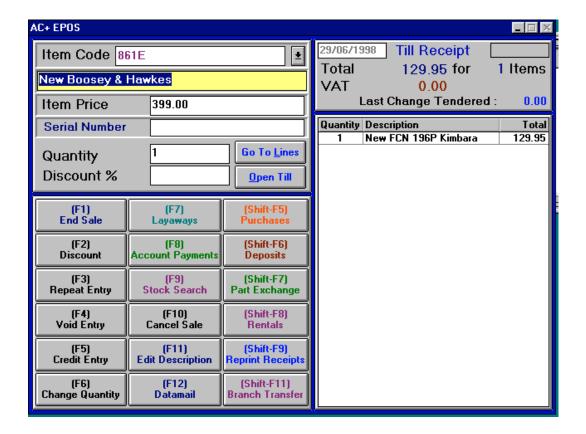
# AC PLUS ELECTRONIC POINT OF SALE (EPOS) USER GUIDE

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# **EPOS SCREEN**

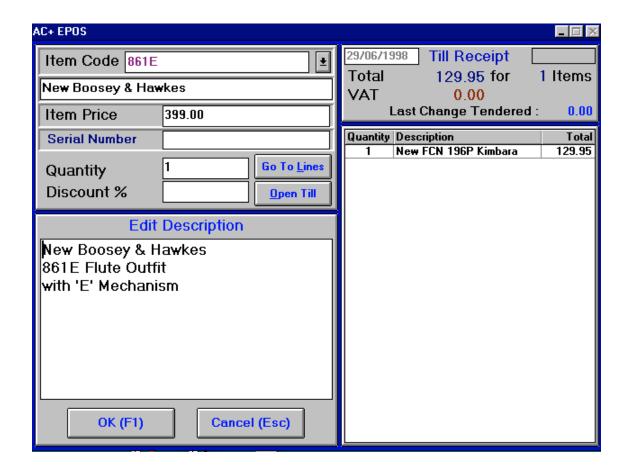
This page shows the standard EPOS screen in the process of making a **STRAIGHTFORWARD SALE** as follows.

Either scan the Bar Code printed on the item or manually enter the item code, if you do not know the code you can press **F4** to reveal the drop down list of 'stock codes'. There is also a very useful stock search facility (described later).

Now press "Enter", this will display the description and price for the item. If you wish to change the price, quantity or add the serial number to the receipt (and Datamail if required) use the **Tab key** to move to the required box and fill in the details. Where a serial number exists it must be entered.

Press "**Enter**" again, the item is added to the list to the right of the screen. Repeat this for each item to be sold at this time.

If a small item is to be given away as part of a deal it **must** be entered with a zero price (to keep stock figures correct).



# EPOS SCREEN SHOWING FULL DESCRIPTION AND MESSAGE PANEL

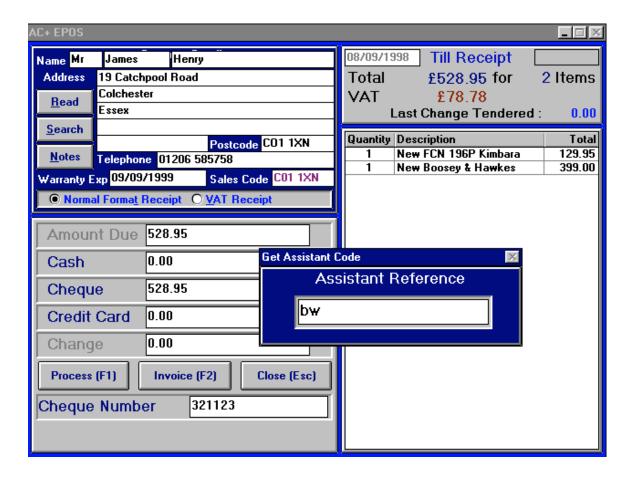
Press **F11** to Reveal and add to the description, this will also display any messages about that particular stock item.

