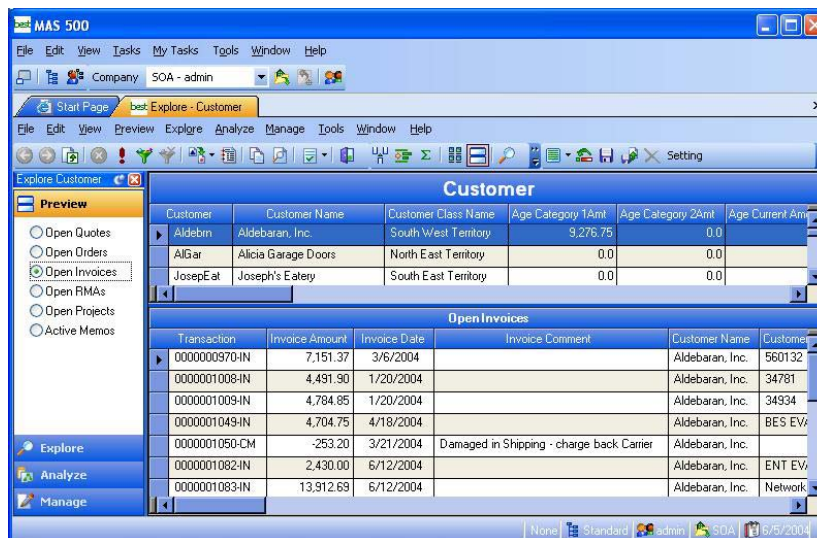
## Business Insights

### New Business Insights Explorer Module

Building on the success of the popular Business Insights Analyzer module, 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 MAS 500 7.0 release. New users as well as current users of to the 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. MAS 500 is bundled with a series of pre-defined relationships including; customers, vendors, items, warehouses, projects, work orders and many more.



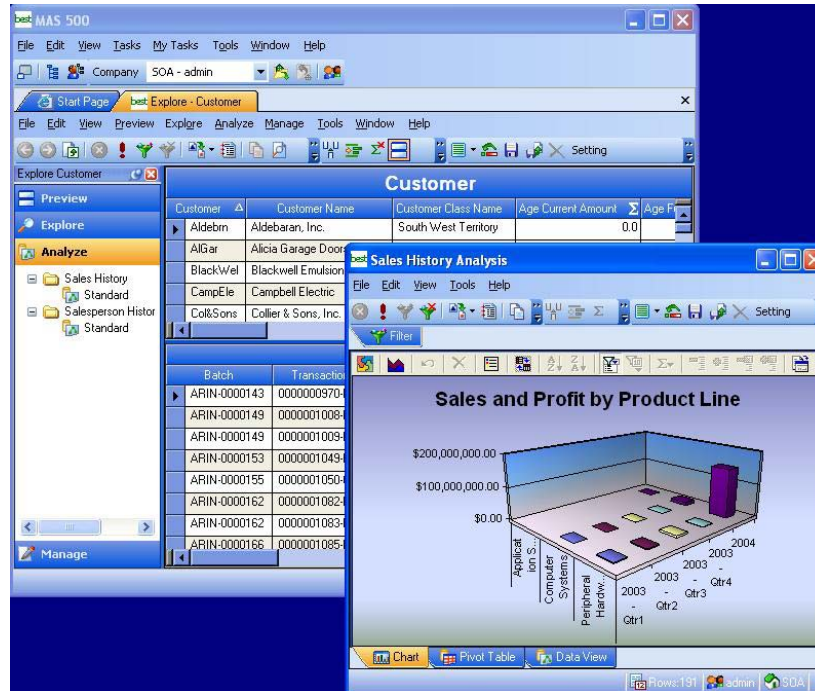
*This image illustrates the different previews that are related to a customer. In this example, it is displaying the list of open invoices for the customer Aldebaran, Inc.*

#### Explore

As an extension to the Preview option within Business Insights Explorer (BIE), the Explore 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 Explore 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 Exploring into the invoice to view applications against that invoice.

Another powerful feature of the Explore option is the ability to navigate to a related view that contains custom preferences and pre-defined filters. A good example is a view that lists orders

