



abccomputers.news

An informative newsletter for the customers of ABC Computers.

ABC Receives 2006 Pacesetters Award

ABC Computers, Inc. is recognized as a select 100 technology pacesetter in a special supplement to *Accounting Technology* magazine, December 2006 edition.

The publication entitled "Pacesetters: Endurance, Strategy and Partnerships," recognizes businesses based on awards won by the organizations, leadership, industry reputation, sales per employee and growth.

ABC's advanced accounting technologies in the mid-range business markets, and their ability to deliver a tightly integrated technology stack that includes Microsoft Dynamics NAV and Microsoft Dynamics CRM, are key factors to the performance seen by the 2006 Pacesetter.

ABC welcomes these new customers...

Bantek Financial Technical Srv located in Portland, OR
COMPUtek Dental Systems located in Fort Collins, CO
ConversantBT located in Phoenix, AZ
Employment Options located in Rhinelander, WI
Gustave A. Larson Company located in Pewaukee, WI
Indeck Energy Services, Inc. located in Buffalo Grove, IL
Indeck Power Equipment located in Wheeling, IL
Northland Accounting located in Rhinelander, WI
Riversong Studio located in Fremont, WI
Sears Roebuck and Co located in Rhinelander, WI
Snow Devils located in Summit Lake, WI
Sunny Day Daycare located in Waupaca, WI
Wisconsin Law Enforcement located in Waupaca, WI

ABC Computers is now a Microsoft Learning Solutions Partner

ABC has been awarded a **Microsoft Learning Solutions Partnership**. The Learning Solutions competency is designed for Microsoft Gold partners with expertise in providing high-quality training and learning solutions for Microsoft software. ABC is one of four companies that are Certified Learning Solutions partners in Wisconsin.

ABC's Certified Trainers have premier technical and instructional expertise on Microsoft products, technologies, and solutions, to ensure a superior learning experience. Learning Solutions Partners use Official Microsoft Learning Products content that is developed directly from Microsoft.



Learning Solutions

ABC will be providing training on the Microsoft Office Desktop applications and the Business Dynamic Solutions including Dynamic's NAV and CRM products. Training can be conducted in a classroom or seminar style, one-on-one, or we can customize the training to meet your business needs. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced user, we can help you reduce costs, save time and improve workflow.

Our training is different—we teach from years of experience in the business world using the products ourselves. Class schedules will be available soon or give us a call at 1-800-834-7700 for a free training needs analysis.



ABC Computers in Waupaca has a 3,000 sq ft training center.

50% Off Training

Buy 4 or more hours of training and receive 50% off the normal rate with this coupon.

For details call JoLynn at 800-834-7700 x3504.

Some restrictions apply.

Expires 3/30/07

Waupaca ▪ Rhinelander ▪ La Crosse ▪ Madison

(800) 834-7700

The ABC ERP Group Attended Directions 2006

The second annual Microsoft Dynamics NAV (formerly known as Navision) Partner conference, Directions 2006, was held October 25th - 28th at the Hotel Intercontinental Buckhead in Atlanta, GA.

This conference helps to keep us current with the direction and new functionality in the Dynamics NAV product.



The key focus of this meeting was the upcoming release of Dynamics NAV 5.0 and the many new features and functions that will be available to the users with this new release.

We are excited about the new 5.0 release, and look forward to sharing this product with you when it is released early next year.

New features in Dynamics NAV 5.0:

- Document approval process for Sales and Purchase documents; Email to linked documents
- Prepayments on Sales orders, Pct or Amounts
- Inventory costing changes – period average costing method, traceability
- Office integration – Export quotes, NAV documents to Word and Excel
- Inter-company purchase cost distribution
- Item Tracking Analysis, search lots, FIFO Picking
- Jobs changes – WIP Calculations, Item tracking integration
- Service order handling
- Improved user documentation
- Outlook integration – synchronize any outlook objects
- Link NAV record to SharePoint documents
- MapPoint Integration
- Role-based training manuals



Emailing Invoices for Dynamics NAV Made Easy!

