

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY QUARTERLY

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INTUIT 'SUNSETS' QUICKBOOKS 2000

By Jennifer Boggs

As of April 30, 2003, Intuit will no longer provide live support for QuickBooks 2000.

Live support includes any telephone support, data recovery, password removal services or electronic support provided by a technical support representative. Additionally, replacement CD's, diskettes and manuals will no longer be available for QuickBooks 2000. The following Add-On Business Services used *through* QuickBooks 2000 will also be discontinued after April 30: QuickBooks Merchant Account Service, QuickBooks Bill Pay and Online Banking. There are exceptions to the support discontinuation; they are as follows:

- 1 Users of QuickBooks 2000 for Windows with "Do-It-Yourself Payroll Service" (formerly known as "Basic Payroll"). Live technical support will continue through April 30, 2004.
- 2 Users of QuickBooks 2000 for Windows whose active support

plan expires after April 30, 2003. Intuit will provide support until the plan expires.

Any user of QuickBooks 2000 who wishes to continue to receive live support or Add-On Business

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—NEWSBRIEFS—

New Wireless standard 802.11g achieves speeds up to 56 Mb per second! 802.11g is backwards compatible with 802.11b equipment too.

DELL is providing its resellers (including the Technology Group) with larger **discounts** and faster turnaround times which benefit our clients.

Flat Panel Monitors have become affordable! See comparison on page 3.

Just for Health Care Providers

HIPAA Security Rule Finalized!

The Security Rule has been finalized and published in the Federal Register on February 20, 2003. Compliance is required of health providers by April 21, 2005.

See page 2, *What Changed From the Proposed Rule*, if you're interested in the changes.

Just for NonProfits

The Pros and Cons of interfacing your fundraising system with your accounting software.

Our not-for-profit clients ask us all the time, "Should we interface?" There is no simple answer that applies to all organizations. The following questions must be asked before we can answer this question:

- ⊙ What software packages are being used? Can the two be interfaced directly?

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Intuit Sunsets Quickbooks 2000

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Services will need to upgrade to QuickBooks 2003.

As a QuickBooks Pro Advisor, we are able to provide you with the latest version's details and assist with determining if an upgrade is necessary. We are able to provide you with upgrade assistance as well.

MIP Tricks & Tips

By: Deborah Swanson

For our not-for-profit MIP users

Default settings for document entry

Did you know that you are able to set defaults for document entry, such as document date, document description, line item account coding and line item effective dates? Just start your session and use the Entry Defaults toolbar button to specify defaults for the current session and then enter your first document.



Period End "soft-closing"

To prevent posting of specific types of transactions to past or future periods, you can specify invalid dates under Administration/Organization Preferences on the Entry Dates Tab. MIP allows you to prohibit or warn against posting prior to or after specific dates.

The Scoop on Flat Panel Monitors & Your Health

By Jeff Gerace

The world of flat panel monitors has been a scary place for most people, due in part to the sticker shock when comparison shopping with traditional CRT (Cathode Ray Tube) monitors. Also called LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) monitors, flat screen monitors can add a whole new dimension of comfort and space savings to any environment. We all know how attractive they are, but LCD monitors can serve more than an aesthetic purpose; they also have significant health benefits. With more and more manufacturers getting into the marketplace, these once unattainable monitors have slowly become more affordable.

Most business employees spend at least some portion of the day in front of a computer screen. Anybody that has ever had to spend any length of time working on the PC may currently suffer from or have suffered from Computer Vision Syndrome (CVS). CVS is a very common occurrence for regular computer users, and it is generally categorized by seven major symptoms including: eyestrains, headaches, blurred vision, dry or irritated eyes, neck and/or backache, light sensitivity, and double vision. Believe it or not, the vast majority of these symptoms can be prevented with the proper equipment and posture. Flat panel monitors have been designed with the user in mind and may have features you never knew existed. To combat the symptoms of CVS, LCD monitors are designed with anti-glare coatings, are virtually flicker-free, take

up MUCH less real estate on your desktop so you can keep more distance between your eyes and the monitor, and have much sharper resolution to reduce eyestrain.

Now that you know the health benefits of a CRT monitor, let's look at the best brands and most cost effective solutions to meet your needs. In the 15" range, the top 4 monitors (according to ZDNET) are



the Dell UltraSharp 1504FP, the Samsung Syncmaster 152B, the Sony SDM-S51, and the Viewsonic VG500B. All of the 15" flat panel monitors are priced in the \$350-\$400 range, they all have similar features, and all are rated in the top 75% in their respective class. As you move into the 17", 19", and 21" monitors, the prices start to climb significantly. Here is where the prices become more dynamic based on the features, style, and condition of the monitor. For instance, a 19" refurbished LCD monitor can cost less than a 17" new LCD monitor, depending on features. For the most part, a shopper can expect to spend anywhere from \$650 to \$850 to get an industry standard 17" monitor. A 19" or 20" monitor will generally run from \$800 to \$1500.

No matter which LCD monitor you choose, you will no doubt be the envy of your peers and reap the health benefits almost immediately. When comparing the up-front costs against the long term health benefits, it is clear that now could be the time to invest in new technology.

In House News:

Jeff Gerace has joined our firm as a Network Engineer. Jeff comes with 10 years of experience.

The Technology Group is proud to have recently become the outsourced IT department for the **American Lung Association of CT.**

Technology Group, LLC makes the **Hartford Business Journal's top 10 list** of Largest Computer Network Consultants in Greater Hartford.

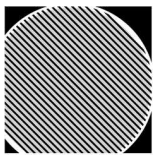
Mark Torello has joined the **ISACA**—Information Systems Audit and Control Association.

The Technology Group, LLC is proud to be partners with:

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