

Connections

June 2001

The Newsletter for Lab Manager Users

Next Generation Lab Manager "User Interface"

In the last issue of our Connections newsletter, I discussed several new features we plan to support in the next generation of Lab Manager. This month, I would like to describe the brand new "User Interface". For those of you who already know your way around Lab Manager, you will feel right at home using the next generation Lab Manager. It will be like moving from a 5 year old luxury car to a brand new one. The same make, but a brand new model. The pedals and steering wheel, among other things, will be where they have always been, however, a few things will have moved and there will be some new knobs to play with.

The following describes some of the new "User Interface" features you will find in the next generation of Lab Manager.

1. The Menu Bar

The Menu Bar in most Windows applications is located at the top left portion of the screen. Our new Lab Manager Menu Bar (figure A-1) will give the user access to ALL Lab Manager reports and screens instead of just a few of them. Of course, you will be able to password protect each and every menu option, so that others will only have access to the things you want them to see.

By adding a complete menu bar to the top of Lab Manager, you will be able to quickly access any other area of Lab Manager without first leaving the screen you are in.

2. Multi-tasking

The new Menu Bar will help raise production, by allowing several tasks to be open in Lab Manager at one time. To help keep track of the tasks you have

started, Lab Manager will add a new Tab Area at the top of the screen showing a Tab for each task you have started. Moving from task to task is as simple as clicking on the Tab at the top of the screen; Figure A-2.

3. Shortcut Window

Another great improvement to the user interface is the addition of the Shortcut Window to the left of the screen. See Figure A-3. This new window will look and work like the one in Microsoft's Outlook. You will be able to customize the contents of the Shortcut Window to include those items you use most often. This way, the things most important to you will be just one click away.

Detachable Toolbars

Many Microsoft products support toolbars that you can move around, and now Lab Manager will be able to do the same. This feature would allow a left handed person to customize a screen for easier use with a touch monitor by placing the toolbar on the left instead of the right side of the screen.

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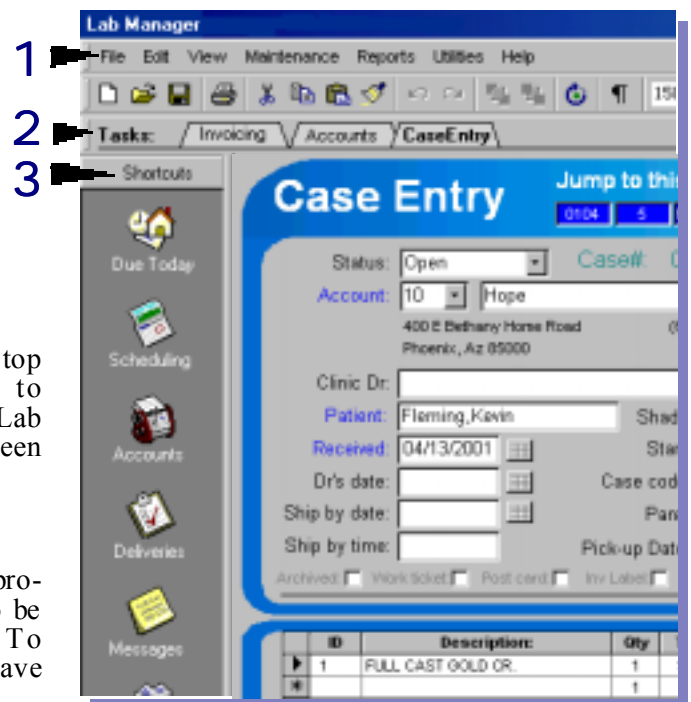
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This image is a simulation.

Figure A



Important Tip about using the Invoice Register and Current Sales Reports

Every once and a while we get a call from a Lab Manager user asking what the star (*) is for on the Invoice Register to the right of the invoice date. Or, sometimes the question is, how come my reports don't balance. The answer is simple. Lab Manager places a "star" next to the invoice date whenever the case has been modified AFTER it has been invoiced and no longer has the same value it had when invoiced.

For example, let's say you created a case worth \$123.45 and then invoiced it for \$123.45. Then, after printing the invoice, the case is modified. Perhaps another product was added or the material quantity was increased. Now we have a case that was invoiced for \$123.45 but is now worth \$175.00. If the case is not closed and re-invoiced, it will appear on both the Invoice Register and the Current Sales reports with the wrong product or material value AND a star next to the invoice date to indicate that this case has changed in value and needs to be re-invoiced.

At the bottom of the report appears the message; *"Invoices marked with a '*' following the invoice date have been modified after invoicing. Please check the*

Invoice #	Account Name	Patient Name	Invoice Date	Total Products
0012-0001	1 Dr. Joia Smith	TimeTest	04/26/2001 *	\$110.00
0003-0001	1 Dr. Joia Smith	No Patient Name	04/26/2001	\$100.00
0003-0002	1 Dr. Joia Smith	Brain,36	04/26/2001	\$76.71
0004-0001	1 Dr. Joia Smith	Thyroid, Margaret	04/26/2001	\$76.71
0004-0002	1 Dr. Joia Smith	Nbialis, Tom	04/26/2001	\$153.42

case, and if correct, change status to closed and re-invoice."

This message is to remind you that there is a problem with one or more items on the report and that you need to find those items and deal with them accordingly.

When there are invoices with stars on the report, you can rest assured that the balances on the report will not match balances on other reports in Lab Manager. This is why it is important to check the report for stars before proceeding to statements and end of month processing.

If you do find a case with a star next to the invoice date, go back to the Case Entry screen and locate the case in question. Check it over carefully. If the changes that were made to the case are correct, then simply close the case again and re-invoice it. If the changes you find are not correct, restore the case back to its original and correct condition and then re-invoice if necessary.

Re-print the Invoice Register or Current Sales report and verify that the star is gone from the report. ☺

User Survey

The programming and support departments at LSG are always looking for ways to improve Lab Manager and its support and training. To that end, you can help by filling out the score card below and returning the form to us. If you need additional room for comments, use the "My Suggestion" box on page 2. FAX to LSG at (602) 279-3633. This form is also available on our website at www.labsysgrp.com/survey.

On a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is poor, 5 is good, and 10 is excellent, please rate the following items. Use N/A if the item does Not Apply.

- ___ 1. Lab Manager's ease of use?
- ___ 2. First time set up process?
- ___ 3. Program speed?
- ___ 4. Program flexibility?
- ___ 5. Work tickets?
- ___ 6. Invoice and Statements?
- ___ 7. Billing reports?
- ___ 8. Production reports?
- ___ 9. Scheduling?
- ___ 10. Does it satisfy your lab management software needs?
- ___ 11. Documentation and user manual?
- ___ 12. Quality of phone support?
- ___ 13. Quality of video tape training series?
- ___ 14. Paper products including forms and envelopes?

Check the item(s) that best describe your lab?

- Crown & Bridge
- Full Service
- Ortho
- Denture
- Other

Number of Technicians:

- 1-4
- 5-9
- 10-19
- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-74
- 75-100
- More than 100

How long have you used Lab Manager?

- Years Months

Which version of Lab Manager are you using?

- DOS version LM97
- LM99 LM2000

What ways can we improve Lab Manager? _____

What ways can we improve our phone support? _____

Lab Name: _____ Respondent: _____



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Computer Lab:

Saturday 9:30 AM to 5 PM. The computer lab is unstructured and will be open during the seminar for anyone wanting hands-on help with any part of Lab Manager, or just a chance to play with the new program. Meet Janet & Richard from our Technical Support Staff.



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Conference Brochure Enclosed

See details inside.



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