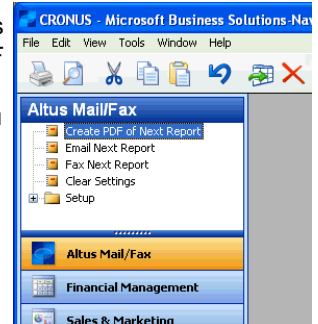


Do you want an easier way to send Dynamic NAV invoices, reports and documents via fax or e-mail?

Well, we have the answer. Altus Business Solutions!

Altus PDF E-mail/Fax for Dynamics NAV fills the gap for one of the most commonly requested functions - the ability to directly e-mail or fax documents from within the software. No more printing reports to PDF files and then manually attaching them to e-mail messages and re-keying the recipients name - Altus PDF Mail/Fax add-on takes care of it all.

Altus E-mail/Fax automates the process for communicating reports and documents via e-mail (as PDF attachments). For generic transmission of any report, a new menu group has been added to the MenuSuite. The user is able to activate the tool for ANY report listed in the menu system. Prior to selecting the desired report, the user simply goes to the Altus Mail/Fax menu group and clicks the "E-mail Next Report" link.



The user then navigates through the MenuSuite to find the link to the report he/she wants to email, and opens it. Report filters and options can be set on a request form as usual. The user clicks Print followed by OK at the print dialog, and the report is generated as a properly-named PDF. A new e-mail message then opens with the file attached. Users can define standard body text to be used for all reports, or customized text when specific reports are sent.

For automatic e-mailing of documents, the add-on integrates with Microsoft Outlook using standard Dynamic NAV processes.

Want to learn more? Give us a call and we can give you a demonstration of how easy this product is to use.

Microsoft Dynamics NAV Aged Receivables Report Fixed in 4.02

Many of you have experienced problems with the Aged Receivables Report because it did not display the aged receivables correctly if partial payments had been applied. The report was post dated. This has been corrected in the 4.02 release. With the 4.02 release, you can post date the report; partial payments will now show correctly, even if the balance has been paid off in the time between the end of month and the date the report is actually run.

We have tested this fix, and it can be installed on 4.01 releases if the link that exports to Excel is disabled. Please contact ABC support at support@abc-computers.com if you would like to upgrade to 4.02 or would like us to look into loading the 4.02 report onto your release.

Congratulations on Certifications!

Jeffrey Halat and Valerie Vanevenhoven, of the ABC Computers ERP group, recently attended a five-day training course at Lanham Associates in Georgia certifying them on Lanham eShip software.



eShip integrates shipping and EDI processes with Dynamics NAV. It gives the ability to track packages, send automatic email notifications and quote shipping rates for most carriers.

Several customers also attended the five-day certification course and afterwards were able to greatly reduce their onsite training costs during implementation.

Scott Guthrie also of the ERP Group, recently attended training at the Integrated Business Group in Altamonte Springs, FL. for MS Dynamics NAV 4.0 – Financials I and II. Some topics covered during this training included working with



General Ledger, Taxes, Dimensions, Journals, Posting Groups, Payables, Receivables, Fixed Assets, Multicurrency Operations, Analysis and Reporting, Resources & Jobs. Following the training, Scott passed the test to become Certified in Microsoft Dynamics NAV 4.0 Financials.

New Faces

ABC is excited to announce the addition of these new faces to our staff:



Benjamin Kees - Ben joins our team in the Technical Services department and will be servicing our clients from the Waupaca office. Ben is currently pursuing his Bachelor Degree in Network Security at ITT-Technical Institute in Green Bay. He also enjoys Waterskiing on the Chain O' Lakes and dirt biking with friends.



