



“Bits & Bytes”

May 8, 2006

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Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of the *RBS Newsletter*, “Bits & Bytes”. Our goal with the newsletter is to provide you with brief but informative information on various topics including RBS development projects and other company updates. At the end of each segment there is contact information in case you would like more details or have questions on that topic.

Thank you for reading – it is our pleasure to serve you.

Jere Warner, President, RATEX Business Solutions

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New Faces at RBS

RBS welcomes three new employees to the company: Jessica Sobonya, Tom Gorton and Jim Palmer. Jessica Sobonya is our technical writer who will continue developing VisualRATEX’s online help system. In time, Jessica will also join the VR Support group helping wherever she can. Tom and Jim are seasoned UniVerse programmers who will assist in both RATEX and VisualRATEX support as well as new VisualRATEX development.

Please welcome these new employees to the RBS Team!

For more information on RBS staffing, please contact Jere at jbwarner@ratex.com.

Kevin Becker has recently moved from a full time RBS employee to a RBS sub-contractor. Kevin can perform a wide variety of professional services including on-site training and process evaluation.

For more information on how Kevin can help with your RATEX training needs, please contact Jeff at jmzayicek@ratex.com.

Development/Support

ISBN-13 – Are you ready?

For most of 2006, we have been hard at work on the new release 8.01 of RATEX. The new release will require a data conversion to convert all of the existing book records in Text and Trade from the ISBN-10 format to the new ISBN-13 format. The new release has also been designed to allow you to enter your existing ISBN-10 numbers anywhere there is an ISBN prompt. The system will convert them to the proper ISBN-13 format.

This release will also require a change to your custom Text and Trade forms (PO's, CB's and Shelf Tags), book price tags, and any interfaces you have that send or receive an ISBN to or from a web site.

There will be a session on the ISBN-13 conversion and release at the RATEX Users' Group meeting in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on July 22nd – 25th.

The ISBN-13 release of the RATEX code is now ready for beta test. If you are interested in being a beta site, please contact Jeff at jmzayicek@ratex.com.

CISP Certification

We are in the midst of our CISP (Cardholder Information Security Program) certification processes with Ambrion Trustwave. We will complete our initial coding changes to POS*Liberty and sales audit to handle the necessary data security.

With CISP in place, all cardholder data will either be masked (only the last 4 digits are visible) or encrypted when it is written to a disk. Also, card track data will not be stored in any location once it is no longer needed.

While we are completing the certification, we are also working with Colorado University at Boulder to test the data encryption changes to POS. We will work through set-up and installation issues and develop a guide that will make the final process go smoothly.

To ensure your system is ready for this important upgrade, it is essential you are on Universe release 10.1 or higher (which may also entail an OS upgrade.) Please verify your system is ready. If not, perform the upgrade as soon as possible.

For more information about CISP, please contact Mark at mcbaumannerb@ratex.com.

Serialized Inventory Release Update

The ability to track serialized merchandise is now available in the latest patch release of RATEX 7.71. The final version of the software was installed at ASUCLA and UC-Davis earlier this year and both sites are live on the new release.

We would like to thank Kamran Mehdian and Lucy Fridland at ASUCLA and Martin Robles from UC-Davis for the time and effort they have put forward in getting this software tested and ready for general release.

Now that the 7.71 release has been finalized, we will begin to migrate the new features into VisualRATEX. This migration should be finished and ready for deployment later this summer.

If you have started to use serial numbers in your version of release 7.71, it is recommended that you upgrade to the latest patch. Please email Jeff at jmzayicek@ratex.com to schedule a 7.71 patch.

VisualRATEX (VR) is alive and well!

The University of Waterloo went live on VisualRATEX (VR) in early March of '06. Waterloo was our first Canadian client to move to VR. RBS has also installed VR at many other sites and have one or two schools scheduled to "go live" each month for the next several months.

Most recently the University of Minnesota used VR Buyback for their spring buy. Cornell and Waterloo each used the new VR Physical Inventory module to do their own full store inventory.

If you are interested in getting on the VR upgrade list, please contact Mario at madimascia@ratex.com. Don't wait too long....the open slots are filling up.

If you are interested in learning more about VisualRATEX, check out the new VR web site at <http://www.ratex.com/visualratex/> or contact sales at sales@ratex.com.

Training Opportunities

UniVerse Training

Last fall we held a series of UniVerse training classes that were conducted by IBM. The training classes were well received by those in attendance. If we can get 5 attendees for each session, we would like to offer the following selections again:

- UniVerse Fundamentals
- UniVerse Administration
- UniVerse Programming

The classes would be held in Plymouth Meeting and the cost would be \$1,895 per student.

If you are interested in attending any of the classes, please email what class and your first and second choice for a month you could attend to Jeff at jmzayicek@ratex.com.

Legacy RATEX and VisualRATEX Software Training

This past spring we held several legacy and VisualRATEX classes for specific clients in Plymouth Meeting. If you are interested in training on either legacy or VisualRATEX in Plymouth Meeting or on-site, please email Jeff at jmzayicek@ratex.com for pricing and scheduling.

ISBN-13 Web Presentation

The legacy release of ISBN-13 is now complete and ready for a beta site. If you would like more information on the ISBN-13 change taking place in the industry and could not attend the RATEX ISBN-13 class at CAMEX, we will be offering a web presentation on June 15th at 2 p.m. EDT.

This same presentation, with some updates, will be given on Monday July 24th at the RATEX Users' Conference.

If you would like to attend the web-cast on ISBN-13, please email Jeff at jmzayicek@ratex.com for a password and URL for the web presentation.

2006 RUG Meeting Update

The RATEX Users' Group (RUG) Meeting is just around the corner and will be here in twelve short weeks!

The meeting is being hosted by BYU-Idaho and is being held in Jackson Hole, Wyoming from July 22nd to July 25th. If you have not made your hotel reservations yet, it is strongly advised that you make them as soon as possible to insure your hotel choice. Information on the conference and room reservations can be found at the RUG website http://www.rug.umn.edu/2006_RUG_MEETING.html.

Attending from RBS will be Jere Warner, Mario DiMascia, Mark Baumann-Erb and Jeff Zayicek. This year, the agenda contains a user track, tech track, VR track and Legacy track. Information on the conference, registration materials, and the agenda will be mailed out by the RATEX Users' Group in the next few weeks.

If you have any questions on the conference, please contact Jeff at jmzayicek@ratex.com or any of the officers found on the RUG website at <http://www.rug.umn.edu/OFFICERS.html>.

If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, please send them to Jessica at jsobonya@ratex.com.