#### Miscellaneous Sales

Once the system is fully operational and all of the stock is entered there should not be any miscellaneous sales, that is sales of items which do not have a stock code of their own and are therefore sold using the miscellaneous stock code (usually something like MISC). All items sold under the miscellaneous stock code must be given a comprehensive description so that the stock controller can identify the item and adjust the stock on the proper stock code accordingly. Therefore all items sold on this stock code are listed separately on the stock download report which is sent to head office with the overnight transfer.

#### **Special Sales**

As with Miscellaneous sales Special sales use a special stock code and must be sold using a comprehensive description (especially when selling second hand goods) so that the stock controller can either set up an appropriate stock item or make the necessary adjustments to the relevant stock item. This special stock code would usually be used when selling an item that has been bought by the branch and sold before it has been added to the stock.



# **PAYMENT SCREEN**

When all items to be sold are entered as previously described press "F1" to reveal the Payment screen. The cursor flashes on the 'Cash' Box, use the "Enter" key to move to the required payment box (cash, cheque, credit card) and type in the amount tendered, you can mix the payment types if necessary. The change to be given will be displayed and transferred to the top of the receipt screen on completion.

If this is a small Low Value or Quick Sale press "F1" and type in your assistant reference, press "Enter" to complete the sale. (Cheques and Credit Cards will require a number to be entered)

#### ADD NAME AND ADDRESS TO DATAMAIL

For larger sales where you wish to add the Customer's name and address to your Datamail use the "Enter" key to move to the name and address box. You can now either type in a completely new name and address, enter the full name and press "ALT R" to read the rest of the details, or press "ALT S" and enter any part of the name in the new screen that appears, then F4 to find the required name. Arrow down to highlight the name and F1 to select it for use.

You may then enter a warranty expiry date and sales Code.

Now press **F1** and enter your assistant reference and the sale is complete.

If the customer requires a **VAT receipt** simply press "**ALT V**" to select the VAT Receipt **before** pressing **F1** to complete the sale. Press "**ALT T**" to return to the standard receipt.

If you wish to add notes to the bottom of the Receipt press "ALT N" to reveal the notes screen

# **Function Keys List**

This is a description of the Function Keys and their use as they are displayed on the first EPOS screen. Many of the keys have other uses at other points within the program and they will be explained as they occur latter in this manual.

#### F1 End Sale

This key is used to move into the payment screen after all items are entered onto the receipt list.

#### **F2 Discounts**

This key moves the cursor directly into the Discount % box so that a discount that is to apply to all of the goods on this receipt may be entered.

# F3 Repeat Entry

Use this key to repeat the last entry.

#### **F4 Void Entry**

Use this key after pressing "ALT L" to enter the lines and then using the arrow up/down keys to select the relevant entry to remove that entry from the receipt list.

# **F5 Credit Entry**

To Credit an entry enter the stock code in the usual manner but before pressing the "Enter" key to add the item to the list press **F5**. This will automatically make this a Negative (Credit) sale.

#### **F6 Change Quantity**

This key moves the cursor directly into the Quantity box enabling you to enter multiple quantities.

# F7 Layaways

This key allows you to lay a sale aside and bring it back for completion later.

#### **F8 Account Payment**

Use this key to enable you to take an account payment via the till.

#### F9 Stock Search

This key accesses comprehensive stock search screen.

# F10 Cancel Sale

This key can be used at any time up to the point of pressing "F1" to cancel a sale.

#### **F11 Edit Description**

Press this key to display the full description of goods plus any messages attached to those goods by the stock controller.

#### F12 Datamail

This is a shortcut key to the Datamail Program.

#### Shift F5 Purchases

Use this key to enter the Branch Purchase Screen

# Shift F6 Deposit

Use this key to enter the Deposits Screen.

#### Shift F7 Part Exchange

Use this key to enter the Part Exchange Screen.

# **Shift F8 Rentals**

Use this key to enter the Rentals Screen.

