



MEISolutions



Winter of 2002/2003

MEISolutions' Corporate Host: SuperHOST



MEISolutions is pleased to announce the addition of a Corporate Host Solution to our line of retail technology software. MEISolutions' Corporate Host is a complete hosting package fully integrated into the SuperPOSS Backoffice Solution.

With SuperPOSS residing at the stores, the host software can support between 2 and 20 locations. The benefits of adding SuperHOST to a chain's management system can be measured immediately.

Corporate control of the pricing philosophy, payroll savings at the store level, and loss prevention through error reduction are the rewards of installing SuperHOST. Smarter, faster decisions based on chain-specific data will result, and visibly impact your bottom line.

Database

The High Performance Database behind SuperHOST improves performance by an order of magnitude for searches, imports and exports, movement, and much more.

Queries of the central SQL Server database are user-defined and flexible.

Information Presentation

With the Executive Information System (EIS) even the occasional user can drill down to the "right amount" of data for informed decision making. EIS provides a flexible way of analyzing movement and profitability, which can be summarized by numerous criteria.

With SuperHOST, information is presented in an easy-to-use spreadsheet style interface with formula-based costs and pricing.

Pricing Zones

The host recognizes user-defined store groups (pricing zones), allowing a chain to respond to variations in freight costs and regional differences.

Batches

SuperHOST allows users to create batches for the Point of Sale, Direct Store Delivery, Label printing, and more. Batches can be delimited and sorted by vendor, department, date or change type. To save on redundant batching, batches can be re-exported on demand.

Analysis

From the host's retained history, the software tracks movement on a department and store basis. Current performance can be compared with data from one year ago, and analysis can be done by day, week, month, quarter or year.

Price Planner Module

The host's Price Planner can predict movement levels, total ad loss, and effects on related non-sale items. Prediction algorithms take into account historic sales, seasons and holidays, competitor ads, and like-product history.

Automation

The host software has configurable automated functions. For example, the user can set the host to automatically apply psychological price rounding to all price changes, or the user can manually apply this function when desired.

Server and Clients

In networked stores, SuperHOST runs on a Windows 2000 Server. Client operating systems include Windows 95, 98, 2000 and NT.

For more information about MEISolutions' SuperHOST software, call (509) 232-3177.



Frequent Buyer Program for ScanMaster

MEISolutions' Frequent Buyer is an optional add-on module for use with SuperPOSS 2002. Grocery retailers who are running ScanMaster POS systems can now offer special discounts and other rewards to customers who are "regular" or frequent buyers in their stores. This helps attract new business to the store and fosters customer loyalty.

Each Frequent Buyer customer is assigned a unique identification number. When a frequent buyer buys an item on which a Frequent Buyer discount (also known as an "electronic coupon") is in effect, the register automatically applies the discount. The register receipt tape shows the item's regular price and the amount of the Frequent Buyer savings. In the case of a customer who is not a Frequent Buyer, the register prints the amount the customer *would have* saved on each Frequent Buyer-discounted item if he or she had been registered in the program.

SuperPOSS 2002 will maintain a customer file containing each customer's name, number and other pertinent information. SuperPOSS 2002 can retrieve customer transaction data during its End of Day Processing routine and use the information to provide a range of reports which you can use in a variety of ways to manage and promote sales at your store.

<http://internetnews>

One of the best forums for suggesting future development efforts is our online survey located at:

<http://www.meisolutions.com/survey.htm>.

It is not necessary to fill out every field, but we appreciate as much information as you can give us. Make development suggestions in the text fields of questions 17 and 18. Our webmaster will ensure that your message is delivered to the proper people.

In Other News: MEISolutions is developing a .net product with full ASP Capabilities. Interested? More to come - stay tuned.

Instructions Included

The Windows Version of SuperPOSS 2002 includes an online user manual. It can be found in the same folder as your SuperPOSS program icon. If this icon does not appear, call our support line for assistance.