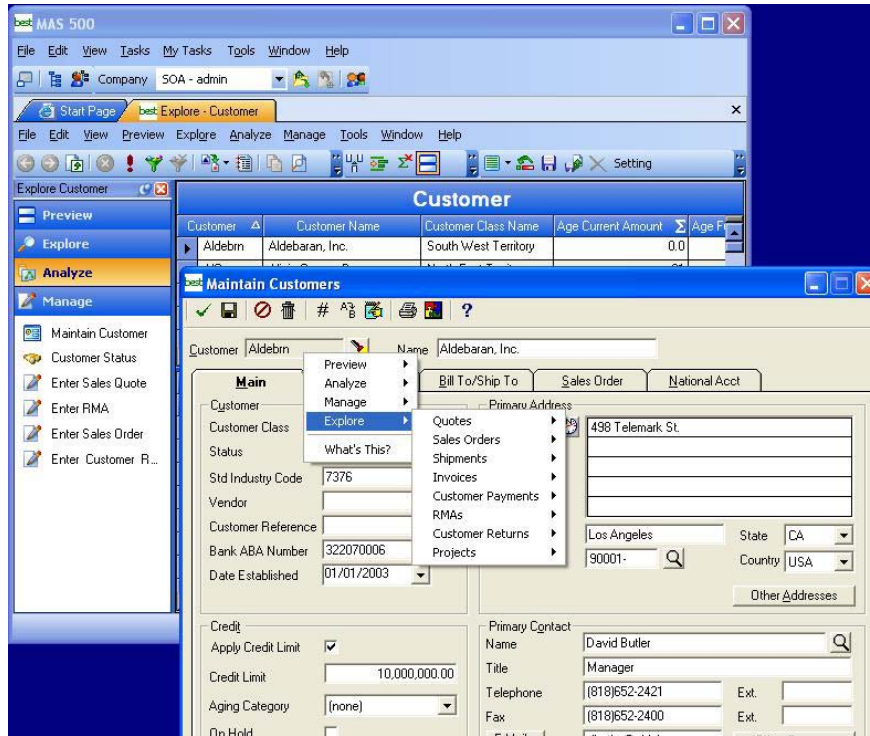




*This image illustrates the Analyzer options that are related to the customer BIE view (in this case, the Sales and Salesperson history views). The graph in this example is filtered by the customer context passed to the view.*

## Manage

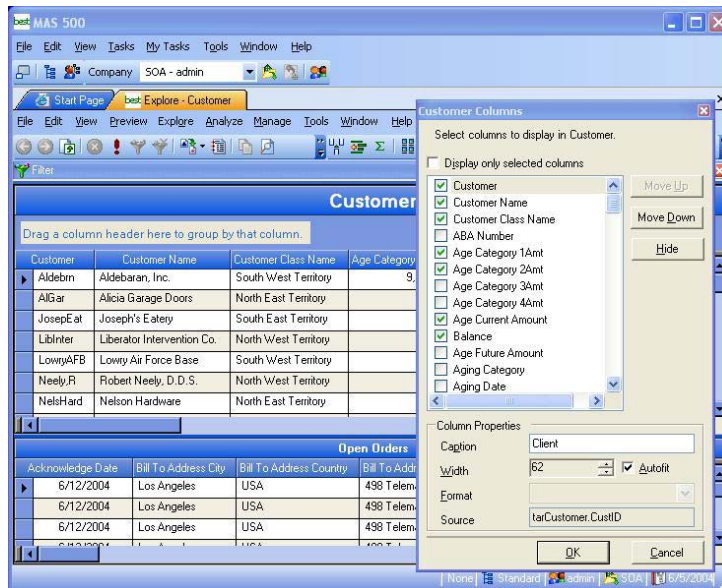
The ability to act on information quickly is a critical advantage for any business. With the task management options provided by Business Insights Explorer (BIE), users will have an easy mechanism for quickly accessing key MAS 500 tasks for the entity being displayed. Each BIE view contains a set of 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 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.*

## New Visual Integrator Module

Visual Integrator for MAS 90 has been one of the most widely used applications by our customers, resellers and third party developers alike. Visual Integrator has serviced the need for one time migrations from other business management systems, daily imports and third party integrations to name a few.

In contrast, the MAS 500 product has been a leader in the upper mid market for its open SQL Server architecture and robust API set. Developers that have adopted the MAS 500 toolset have found all that they need and more when integrating their custom written solution with MAS 500.

The goal of this release is to include a Visual Integrator-like module for end users that demand the ease of use without the development overhead and backend database knowledge. For resellers and software developers, it provides a tool that allows them to quickly integrate their custom solution or third party product with MAS 500. MAS 500 VI will guide the user through an easy-to-use interface of mapping data from one data source into MAS 500. The initial release of VI will focus on the most widely used maintenance and transaction tables.

## 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 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 256 MB RAM**

*Hosting*

**MAS 500 version 6.3 will support the IBM hosting certification program requirements**

## SQL Server 8.0 Compliance

The 7.0 release of MAS 500 will have full SQL Server 8.0 and ANSI setting compliance. These updated compliance standards allows 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 Server 8.0 compliance, there is no longer a reason to leverage multiple databases within 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 MAS 500 7.0 release will unify 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 MAS 500.

## Registry Usage Improvements

MAS 500's ongoing commitment to leveraging the Windows operating system to its fullest continues in the 7.0 release. MAS 500's use of the Windows registry is being tuned for our customers that deploy 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

### 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.

### Platform Retirements

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