# **Shift F9 Reprint Receipts**

Use this key to enter the receipt re-print screen.

# **Shift F10 Settings**

Only accessible to administrators

# **Shift F11 Branch Transfers**

Use this screen to access the branch transfer screen.

# "ALT O"

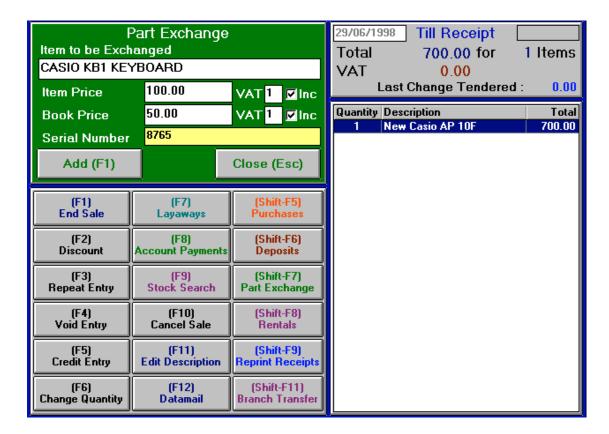
Press the "ALT key and hold it while you press the "O" key to open the till drawer.

# "ALT L"

Press the "ALT key and hold it while you press the "L" key to go to the lines of the sale.

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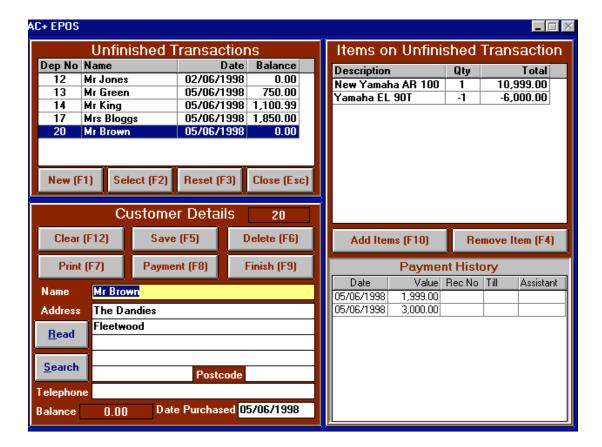
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# PART EXCHANGE

To sell an item that includes a part exchange, enter the details of the goods to be sold as previously described but **do not press F1 to end the sale**, instead press **"SHIFT F7"** Part Exchange. Type in a **comprehensive** description, price allowed and yellow book price as well as a serial number where applicable using the Tab key to move between boxes. **"Press F1"** to add the part exchange item to the sale, now complete the sale by pressing **F1** and entering the Payment Amount, Name, Address etc.

It is possible to create a deposit / unfinished transaction as well as a part exchange simply by pressing "SHIFT F6" instead of F1 to end the sale and then continue as described later in Deposits.



# **DEPOSITS / UNFINISHED TRANSACTIONS**

To create a Deposit Sale, enter details of the goods to be sold as previously described but do not press **F1** to end the sale, instead press **"SHIFT F6"** to access the deposit screen. Now press **F1** (New) and type in the name and address of the customer (when the sale is complete this will update your Datamail program).

Press "F8" Payment', to access the payment screen. If the customer is paying C.O.D. or for some other reason is not actually paying a deposit at this time, select 'Notes' and type in the reason for "No Payment". The system will not allow "No Payment" without a reason. Press F1 to proceed and enter your assistant code.

If the customer is paying a deposit enter the amount in either the cash, cheque or credit card box (cheques and credit cards require numbers) then press **F1** to process the payment and enter your assistant code.

There will be a new balance figure on the screen and the sales payment history will be updated. The stock will be moved to the allocated position and will be sold from that position on completion of the sale.

There are no limits to the number of payments that can be made against a deposit before completion, however the system will not allow a deposit to be completed until the full amount has been paid.

