*e*BackOffice 7.3 Release Notes

*e*BackOffice Global

e by Epicor

New Features

Overview

Introduction

This section describes features added to the installation and changes affecting all *e*BackOffice applications. This sections describes features and changes implemented in 7.3. Download previous release notes from http://www.epicor.com to review features added in prior releases.

The following features are included in this release:

- Support for international initiatives, including tax issues
- Security enhancements
- Modifications to the chart of account creation process
- Netting of accounts receivable and accounts payable transactions
- Write off of accounts receivable balances with codes to designate accounts
- Enhancements to accounts receivable and accounts payable netting process
- Ability to create negative vouchers in accounts payable as alternative to debit memo process
- Lookups on all report ranges
- Minimum gross profit percentages by inventory item
- Additional information on sales order
- Inventory available to promise and quantity price breaks within the sales order window

- ABC ranking of inventory items
- Additional information on purchase order
- Additional fields for tracking inventory information
- Ability to create purchase order directly from sales order line item
- Consolidated invoicing available for multiple shipments generated in sales order
- Enhancements to blanket sales and purchase orders
- Automatic generation of serial numbers during purchase order receipt
- Sales order processed through to accounts receivable automatically

Change Company

The Change Company form now has wider Control Database and Company database name fields to permit longer company names. In addition, the drop down list views have been expanded to show a longer list of databases in a single view.

Security Groups

User permission security has been expanded to allow group security. You can create security groups for specific user groups such as companies, applications and options.

Explorer Views

The following options have been added to eIntelligence Explorer views:

- Item sales
- Open Sales Order Lines
- Dispatch
- Bin Inquiry
- Serial Item Components
- Serial Lot Receipts
- Kit Items

Zoom in Report Parameters Window

Search Zoom features have been added for all standard report parameter ranges.

Accounts Payable

The following new features are available in Accounts Payable:

Vendor

The Vendor window has been enhanced to include Contact and Attention E-mail address fields and an FTP site IP address. This lets you store and quickly access E-mail information for contact personnel at the Vendor’s business. It also provides information to access the Vendor’s FTP site location.

Vouchers

Devit Invoices

You can now enter debit invoices through the Voucher Entry window to eliminate the need for processing credit invoices in the Debit Memo Entry and Debit Memo Posting windows.

Check Printing

Print Quick Checks directly from the Voucher Payment Entry window to produce a single check that has full voucher details quickly and easily.

Recurring Vouchers

You can now elect whether a recurring Voucher or Batch is automatically generated with the Hold check box selected.

AP Netting

The Netting feature allows you to offset a Customer’s open payable and receivable transactions and generate a payment for the difference if necessary.

Netting Vendor

This window allows you to select the open AR Invoice and AP Debit Memo transactions you wish to include in the Netting transaction.

Post Netting

This window allows you to post the Netting transaction.

Unposted Payments

Ungenerating Unposted Payments

You can now ungenerate any batch of unposted Payments that have not been printed.

Check Printing and Debit Memos

When a check is generated for a voucher, the history of payments for the Voucher is now printed on the accompanying check stub.

Settlement

A new simplified Settlement process allows you to go directly into the Settlement Entry window to enter a transaction. You can now load all open Vouchers automatically with just a single mouse click.

Terms

Multiple Payment and Discount Terms

Payment terms that can be defined in the Terms window have been expanded to include multiple discount levels for customers receipts and vendor payments.

Accounts Receivable

The following new features have been added to the Accounts Receivable module.

AR Credit Memo

You can update inventory and create a Credit Memo in a single step by selecting the new option to Auto Post Transaction on the Credit Return form in Order Entry.

AR Netting

Net AR Balances Against AP Balances

You now have the ability to net a Customer's Accounts Receivable balance with their Accounts Payable balance in the new AR Netting Customer window. This feature is also available in *e*BackOffice 7.3 Accounts Payable.

Netting Customer

This window enables you to enter the Netting details.

Post Netting

This window enables you to post the Netting details entered in the Netting Customer window.

