

Newsletter for June, 2011 from Club Data Corporation

This newsletter is sent frequently to Club Office users to provide helpful hints or information that you may find of value.

Club Office Changes in the June, 2011 update:

In the June, 2011 software update for Club Office, there are some useful enhancements, an expiration date change affecting some users, and a couple of report corrections.

We're continuing to make system changes that will improve the likelihood of producing an accurate mid-month trial balance. As such, there is a new A/P Invoice Posting option that you should consider using.

The A/P Invoice Post on Save Option allows you to indicate that you want to automatically create A/P Invoice JEs as the Invoices are entered, rather than during the payment approval process.



If you are using the automatic option, you may also choose to bypass (turn off) the instant journal reports since they will not be needed.

Also in A/P, there is a new "suggested" starting check number based upon previous check processing.

Operational Issues:

An area where we frequently receive phone calls deals with connectivity where one (or more) of the work stations is not communicating with the server machine. This holds true both for our InfoTouch users as well as our SQLPOS users.

In almost every case, the cause seems to be a firewall that has been turned on – either from a Microsoft Automatic Update which will typically reset the default values or from a firewall that is included with an anti-virus "Security Package." Firewalls are designed to reduce/eliminate computer to computer communication within a local area network. For many businesses, that is a great feature. However, that can not be said with networked applications such as a club-wide point of sale or accounting system, which is designed to have one PC talk with another.

The short of it is, if you want to use a firewall, you should either purchase a firewall hardware device and locate it directly behind your cable modem, learn how to configure your software firewalls, or leave them shut off.

If you are planning on purchasing new hardware, such as a new server, or PC, please contact us. We're happy to provide guidance regarding the various operating system choices, system, security and power settings, font installations and the like that your IT person will want to set for you to improve your experience.

As a reminder, Club Data still uses and recommends AVAST virus protection software, a free package that can be downloaded from web sites such as CNET.com. We have not had any issues with connectivity from users using AVAST.

Looking ahead:

We are working on two large projects – revised screen layouts and incorporating a newer version of Access as our database.

The current Club Office screens were designed to operate when 800x600 resolution was what most of our users were using. That resolution restricted the amount of information that could be included on a screen and we were forced to use sub-screens in many places where we really didn't want to.

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Today's higher resolution and wider screens allow much more information to be displayed on a screen. The new Club Office screen versions are being tested and are expected to be released in September.

The database change is being made to allow better record locking in databases such as Membership, A/R or Inventory, where more than one or two users are likely to be making changes at the same time. Currently, it is expected to be released in the first quarter of 2012. More information will be sent as we get closer to the release date.

All the best,

Scott, Dave & Bill