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#### **Unfinished Transaction List**

Available to Administrators only. From this system settings screen select "ALT R" Reports

# Make a payment against an existing Deposit.

If you wish to make a payment against an existing Deposit Sale do not enter any goods to be sold. Simply press "shift F6" to access the deposit screen. Select the appropriate transaction using the arrow down key, when the required transaction is highlighted press F2 to select followed by F8 to make a payment then F9 to finish etc.

# To Change Items on Deposit / Unfinished Transactions

If you wish to change the goods after a deposit has been made, enter the new item on to the receipt screen in the usual way then press "shift F6" to select Deposits, use arrow up/down keys to select the required deposit. Press F2, "ALT L" to move the cursor to the items list, select the item to be removed using the arrow up/down keys, press F4 to remove the item and F10 to add the new item.

# To Search for an Existing Customer

If the customer has bought from you in the past their Name and Address details may already be held on the Datamail system, type in the Name and Post Code and press the Read button to reveal the full details. If you do not have the full details you can press the Search button and enter the details you do know then press **F3**.

#### **Finish Transaction**

When all payments have been made and the goods collected it is necessary to finish the transaction by pressing 'Finish' **F9** key. The item will not be removed from the branch stock until this has been done. The cash figure will also be journaled out of Unfinished Transactions and into the relevant Nominal Code.

# **Returned Deposit**

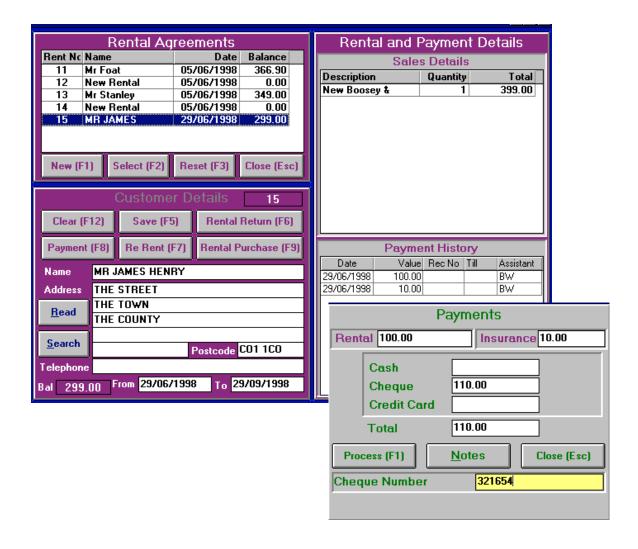
If goods are not going to be sold and you have elected to refund all or part of the deposit payments to date. Press "shift F6" to enter the deposit screen and select the relevant Deposit. Now enter the "payment screen" and enter a "Negative payment" (put a minus sign before the amount paid), for the amount to be refunded. Now press F6 to delete the deposit.

# RENTAL

#### **Rental Sales**

If an item is to be purchased on a 3 month extended purchase enter the details in the normal way but instead of pressing **F1** to end the sale, press "**Shift F8**" (Rental) followed by **F1** to create A new Rental Agreement. Enter Name and Address (when Rental is complete this will update your Datamail program), select **F8** to go to the Payments Screen, enter the payment amount and press the enter key to move to the Insurance Box and type in the amount where applicable. Use the enter key to move through the payment boxes and enter the appropriate amount in the box, when complete press **F1** and type in your assistant reference.

If for any reason you are entering a zero payment, the system will insist on a reason being typed in the Notes Field (this will form part of the Head Office download information).