Scott Meisenhelder—Scott comes to us with ten years of networking experience and has joined the technical department as a network engineer. He most recently resided in Greenville, WI prior to that he was in the Army for 10 years and just returned in mid-August from a year long deployment to the Kuwait/Iraq border in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Scott has a wife, daughter, step-daughter and a new son. Scott graduated from ITT Tech with an associate degree in Computer Networking Systems and will return to ITT to finish his bachelor's degree in Information System Security this fall. Scott enjoys golf and fishing in his free time.



Rick Dill - Rick joins us with 26 years of experience in Manufacturing and Distribution environments and manages the ERP Implementation and Development staff. He has a BBA from U.W. Whitewater majoring in Management Computer Systems. Rick has relocated to Waupaca from the Janesville area.



Geoff Overland – Geoff joins ABC as Business Development Manager after spending 5 years at Microsoft. After receiving his CS degree from UW-Madison, Geoff's 12-year software career focused on improving business through the use of software. The last 4 years, Geoff was in charge of Microsoft's Mid-market business for the state of Wisconsin. Whether you are looking for strategic knowledge on ERP, CRM, Desktop Utilization, Infrastructure and Server Optimization, or licensing, Geoff can work with you to determine the best strategies for your business.



Don Paulson - Don joins our team in the technical services department with 15 years of network engineering experience. He graduated from Control Data Institute and wants to further his education at UW- Oshkosh. Don currently lives in Neenah and has two sons, one in college and one in High school. Don enjoys all the seasons from golf to snowmobiling.



Betty Cronin - Betty joins ABC as an Executive Account Manager and brings 29 years of experience selling ERP systems in the corporate marketplace. Twelve of those years, Betty managed her own company specializing in manufacturing and distribution software. Betty worked for Navision, was the Wisconsin territory manager for 2 years and has a Masters degree from Northwestern

Jazz Up Your Data Using SQL 2005 Server Reporting Services

Reports are the lifeline of business, so a good reporting environment is critical for business. A powerful FREE tool like Microsoft SQL Server Reporting Services enables organizations to transform valuable enterprise data into shared information for insightful, timely decisions at a lower total cost of ownership.

SQL Server Reporting Services (SSRS) is a comprehensive, server-based solution that enables the creation, management, and delivery of both traditional, paper-oriented reports and interactive, Web-based reports. An integrated part of the Microsoft business intelligence framework, Reporting Services combines the data management capabilities of SQL Server and Microsoft Windows Server with familiar and powerful Microsoft Office System applications to deliver real-time information to support daily operations and drive decisions.

SSRS includes all the development and management pieces necessary to publish end user reports in HTML, PDF, Excel, and CSV formats. Originally released as a SQL 2000 separate add on that could be downloaded from the web, all the Reporting Server pieces are now bundled in SQL 2005 for FREE!

If you have experience with a banded reporting tool, such as Crystal Reports, or Microsoft Access, then SQL Server Reporting Services will be familiar as it includes a drag and drop report builder called Report Designer. In addition to the drag and drop Report Designer, SSRS also includes an application for letting power users generate their own ad hoc reports called Report Builder.



Microsoft has announced that Windows Vista will be broadly available as a stand-alone product or pre-installed on new PCs on **January 30, 2007**. Windows Vista was made available to Volume License customers at the end of November 2006. Those who buy a computer system with Windows XP or Office 2003 between now and March 15, 2007 will be eligible to move up to Windows Vista or Office 2007. There will be a small fee for shipping and handling in most cases.

The release of Vista will mark the first full fledged update to the desktop operating system since Windows XP in 2001.

Among the changes coming with Vista are a new graphics engine and user interface, improved desktop searching and a new media player and Web browser. Also included are "under the hood" improvements in areas like security and manageability, as well as power management.

The revised Explorer still has a Folders pane, but the customizable Favorites pane is more useful. The Command bar replaces XP's task pane, and the default folders in each user's profile keep different data types segregated.