Customer

Additional Customer contact fields

New fields have been added to the Customer window to accommodate new contact information:

- Internet address
- E-mail address
- Web address
- FTP site addresses

Dunning Letters

The following new windows have been added to enhance the functionality of Dunning letters. Use these windows to set up Dunning Messages and then assign them to Dunning Groups. The Dunning Groups can be assigned to Customers and then the Dunning Letters are generated.

- Dunning Messages Maintenance
- Dunning Group Definition
- Generate Dunning Parameters
- Review Dunning List
- Print Dunning Letters

Non-AR Cash Receipts

The Non AR Cash Receipts entry window has been modified so you can enter multiple lines of detail. Detail includes a general ledger account number, tax code, description, amount and referenced code.

Reports | **Customer/Vendor Sub ledgers**

These reports provide additional analysis of customer and supplier General Ledger activities in and across periods with opening and closing balances. This report is used to reconcile AR & AP to GL.

Settlement

Settlements have been simplified to allow for the application of multiple on account transactions in a single process. Cash Receipts functionality is now handled in a separate process.

In addition, a new checkbox has been added to the Name and Options window to permit recalculation of the VAT where a Settlement discount has been taken.

Note: This feature is designed to work in a single rate environment and not in the situation where multiple rates may apply to a transaction.

Terms

Payment terms defined in the Terms window has been enhanced to include multiple discount levels.

Write-off Receivable Balances Due with Assorted Codes

The ability to write off Accounts Receivable balances has been improved in two ways:

- You can create codes associated with each write off.
- You can designate whether or not negative write-offs are allowed for each write off code

Note: The limit for any write off's is still restricted to the value set in Name and Options. This feature merely allows you greater flexibility in respect of both how and when the write offs may be generated.

General Ledger

Description

The following new features have been added to the general ledger module:

Chart of Accounts

The following new features have been added to the General Ledger Chart of Accounts form:

- Choose to create one new account, or create many new accounts at a time.
- Duplicate or copy an existing chart of account. You can modify one of the segments to create a new set of accounts.

Reports

New Reports

The following new reports have been added to the general ledger module:

- AP Vendor Subledger report, to display gain or loss for each vendor payment amount.
- AR Customer Subledger report, to displays gain or loss for each customer payment amount.

Journal Code Lookup

The report parameters for the General Ledger report and the Working Trial Balance report now offers lookup capabilities by Journal Code. This feature gives you the ability to produce a balance sheet that excludes specific journal types and is particularly useful at period end or year end when you want to see a trial balance excluding audit or tax adjustments in order to reconcile your records to the company closing or opening balance.

Ranges

The Ranges field has been expanded show all values for a range. In addition, you can also use the zoom lookup feature to select a range for the report.

Purchasing

Description The following new features have been added to the purchasing module:

Expedite Check Box For reference purposes, users can select the Expedite check box on the purchase order header to notify the supplier of the order's priority.

Standard PO Number Format Mask Purchase order numbers now have a format mask. The mask can be set in the Po Number Mask field on the Pur/Rcv tab of the Configuration List window.

User-Definable Status Codes You can now add custom purchase order status codes to the system. Each status that you define is associated with a system status. One user-defined status must be selected as the default for a system status. When creating a purchase order, the default open status is assigned and can be modified as needed.

Define status codes using the new User Definable Status window.

Purchase Order Categories Use this new window to add purchase order categories to the system. The category can be added to a purchase order on the Purchasing window's Main header tab.

Create Purchase Order Directly from Sales Order

When there is a need to link a purchase order to a specific sales order line, you can check the Create PO box on the line. The information on the sales order will be used to create a purchase order with the same detail and the two transactions are then associated with each other for tracking and reporting purposes.

Purchasing Window

The following new features have been added to the purchasing window:

- Enter the vendor's sales order number in the Vendor SO field
- Enter the names of people who requested and approved a purchase order in the More header tab.
- Perform tolerance checking on each purchase order line.
- Blanket purchase orders can now be limited by time and amount.
- Ship to address information can be added to each purchase order line to aid in ordering parts for multiple locations,

Sales Order

The following new features have been added to the Sales Order module:

Update Inventory for Returns

Perform an immediate update of inventory balances for returns using the new Auto Post Transaction option on the Credit Return window. Inventory is updated and a credit memo is generated in a single step.