Re Rent (F7)

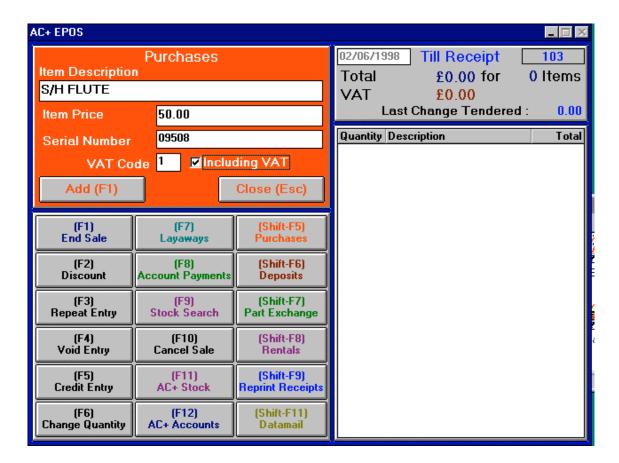
In the case of a 're rent' the system automatically adds the amount of the original deposit to the outstanding amount and changes the completion date.

#### Rental return

If an item is returned before the end of the rental period press **F6**, this will clear the rental from the screen and return the stock to the Branch Stock. Press **"ESC"** to close the rental screen.

# To Search for an Existing Customer / Rental

If the customer has bought from you in the past their Name and Address details may already be held on the Datamail system, type in the Name and Post Code and press the Read button to reveal the full details. If you do not have the full details you can press the Search button and enter the details you do know then press **F3**.



# **PURCHASE AT BRANCH**

When making a purchase at the branch select "shift F5" to reveal the Red Purchases Screen, type in a description of the item purchased (remember to give enough detail for the stock item to be set up at H/O), the price and serial number. The VAT code and whether the figure paid includes VAT are imperative (if in doubt use VAT code 1 and Inclusive).

Select Inclusive of VAT by pressing the space bar whilst the phrase 'Including VAT' is highlighted, when this is complete press **F1** to add the item to the receipt. You may then elect to enter another purchase or press **Esc** followed by **F1** to enter the supplier and payment details. If cash is paid at the till press 'ALT C', if no cash is paid and an invoice is expected at Head Office press 'ALT I'. Press **F1** and enter your assistant reference to continue.

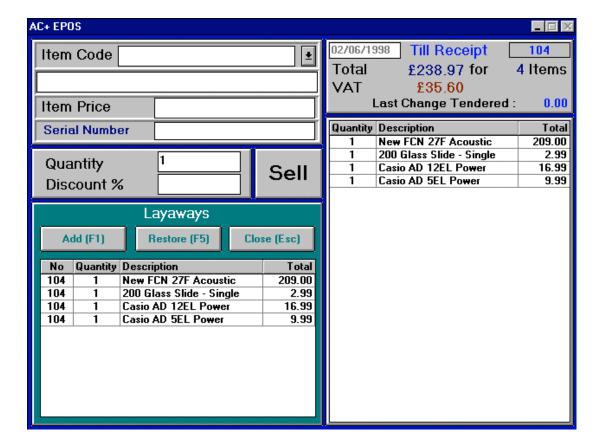
This screen should also be used for **Petty Cash Purchases**.

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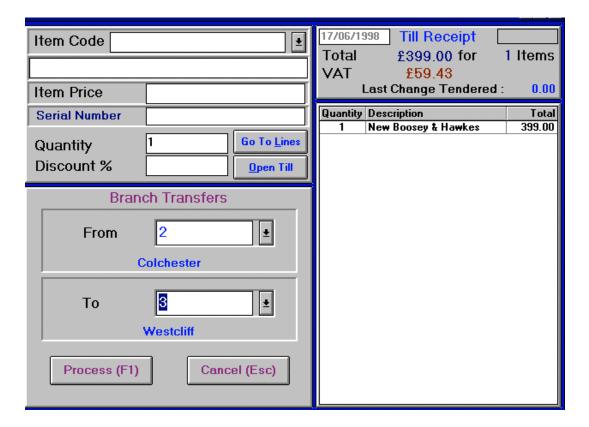
# **BRANCH PURCHASE / PAYMENTS SCREEN**

You may wish to add some details to the Branch Purchases to be included as part of the Download to H/O. Press "ALT N" To reveal the "Notes" screen.