Module Spotlight: Direct Store Delivery

Direct Store Delivery (DSD) is an add-on module of the SuperPOSS Backoffice System. This module allows retailers to keep a vendor maintenance file, track discounts and allowances, schedule temporary price reductions (TPRs) and sales in conjunction with these discounts, control gross margin, and create reports.

With DSD, a store will set up their vendor file and assign vendor numbers to PLUs. When a vendor offers a discount or allowance, the store will enter the amount and the timeframe into future item maintenance. The store can then add a sale or TPR price to the maintenance. The future item maintenance is sent to PLU maintenance in the form of batches.

When the vendor delivers to the back door, the receiver will enter the vendor number, invoice number, total cases and total invoice into the PFM/PDT, and scan items. The receiver will also print an invoice based on expected cost discounts and allowances to compare to the delivery invoice. This offers two main benefits to the store: 1) Accountability of the vendor for delivery, and 2) Assurance of discounts and allowances.

The store can print reports based on vendor information, gross margin, future item maintenance, etc.

MEISolutions' DSD Module offers grocers additional control of critical store functions. It is another way we provide meaningful solutions to the retail grocery industry.

Synchronization with ScanMaster and ICL Registers

Please Remember: All PLU maintenance should be performed via SuperPOSS. Maintenance performed from an ICL or ScanMaster register will not transfer to SuperPOSS and your PLU files will be out-of-synchronization (Error Message "004E").

DESIGN-R-LABELS Lite and MEISolutions

MEISolutions and Retail Technologies, Inc., the company with the Design-R-Labels sign and label solution, have formed an alliance to offer our mutual customers fantastic prices and service.

The SuperPOSS Backoffice System has long interfaced with the Design-R-Labels standard software, but we are pleased to announce that SuperPOSS also interfaces with the new Design-R-Labels Lite software. Design-R-Labels Lite is "The Affordable Professional Sign and Label Printing Solution" and includes many of the same features as the more complete original software.

For more information about Retail Technologies, Inc. or their label software solutions, visit them on the web at www.retail-tech.com.

Market News

- * Our President, John Molloy, was quoted in the October issue of the California Grocers Association's publication. Regarding the need for loss prevention technology, Mr. Molloy cited the pace of technological advancement as a barrier to the mom-and-pop segment of the grocery industry.

MEISolutions would like to thank the California Grocers Association for fostering discussion about making loss prevention technology accessible to all segments of the grocery industry.

- * MEISolutions supports efforts to grow technology-based business in its hometown of Spokane, WA, and surrounding areas. MEISolutions donated company resources to the Inland Northwest Technology Council (INWTC) during the Engineering Success conference in mid-November. The INWTC was the Featured Sponsor at this conference, the mission of which was to unite area businesses in a discussion of more cost effective approaches to product development and outsourcing.

During economic hard times nationwide, MEISolutions encourages all businesses to support the development of their local economies and to invest in technologies for the future.

Anticipated Releases

- * MEISolutions is in the process of Alpha Testing our new product, called **FutureFront Solution**. It is a front end retail solutions compiled with the SuperPOSS Backoffice. This product will greatly expand the register interfaces available with SuperPOSS.

Initially **FutureFront Solution** will be offered to wholesalers. We are anticipating a great deal of excitement and a unique new license program.

This product offering is the result of a collaboration with JPMA in Denver.

- * Our Frequent Buyer Program for the ScanMaster interface is currently installed. We anticipate the ICL ISS45 Frequent Buyer Program interface to be completed shortly.

Upcoming Tradeshows

Markettechnics

Dallas, TX February 23-25

Booth Number 1320

To learn more about the Markettechnics Show visit www.markettechnics.com

We hope to see you there!

President's Corner

As 2002 closes, we look forward to serving our friends and customers in 2003. Please accept our appreciation for your support and best wishes for a *Happy and Healthy Holiday Season*.



We look forward to providing the same quality service and great products, with some bright new looks.

Watch us in 2003 - "We're on the Move to Serve You!"

John Edward Molloy
President