



## “Bits & Bytes”

August/September 2006

[www.ratex.com](http://www.ratex.com)

[www.visualratex.com](http://www.visualratex.com)

### Welcome!

The end of summer is a busy time for everyone, including everyone here at RBS. A lot has happened since our last newsletter went out in July. Please take some time to read through our August/September edition of Bits & Bytes.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who traveled to Jackson Hole, Wyoming for the 2006 RUG conference. I received comments from many attendees that they felt this year's conference was one of the best ever! RBS always appreciates the opportunity to meet with our clients and to learn how they use RATEX to meet their business needs. For those of you that could not attend, hopefully we will see you next year in Boulder, Colorado.

I hope sales are up and text returns are down!

Sincerely,

Jere Warner

### Bits & Bytes Table of Contents

[New RBS Customer!](#)

[New RBS Employee!](#)

[Development/Support](#)

- [ISBN-13 Updates](#)
  - [ISBN-13 Certification](#)
  - [RATEX 8.01 ISBN-13 Release](#)
  - [VR ISBN-13](#)

- [eBook Integration](#)

[VisualRATEX Updates](#)

- [Clients Going Live](#)
- [Customized Help System](#)

[Universe Training](#)

[Upcoming Trade Shows](#)

- [Campus Stores Canada 2006](#)
- [The MEGA Foursome](#)

## New RBS Customer!

Not only has the temperature been elevated on the east coast this summer, but the mercury has been climbing on the RBS sales thermometer. Over the past several months, RBS responded to a specific Request for Proposal (RFP) and visited our newest client – the University of Southern California, Trojan Bookstores – on three separate occasions. We are pleased to welcome the University of Southern California, Trojan Bookstores to our family of clients.

For more information about sales, please contact Mario at [madimascia@ratex.com](mailto:madimascia@ratex.com)

## New RBS Employee!

We would like to welcome Tiffany Hanshaw to RBS! On September 1st, Tiffany joined the staff as a full time Programmer/Analyst in the VisualRATEX development group. Previously, Tiffany was a contract programmer; she has worked on the VisualRATEX product for the last 2 years. She was instrumental in bringing VisualRATEX to life and has a strong knowledge of the new development tool set. Tiffany resides in Arizona and works on west coast time.

Tiffany can be reached via email at [thanshaw@ratex.com](mailto:thanshaw@ratex.com).

## Development/Support

### ISBN-13 Updates

#### ISBN-13 Certification

Pubnet has recognized Ratex Business Solutions' POS System / Textbook Management System to be Pubnet ISBN-13 certified. Within two weeks, RBS will be listed as ISBN-13 certified at the following web sites:

[http://www.pubnet.org/scs/isbn13\\_certified.html](http://www.pubnet.org/scs/isbn13_certified.html)

<http://www.pubnet.org/community/certifiedpos.html>

#### RATEX 8.01 ISBN-13 Release

The RATEX 8.01 ISBN-13 release is now **LIVE** at the following universities:

- ✓ University of Illinois (7/12)
- ✓ University of Arkansas (8/11)
- ✓ University of California, Davis (8/14)

We have several other clients going live on RATEX 8.01 in the next several weeks.

**If you have not signed up for your RATEX 8.01 ISBN-13 upgrade, please contact Jeff Zayicek to get scheduled. Please don't wait to get on the ISBN-13 upgrade schedule. The deadline is January 1, 2007.**

To schedule your RATEX ISBN upgrade, contact Jeff at [jmzayicek@ratex.com](mailto:jmzayicek@ratex.com).

#### VR ISBN-13

University of Waterloo is our beta-site for **VR** ISBN-13. They have been testing since August 10. A VR ISBN-13 release is expected in late September/early October.

### eBook Integration

We are pleased to announce that the Digital Delivery effort by RATEX Business Solutions in conjunction with the FHEG eBooks initiative has been completed, integrated, tested and deployed to RATEX installations for use this fall.

The project was a significant effort for all parties involved. Thanks to FHEG, the RBS development team, and the participating PACT clients for driving this initiative in a very short timeframe. Not only were technical hurdles tackled, but a significant number of enhancements for accommodating digital delivery were placed into the POS\*Liberty and VisualRATEX software solutions. These enhancements should make the offering of digital books a user and consumer friendly experience within the POS\*Liberty and VisualRATEX products.

If you would like more information about eBooks, please contact Mario DiMascia at [madimascia@ratex.com](mailto:madimascia@ratex.com).

### **VisualRATEX Updates**

If you are interested in learning more about VisualRATEX, check out our web site at <http://www.ratex.com/visualratex/> or contact sales at [sales@ratex.com](mailto:sales@ratex.com).

### Clients Going Live

RBS has a very busy fall schedule. Five clients will be going live on VisualRATEX from now until the end of year.

The University of New Mexico and the University of Minnesota are scheduled in October; three additional clients are scheduled in November and December.

### Customized Help System

RBS is now offering VisualRATEX Help that can be customized for your school. Services include the following:

- ✓ documentation for your custom screens
- ✓ documentation for specific procedures used in your store
- ✓ modifications to the VisualRATEX Help layout to reflect your school colors (ex. headings, hyperlinks, text)
- ✓ your school logo on the Welcome page *in addition* to the VisualRATEX logo

This will be a billable service at an hourly rate. Quotes are available upon request.

If you are interested in this service, please contact Jessica at [jksobonya@ratex.com](mailto:jksobonya@ratex.com)

### **Universe Training**

Based on feedback from our clients, RBS is working with IBM to schedule another round of Universe training courses. RBS plans to offer three Universe training courses on the following subjects:

- ✓ Universe Fundamentals
- ✓ Universe Administration
- ✓ Universe Basic Programming

Once the schedule is confirmed, RBS will send out information detailing the course schedule and related costs. A five student minimum is required for each course.

For more information or to sign up for a course, please contact Jeff at [jmzayicek@ratex.com](mailto:jmzayicek@ratex.com).

## Upcoming Trade Shows

Mark your Calendars! RBS will be attending several trade shows in the next few months:

### Campus Stores Canada 2006

For our Canadian clients, RBS will be attending Campus Stores Canada (CSC) 2006 – “At the Centre of It All.”

**When?** Tuesday, November 7, 2006 – User Group meeting from 9:00AM – 12:00PM

**Where?** Delta Winnipeg Hotel in Winnipeg Manitoba

The conference is being held by Campus Stores Canada.

For more information about this event, please visit the [CSC web site](#).

### The MEGA Foursome

This is your *mega* opportunity to visit with RBS and see the latest VisualRATEX developments at this year's MEGA Foursome Tradeshow.

**When?** Wednesday, November 8, 2006 – EXPO from 10:00AM – 5:00PM

Thursday, November 9, 2006 – User Group meeting, time TBA

**Where?** Grand Sierra Hotel in Reno, NV

The conference is being held by the following associations:

- California Association of College Stores (CACCS)
- Northwest College Bookstore Association (NCBA)
- Rocky Mountain Skyline Bookstore Association (RMSBA)
- Southwest College Bookstore Association (SWCBA)

For more information, please visit the [CACCS web site](#).

If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, please send them to Jessica at [jsobonya@ratex.com](mailto:jsobonya@ratex.com).