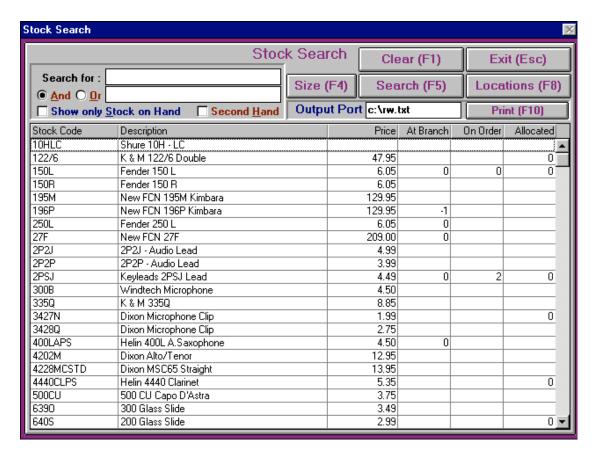
# **LAYAWAYS**

If you are in the middle of a sale which gets interrupted, instead of having to cancel the sale and re enter the details the sale can be laid away and called back at a later time simply by pressing **F7**, this displays a list of existing 'layaways'. Use the arrow up and down key to select the required layaway and press **F5** to restore it to the receipt, you may now continue the sale in the usual manner. (Press F5 to cancel a layaway).



# **BRANCH TRANSFERS**

If you wish to transfer goods from your branch to another branch select the item using the Item Code in the usual way then press 'shift F11' to reveal the Branch Transfer Screen. Your branch will be defaulted automatically therefor select the branch to which you wish to transfer the goods by using the drop down arrow, then press F1 to complete the transfer. A note will be produced to be sent with the goods.



# STOCK SEARCH

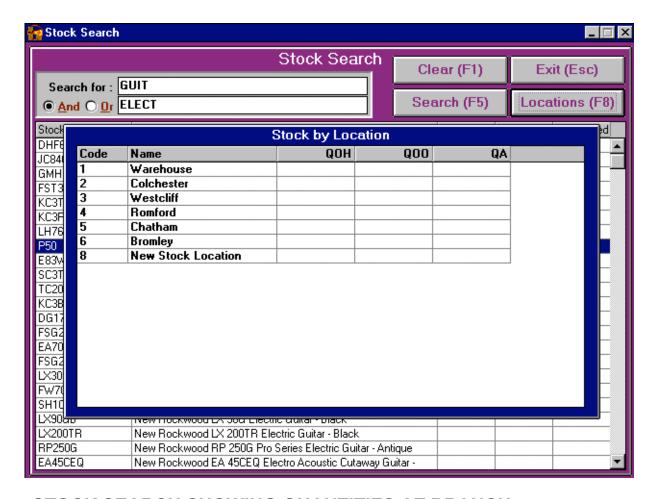
If you do not know the code for an item you wish to sell or you want to see what the stock position is for a particular item then press **F9** to reveal the Stock Search screen. This shows the stock list including how many are available at this branch, how many have been allocated to customers (deposit sales) and how many are on order.

If you wish to search for a particular item or group of items, you may enter any part of the description character set and search for all items that include that part. For instance if you enter the word *Guitar* (the character set does not necessarily have to be a whole word) in the first box and press **F5** to search, all items with the word guitar somewhere in the description will be listed including strings etc. To break down the search further you could enter the word *Electric* in the bottom box and select the 'And' box, the screen will now only show items containing both these character sets. It is also possible to display any stock item which shows either *Guitar* or *Electric* by clicking on the 'Or' box.

Use the arrow down key to select the product you require and press Esc to select the item for sale.

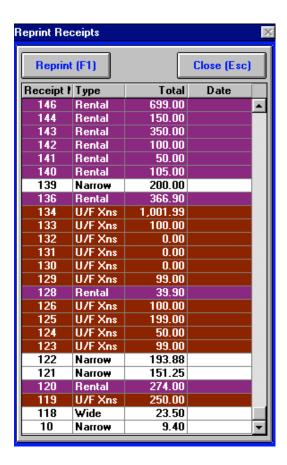
Press the **F4** key once or twice to reveal the full description of the items selected.