Margin Visibility During Order Entry

If available, the profit margin can be displayed on the line item detail in the Sales Order window. The Margin field can be displayed or hidden using a security setting.

New Tabs

Price Break

A new Price Break tab has been added to view price break information established for an item in the Inventory application.

Available to Promise

A new Available to Promise tab (ATP) has been added to display inventory quantities that will be available in the future. With this information, accurate shipping dates can be relayed to the customer based on when the item will be available.

Blanket Sales Orders

A new Blanket Sales Order tab has been added to permit delivered of items over time rather than at specific times.

Credit Memos Without Inventory Returns

A new window has been added to define Return Codes. Each return code has a return to inventory option. You can associate a return code with each line item of a return in the Credit Return window.

Consolidated Invoicing

Consolidated invoicing has been added to the system for situations where you are shipping multiple sales orders, but you want to provide the customer with a single invoice.

Note: Consolidated invoices are not posted to Accounts Receivable in the same way as standard invoices. Standard invoices must be posted first using the Post Shipments utility. Then you can use the Consolidate Invoices utility to consolidate the remaining invoices. Once consolidated, those invoices can be posted using the Post Shipments utility.

You can set the default invoicing mode for customers in the Customer window of the Accounts Payable application, or you can set the invoicing mode at the order level in the Sales Order window. If a customer is set to receive consolidated invoicing, a check mark appears in the Consolidated Invoicing check box in the Sales Order window. This can be edited at the order level.

User-Defined Categories and Codes

User-Definable Categories

To facilitate tracking and recalling sales orders, you can now add sales order category codes to the system. A category code can be associated with a sales order Sales Order window's Main header tab.

User-Definable Status Codes

You can now add custom sales order status codes to the system. Each status that you define is associated with a system status. One user-defined status must be selected as the default for a system status. Use the User Definable Status window to define status codes.

User-Definable Priority Codes

To help identify the importance of sales orders, you can now add sales order priority codes to the system. A priority can be associated with a sales order on the Sales Order window's Main header tab.

Order Status Management

This window displays all the sales orders that matched the criteria entered into the previous window. You can use this window to update multiple sales orders as a group. In addition you can now make group changes to the sales orders.

Inventory

The following new features have been added to the Inventory module:

Purchasing and Selling Units of Measure

Purchasing and Selling UOM fields have been added in the More tab of the main Inventory window. You now have the ability to assign default units of measure to the inventory item for each location. These fields are then defaulted in the sales orders and purchase orders when created for the item and location combination.

New Location Setup

When adding a new location, you can now add inventory items in bulk from a previously configured inventory location using the Copy Items To Locations window.

Automatic Handling of Transfer Variances

During location to location transfers, items are occasionally lost or cannot be accounted for. A special posting routine has been added to write these variances to a specified GL account, thereby removing the variances from the quantity in transit. A menu option is available to post transfer variances with selections for transfer transactions and apply dates. Posting these transactions will correct the transfer inventory and record the appropriate transactions in the general ledger.

Transfer Variance Report

A new report is available to document transfer variances. This report shows quantities in transit with cost variances, as well as activity.

View of Last Supplier

The More tab of the Inventory maintenance window has been updated to display the last supplier from whom an item was purchased. This field is updated after the receipt of an item on a purchase order. If no vendor has been assigned, this vendor will be used in Inventory Replenishment. There is no maintenance or setup required. This field is updated automatically.

ABC Ranking and Classification of Inventory Items

You can now organize inventory and assign weights to the importance of various items by applying a ranking of A, B or C.

Manual ranking

You can manually assign a rank of A, B or C to inventory items on the More tab of the Inventory maintenance window.