The expanded Category view makes it easier to find formerly obscure options. Search tools are built into the operating system and are available in Windows Explorer, in common dialog boxes, on the Start menu, and in supported e-mail programs. After the initial, CPU-intensive flurry of indexing activity, there's little impact on the CPU. You can search using tags (saved as metadata in files) and save any search for reuse.

Microsoft Windows Vista is designed to dramatically improve the computing experience of every kind of PC user—from people at home who use their PCs for simple web browsing, to business people who must organize and act on large volumes of data, to scientists who routinely perform complex mathematical analysis. To make sure that everyone has an offering tailored to meet their specific needs, Microsoft will deliver five different editions of Windows Vista. Each edition is focused on the needs of a specific type of person. Large, global organizations with complex IT infrastructures should consider Windows Vista Enterprise Edition.

Deciding which version of Vista would be best for you or if you can upgrade your current computer can be a difficult task. ABC Computers can assist you with these options. Give us a call at 800-834-7700 for more information.



Tips and Tricks

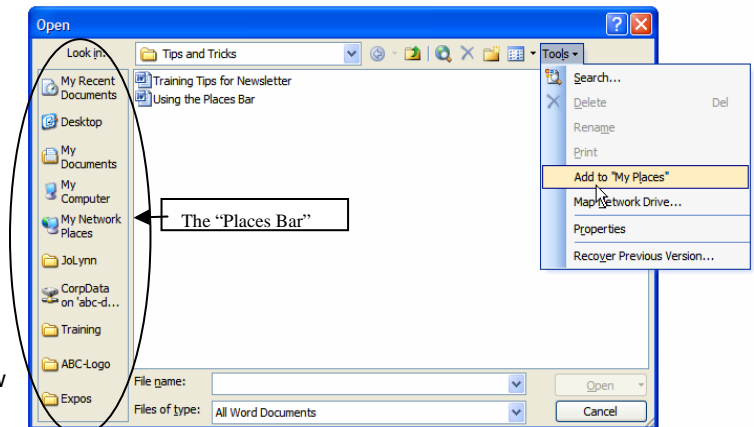
Using the Places Bar — *Would you like to have faster navigation to files and folders on your network or local drive while using Microsoft Office applications?*

By using the Places Bar within the Save As or the Open dialog boxes you can save time searching for items that you use on a regular basis.

1. Open the Save As or the Open dialog box.
2. Navigate to a folder or file that you want to add as a shortcut.
3. Click once on the file or folder to select it.
4. Go to the Tools pull-down menu and left click on Add to Places Bar.

Special Notes:

- The instructions above are available using Office 2002 and Office 2003. This feature is also available in the New Office 2007 but the instructions for adding are different than listed above. In Office 2007, select the folder or drive then right-click anywhere in the places bar and left-click on add.
- The Shortcuts added to the Places Bar will be visible when using the Save As or Open dialog boxes in ALL Microsoft desktop applications including InfoPath, OneNote, Visio, Project, etc.
- Something you may want to consider is changing the Icons to be "small" instead of large so that you can fit more shortcuts on the Places Bar. Right-click anywhere on the Places Bar. Left-click on Small Icons.
- To delete a shortcut from the Places Bar right-click on the shortcut then left-click on Remove.
- Shortcuts can be moved up or down within the list by right-clicking on the shortcut.
- You can add up to 256 items to the My Places bar.





ABC Computers is featured in the eWeek Strategic Partner article dated October 26, 2006 for it's Co-Admin services.

With Co-Admin, ABC Computers can monitor your system remotely, supplementing your IT staff or operating as your IT staff. From printers to e-mail to network maintenance to storage backup, Co-Admin can keep your computer systems protected and operational. With managed services, ABC can provide pro-active support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with remote and security management.

Easy Does It

By Hailey Lynne McKeefry 10/26/2006

ASI System Integration dipped its toe in the managed services waters several years ago, and now the company is ready to really dive in. The solution provider is building a network operations center and creating a portfolio of managed services aimed at keeping clients' mission-critical IT systems humming.