Having selected an item you may press 'F8' to view the stock at all branches.



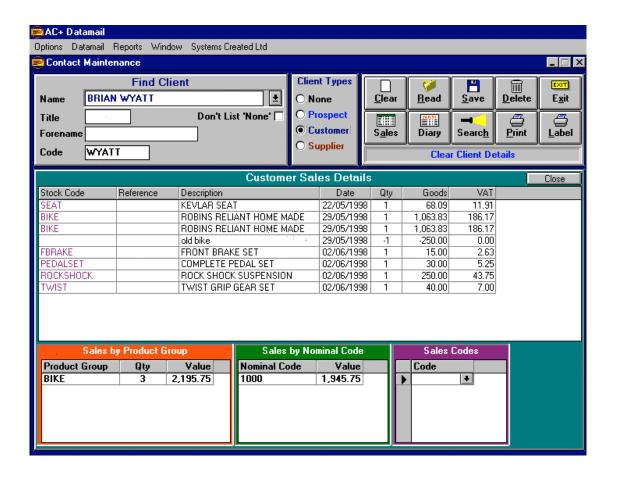
# STOCK SEARCH SHOWING QUANTITIES AT BRANCH

If you wish to check stock throughout the company on any given stock item, after selecting the item as previously described, press **F8** to show Stock by Location.



# **Receipt Re-Print**

To Re-Print an existing receipt select "Shift F9" to reveal the reprint screen, use the arrow up and Down keys to highlight the required receipt and press F1 to start the reprint.



# To set up EPOS at branches and transfer takings details to head office

# The EPOS folder should contain

**EXE Files** 

Datamail.exe Customer data and mailing program EPOS.exe Electronic point Of Sale (Till) program

Repair.exe Database repair program (only used under instruction from Systems Created)

SQL.exe Database access program only used by Systems created Update.exe Database update program only used by Systems created

**INI Files** 

ACTill.ini )

Company.ini ) See following pages

Datamail.ini )

**MDB Files** 

Datamail.mdb Customer Data

EOD.mdb That days takings used for "Z" reading information. Also includes stock

transactions. Forms the basis of the information sent to head office overnight.

Cleared after next "Z" reading.

EPOS.mdb Stock Information accessed by all tills.

New.mdb used only by Systems Created to add changes to the databases

Till.mdb Holds information about that till such as Till Name, Receipt Details, Default

overlays, Users, Default Nominal Codes etc.

Uftrans.mdb Holds details of deposit and rental sales

**OVL files** Receipts and other Overlays.

**RPT files** Report Overlays

#### **INI files**

# Company, Ini

WARE

Database Path= \\store\store\epos\

Reports= c:\epos\

**BLUEWATER** 

Database Path= \\till1\c\epos\

Reports= c:\epos\

Database Path Where the information about Deposits and Rentals are stored (uftrans.mdb)

Where the system looks to find the overlays for receipts and reports. Reports Path

#### Actill.ini

WARE

Upload path= \\server\c\ukfrom\ Archive Path= \\server\c\ukarc\ Download Path= \\server\c\totill\

#### **BLUEWATER**

Upload Path= \bluserver\c\blufrom\ Archive Path= \\bluserver\c\arc\ Download Path= \\bluserver\c\blutotil\

Download path = Where information which is sent from head office Stock etc. is put on the system

(EPOS.mdb), and where the tills look when first turned on to se if there is a download from head office. When "EPOS.mdb" appears here you get the message "A new download exists" when entering EPOS. Updating this will transfer the EPOS.mdb to

the folder set in the Company.ini ready for use by all tills.