Calculation method

In addition to manually establishing an ABC ranking, a calculation method is available through the Maintain ABC Ranking window. This calculation can be applied to items, item/location combinations, inventory classes or class/location combinations. In addition, ranges can be selected for updating. You can override the assigned rank at any time in the More tab of the Inventory maintenance window. In addition, you use the ABC Rank for an item in a specified location as a sorting criterion in the cycle count report.

Last Count Date

The More tab of the Inventory maintenance window has been updated to display the last date the item was counted in a physical inventory. There is a date for each location. There is no maintenance or setup required. This is an informational field that is updated automatically after a physical count.

SKU Number

You can now enter an SKU number in the SKU No. field in the Main tab of the Inventory maintenance window. This field is for informational purposes only.

Item Measurements

In addition to the weight and volume measurements, new fields for height, width and length of each item are added. These fields are manually entered on the Main tab of the Inventory maintenance window.

Minimum Profit Percentage

You can now define a minimum gross profit percentage for each item master record in the Minimum Profit Percentage field on the Pricing tab of the Inventory maintenance window. The value entered is used during order entry to restrict users from entering a selling price that will fall below the designated minimum percentage.

Receiving

The following new features have been added to the Receiving module:

Receive Multiple POs on a Single Receipt

You can now receive multiple purchase orders for receipt for a vendor. Enter a vendor code in the Receiving window and then select the Receive Load PO option from the Utilities menu. This will return a list of all purchase orders for the selected vendor. Here you can select the purchase orders to receive return the purchase order line items to the Receiving window.

Shipping

The following new features have been added to the Shipping module:

Shipping Window

The following fields have been added to the main tab of the Shipping window:

- User Status
- Priority - the priority of the record
- Shipped - There is a new validation for this field. If the line item generates a purchase order and it has not been received. If you choose not to ship the item, the line item will be removed.

Combination Pick and Pack List

A new combination Pick and Pack List has been created for this version. Warehouse personnel can use this to pick items from inventory. However, this can also be used as a packing slip, eliminating the need to print a second document.

Shipping Transactions across Sales Orders

The existing functionality of grouping orders has ben expanded to include the ability to create multiple shipment groups in a single process. In addition, the order groups can be flagged as New, requiring picking, as Picked or as Shipped.

Grouping Orders

There is a new tab for invoicing on the Group Orders window.

Alternatively, you can select Build Shipments from the Utilities menu to retrieve multiple orders. The Build Group Orders Filter Options window allows for ranges of values to be defined for grouping orders.

Based on the parameters selected, a window will show all orders that are applicable. Orders can then be organized into groups by dragging them from Suggested Shipment Groups to Shipment Groups to be Created.

Configuration

The following new features have been added to the Configuration module:

Configuration List Window

The following new fields have been added to the Configuration List window:

Pur/Rec Tab - PO Number Mask

Sales Order Entry Tab - Allow Print Credit Memo on Auto Return

User Security Window updates

The security for user permissions has been expanded to allow users to configure the minimum profit percentage for items, and a variety of permissions have been added for group shipments. The following new fields have been added to the User Security window:

- Order Entry Margin
- Minimum Profit Percentage
- Grp Shipment - Add/Rem Orders
- Grp Shipment - Rel Credit hold
- Grp Shipment - Rel User Hold
- Grp Shipment - Unpick Group
- Grp Shipment - Void Group
- Grp Shipment - Ship Group
- Grp Shipment - Build Groups

Open Issues

Overview

Introduction

This document lists issues identified in installation and all applications since version 7.2.

Issues on the Web

Information about open issues will be published on the Epicor web site at http://www.epicor.com. At the web site, go to the Support and Services section, For Customers. This area of the web site requires a password.

Installation Upgrade from 4.2.a

Unit of Measure

When performing an upgrade from 4.2a to 7.3, a new unit of measure table is created to convert the eight character unit of measure codes that were permitted in 4.2a to two digit character codes used in 7.3. If your *e*BackOffice system contains unit of measure codes with more than two characters, the Dbupdate will not finish.

Workaround: Your system administrator can modify your longer unit of measure codes using Query Analyzer or a similar tool. You can then successfully run Dbupdate.

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