

Fuel For Thought

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Comprehensive Computer Programs for Petroleum/Propane Dealers

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FM News

We would like to welcome Littlefield Butane as the newest FM user. Not only are they using accounts receivable and inventory, but also payroll, general ledger, and accounts payable. Missy Cunningham and son Scott offer a wide variety of products to west Texas customers. Stephanie Campbell, the office manager, is off to a great start.

Customer Highlight

After an apprenticeship of working several years for other oil jobbers, **Don Worsley** went in business for himself in November, 1994 when he bought out Hunter Oil Co. of Sanford, NC. Today the business operates as **Hunter Oil & Propane, Inc.**

Under his leadership, the business experienced steady growth. Propane, appliances, parts, and service were added in 1995, to the existing lines of gasolines, fuel oil, kerosene, diesel products, motor oils, and

greases.

Today the business also operates two company owned convenience stores and provides petroleum and propane products to eight dealer stations, in addition to serving the needs of its commercial and residential customers. Fuel Manager software was

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"Somebody broke into your computer, but it looks like the work of an inexperienced hacker."

installed from the beginning. All of its features were put into operation, and the inventory system was used to carefully monitor the large lines of products kept on hand.

Don Worsley has worked closely with us over the years in making important enhancements to the Fuel Manager system. These in-

clude adding an open item capability to Accounts Receivable and a product blending procedure to Inventory. Don says the FUEL MANAGER has served his company well.

Questions and Answers

Question: How do I keep track of credit card payments in FM?

Answer: Some FM users have a separate payment code just for credit cards. This is an easy way to keep track of total credit card payments.

Question: I want to change the way FM searches for my customers when I use name lookup. How do I do that without going into each customer file?

Answer: Joe designed a nice simple routine for that. Not only can you change customer's "alpha short name" or lookup name, you can also change "street name/address". From the Main Menu, choose 1, Account Maintenance, then 1, Customer File, then 1, Maintain Customer Account File, then 4, Customer

Maintenance (Alpha or Address). Then simply follow the directions at the bottom of the screen.

Question: What is the N Notes option on the bottom of my customer inquiry screen?

Answer: Bubba Pfarrdrescher of Bubba's Lone Star Propane in San Marcos, Texas requested the ability to store unlimited notes on customers. So "notes" were added; this allows unlimited word processing pages to be kept on customers. It can come in handy as opposed to keeping scratch notes here and there on a particular customer. From the Main Menu, choose 1, Account Maintenance, then 1, Customer File, then 1, Maintain Customer Account File, and then, 4, Maintain Customer File Notes.

Lessons from Life

by Reverend Purnell Bailey

A friend of mine told me about a farmer who had lived in the area all of his life. One day as

they were talking, my friend was amazed at the eyes of the old farmer, which sparkled with an inner happiness. He was curious and asked the old native, "How have you kept that twinkle in your eyes?"

"Well, sir," he replied, "I've lived through the Great Depression, The Fair Deal, the Square Deal, the Great Society, and in it all I've learned this lesson: I makes the most of what comes and the least of what goes!"

Others call it "living in day-tight compartments". What joy it is to see those who do not live in regret of yesterday or in fear of tomorrow.

The Scriptures remind us that "Sufficient unto each day is the evil thereof." The old farmer was wise man . . . "I makes the most of what comes and the least of what goes!"

Business Tips

Some FM users separate their

payments into distinct categories, for example - product code 91 could represent cash payments, product code 92 represents checks, product 93 represents money orders, and so on. Some companies break payments down as to whether they were received in the mail or in the office. FM is flexible in the payment designations allowing payments to be recorded to your preference. If you need help setting up your payment codes, please call Charlie or Nancy for help.

There seems to be another round of new viruses spreading. Be sure to use an antivirus software to protect yourself! You can download a free one from www.grisoft.com Don't forget to update the virus protect often; there are new viruses out there everyday! If viruses continue to plaque your computer, Joe recommends a firewall software. You can download one for free from www.zonelabs.com.

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