Upload Path = When a "Z" reading is done an mdb file is put into this folder, the file name consists of

the till name plus the date (day and month only). Therefore an mdb file from Bluewater number 1 till from the 1st March will be BLU10103.mdb. When the head office overnight download is done this file is collected and put into the head office systems "Upload" folder, ready for the information to be transferred to the "Stock" and

"Accounts" programs. A file called "Done" is added to the branch "Download" folder.

Archive Path = When a "Z" reading is carried out on the till, the system searches the "Upload" folder

for the file "Done". If this file is found, all mdb files in the folder are transferred to the

"Archive" Folder.

#### Datamail.ini

WARE

Datamail = \\store \store\epos\datamail.mdb

**BLUEWATER** 

Datamail = \\Till1\c\epos\datamail.mdb

This is the folder where Datamail.mdb can be found. This is where the name, address and details of purchases are stored.

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#### **EPOS** settings at Head Office

In addition to the normal "Accounts" and "Stock Control" etc. information the head office server, "accounts" folder should contain

Transfer.exe This is the program is used to transfer information from the mdb file created by the "Z"

reading into the "Accounts" and "Stock Control" programs.

The program then creates the "EPOS.mdb" file to be sent back to the branches and puts it into the "Download" Folder.

Also in the C:\Windows folder of the machine running "Transfer.exe", there must be a Configuration settings file (ini) called ACTRANSF.ini, which has the following information.

1upload = \\server\company\\frontill\
2upload = \\server\company\\blufrom\\
Archive = \\\server\company\\archive\\
Download = \\server\company\\download\\

If you chose to run Transfer.exe from a folder other than the Accounts folder you will need a Company.ini file in the folder showing the path to the accounts programs.

1 upload = Where the "Z" reading information is located for branch 1 (Ware) until the transfer is

done and it is moved to archive

2upload = Where the "Z" reading information is located for branch 2 (Bluewater) until the

transfer is done and it is moved to archive

Archive = Where the mdb files are copied to when the Transfer is completed.

Download = Where till.mdb is put ready for transfer to the branches

#### **DONE**

If the transfer program sees the file "DONE" in the upload folder it will not complete the transfer of information into the Accounts and Stock programs, as this indicates that no "Z" reading has been done since the last update. Therefore the old mdb files which have already been transferred have not been cleared out from the tills upload folder. An error message will appear when trying to transfer. The old mdb files and the "Done" file must be manually removed from the relevant "Upload" folder at head office. This will be done automatically at the branch when the next "Z" reading is done.

#### To Transfer information from the branches to head office and visa versa

Set up an Automated Task in PC Anywhere by adding a new "Remote".

In Connection Info, select "Modem".

In settings use manually entered code and number in the Remote Telephone Number box to enter the number to be called.

In Automated Task select "Properties" and then "Add" select "Receive from host" the "Local" and "Host" folders as below.

#### To Collect from the branches.

#### BLUEWATER

Local Folder = \server\company\fromblu\
Local Folder = \server\company\fromblu\
Host Folder = \\bluserver\c\blufrom\done.\*

Go back to "Add" and select "Send to Host"

Local Folder = c:\done Host folder = \\blueserver\c\bluefrom\

WARE

Local Folder = \\server\company\\frontill\\ Host Folder = \\\server\company\\frontill\\\*.mdb \\
Local Folder = \\\server\company\\frontill\\\done.\\*

Go back to "Add" and select "Send to Host"

Local Folder = c:\done Host folder = \\server\company\\fromtill\

#### To send stock to the branches.

You need to create another remote as above and in "Add" select "Send to Host"

#### **BLUEWATER**

Local folder = \\server\company\totill\EPOS.mdb Host folder = \\bluserver\c\blutotil\

WARE

Use Windows Scheduler to schedule these automatic tasks using the file name and path as follows

#### C:\windows\all users\application data\symantec\pcanywhere\send stock to ware.cef

#### And

#### C:\windows\all users\application data\symantec\pcanywhere\send stock to bluewater.cef

Use the same path but change the name of the CEF file to the name on the PC Anywhere icon to collect Z readings from the branches.