

ACCPAC Pro Series Available In Two Editions

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Powered by Microsoft FoxPro technology, ACCPAC Pro Series (800-945-8007; www.accpac.com) offers a group of modules for the medium-sized manufacturer. It sports a well-organized interface that is easy to learn and use, yet provides all the most popular functions and



reports needed to manage the production and distribution process. ACCPAC Pro Series is available in two editions: Small Business Edition and Enterprise Edition. Small companies can start with the more affordable Small Business Edition and then move seamlessly to the Enterprise Edition in order to accommodate more users as well as other features like full source code, warehouse management and multicurrency modules.

The manufacturing modules include Production Entry, Work Orders, Shop Control, Project Accounting, Customer Connect and Bill of Ladings. The integrated modular design of the program allows the company to select only the functions needed in various combina-

tions suitable for distributors, inventory-based manufacturers or operations-based manufacturers. The programs are designed for a client/server environment, which allows for scalability as the organization grows. The server component requires a Windows 2000 Server, Windows NT Server 4.0, or Novell NetWare 4.x or 5.x. Workstations require Windows 98, 2000 Pro, NT 4.0 Workstation or XP Pro.

Production Entry provides bill of materials, sales kit and configuration, and backflush processing. The bill of materials supports up to 99 levels, with built-in engineering change order history. Items in the bill of materials can be external, modular, standard or variable. Modular components allow for the selection of various configuration options during order entry, which reduces the number of bills of materials that need to be defined and maintained.

Work Orders encompasses component allocation, routing and material requirements planning (MRP) features. Several different methods are available for creating work orders that support either build-to-order or build-to-stock manufacturers. Production orders can be automatically generated from sales order entry, inventory forecasts or inventory shortages processing. Purchase orders are generated from MRP or bill of materials component requirements.

Shop Control provides tools for capacity planning, scheduling and WIP tracking. By importing work orders, you can use the manufacturing resource planning reports to identify production bottlenecks or capacity shortages using the reports that can be defined based on various time frames. What-if plan orders can be created to analyze the effect of a

proposed work order on the resources that are available.

Job cost management is handled through the Project Accounting module, which allows you to define up to four levels of cost tracking: project, phase, category and cost-type. Vendor invoices, employee time sheets and other job costs can be entered and tracked through this module. A choice of billing methods allows you to bill the customer for the job only once or multiple times.

For companies using the Enterprise Edition, the Warehouse Management System is also available and provides support for managing distribution logistics. This module integrates wireless bar code reader technology to streamline the picking, packing and shipping process. Warehouse personnel can pick multiple orders in a single pass. Inventory control features are also available to help reduce obsolete or slow-moving inventories.

ACCPAC Pro Series is a modern package that is accessible to smaller manufacturers but built on a platform that easily accommodates growth. The availability of source code will be attractive to companies, large or small, that need customizations. Rather than writing a customized application in-house, they can enjoy the considerable planning and documentation that is already part of this suite. Customizations can be developed by a company's own programming staff if available, or by independent ACCPAC Solution Providers who typically have many years of experience dealing with a variety of business types. ACCPAC offers several demo and evaluation offers for companies that want to investigate the program's features in more depth. ■★★★★