ABC Computers, meanwhile, is just now getting into managed services, through which solution providers remotely take over IT task at client sites. ABC management wanted to thoroughly understand the implications of a transition to managed services rather than dive in blindly. Had it acted differently, the company might not have figured out that free try-outs are a good away to market managed services to hesitant small-business customers, for instance.

To read the full article visit the website at:

http://www.esp.eweek.com/article/Easy+Does+It/192457_1.aspx

To find out more about Co-Admin, contact Curt Bastian with ABC's Tech Department at 1-800-834-7700 ext. 1301.

Want to Stop SPAM?

Did you know that users receive hundreds, sometimes thousands of Spam email every day?

What is Spam? Unsolicited e-mail, often of a commercial nature, sent indiscriminately to multiple mailing lists, individuals, or newsgroups; junk e-mail.

Spam wastes network users' time and network resources, and can also be dangerous. GFI MailEssentials offers anti-spam for Microsoft Exchange servers and other email servers and eliminates the need to install and update anti-spam software on each desktop.



GFI MailEssentials will eliminate over 98% of the spam from your network. Some features and benefits of GFI MailEssentials are:

- Highest spam detection rate (98%) because of its Bayesian filtering technology
- Lowest false positives through its patent pending auto white list feature
- Server-based install, no client software required
- Allows users to review email marked as spam from junk mail folder
- GFI MailEssentials is the #1 server anti-spam solution

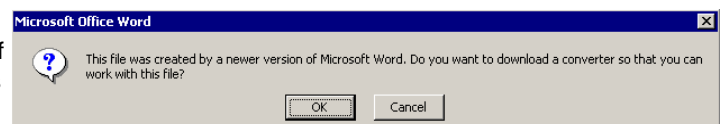
GFI MailEssentials can be purchased in 25 users to 1000 users. GFI works incredibly well...as ABC can attest to because we use it internally! For complete details and pricing, give ABC Computers a call.

A Look in the 2007 Technology Crystal Ball

2007 is right around the corner and Microsoft is releasing an unprecedented number of new software products specifically designed to improve your business. If you haven't started planning, now is the time to make sure you are ready for what is coming. It will be an exciting year with the focus on making your business "people ready". This is Microsoft's biggest product enhancement in 12 years so you can expect some major improvements.

The 2007 Microsoft Office System includes new and improved suites, applications and servers. Microsoft has already released its new operating system Vista, Microsoft Office 2007 and Exchange 2007 to businesses, then the launch to consumers is scheduled for January 30, 2007. There will be other new products released throughout 2007 like Communicator 2007, Groove 2007, Office Forms Server 2007, Office SharePoint Designer 2007, Dynamics NAV 5.0 and...the list goes on and on.

Even if you don't upgrade your software, someone else might have upgraded theirs and you may need to share information with them. Recently we had someone receive an email with a document attached that had an extension of ".docx". The document was created with Word 2007. Since this person didn't have Word 2007 on their computer, they were prompted with a converter message. If you haven't seen this yet – you probably will soon. Microsoft has released an Office Resource Kit and an Office Migration Planning Manager (OMPM) Office File Converter in conjunction with the Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack to perform bulk file conversion tasks. Viewers are also available for Word, Excel and PowerPoint.



We can test your current hardware to see if it is compatible with the new versions of software. Give ABC a call to schedule a site survey.

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What is Microsoft Dynamics NAV?

You've seen it in our newsletters, on our website, but what exactly is it?

Microsoft Dynamics NAV, formerly Navision, is an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system developed for distribution and manufacturing companies plus CRM, eCommerce and Service Management.

It is an accounting solution that allows you to grow at your own pace and partners like us, are given full source code to customize the application to your business needs...your way.

Dynamics NAV has the Microsoft Office look and feel so it is easy to learn and will help your employees work more efficiently in the programs they're already familiar with.

If you would like to learn more about Microsoft Dynamics NAV, give one our friendly staff at ABC at call. We look forward to hearing from you.