

CAROLINA VISIONS

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Oates & Company, LLC

Putting Technology To Work For You. Everyday.

4.0 IS HERE!

The long awaited 4.0 version is shipping as this newsletter goes to press. This release is a culmination of over 12 months of development effort and extensive usability tests. The 4.0 release represents the most significant release of MAS90 since the introduction of its Windows-based product in 1996.

In this release, BEST is introducing the Business Insights Reporter. This is a wizard reporting tool that will be provided as part of the standard MAS90 system. Many of you have voiced the need to simplify the process of getting data. The Reporter can easily and intuitively find the information you need from any part of the MAS90 system and convert it to a printable form or Excel worksheets for analysis.

Version 4.0 also includes a free limited edition of Business Alerts. If you do not

currently use Business Alerts we highly suggest you take advantage of this free limited edition. Business Alerts generates emails when customer specified circumstances occur. This limited edition provides five free alerts and can be upgraded to provide unlimited alert capacity. You will need to talk about Business Alerts with Thomas Cozart, and you can contact him at 336-230-0200.

Other GL enhancements included in Version 4.0 are:

- Dual Grid Design—the data entry interface can be setup to assess individual workflow needs for faster data entry.
- New Company setup wizard—Whether a new installation of MAS90 or just setting up a new company, the new Company Set Up Wizard will guide you through the configuration of General

Ledger by way of an easy to use interface.

- Unlimited Budgets—You can now save all historical budgets for reporting purposes while building budgets for future fiscal periods.
- Financial Statements—A new wizard walks you through creating financial statements by selecting a range of pre-defined templates. The result can be “fine-tuned” to match your company’s requirements.

As you can tell, there are extensive new innovative changes to MAS90. For those of you who do your own upgrades this is not one that Best recommends you do without specific training, therefore we will be offering a half-day class. We’ll send you more information when it becomes available.

Did you hear the news?

MAS90 has just been named the enterprise resource planning (ERP) product of the year by *Computer Reseller News*.

Product of the year awards were given to the most innovative product in each of 10 categories. MAS 90 v3.71 was selected as the winner in the ERP category.

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Message from the President

We are fast approaching the end of the first quarter of 2004. If you’re like me, you’re ready for some warm spring days. Along with spring comes the exciting, much anticipated release of MAS90/200 4.0. There are many customer requested changes in this release. It does benefit you to send in those request forms to BEST. Because of the major changes in this release we are asking all of our customers not to upgrade before May 1st. We will be offering training classes for this upgrade. It is the first BEST release that we feel a training class is needed. You can find more information on this in the newsletter.

I would like to take a moment and thank each of you for your business this year. We are continually making changes to our customer service and hope you will be pleased.

Chris Oates, President

Oates & Company Has A New Look!

No, *we* haven't had plastic surgery. But our website had a face lift! Oates & Company has launched a brand new website this month. We've added MAS 90/200 content (still working on the MAS 500, but we're get-

ting there), information on the three user groups, and pictures and bios of all of our people (so you'll have a face with the name). You can also register for classes on the web, too! Please check out our new web-

site at www.oatesco.com and let us know what you think. Love it or hate it, we want to know! You can email jini@oatesco.com with your comments.

BEST Software Purchases Macabe Development Team

As many of you have probably heard BEST Software purchased the development division of Macabe. You may be asking what it means to me. If you have Macabe part numbers they are now owned by BEST. The major difference will be your maintenance renewal. For those of you with BEST maintenance plans coming up for

renewal, BEST will prorate your old Macabe maintenance costs into the BEST pricing. The reason for this is that the expiration dates need to be consistent. If you have any questions about your renewal, please call your Account Manager, Tammy Graves at 336-230-0200.



**"BEST WILL
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User Groups

Greensboro Triad Region

When: Tuesday, March 16, 2004

Where: Oates & Company

Time: 4-6pm

Raleigh/Triangle Region

When: Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Where: Batchelor Supply

Time: 4-6pm

Classes

Hands-On 4.0 Training

When: Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Where: Oates & Company

Cost: \$250 per person

Time: Your choice of morning or afternoon—times TBA.

CPE Offered

For more information or to register for any of these upcoming events, please call Tammy Graves at 336-230-0200

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#). Questions or comments? Email us at jini@oatesco.com or call 336-230-0200.

User Conference

Mark your calendars! Our Annual MAS90/200 User Conference has been scheduled for Wednesday, August 25, 2004. Don't miss this exciting information filled conference. More information will follow.