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Point Builds toward the Future of Tax Collection with RevenueNET™



Attendees of the 2006 PUG Conference got a glimpse of the future when Point Software unveiled the initial prototype of TaxValues™ RevenueNET™. This application blends with ReportNET™ to bridge Point's proven tax billing and collection system into new technology. Beyond that, says Point Software president Jim Regan, "RevenueNET culminates our goal to provide our customers with a complete Internet-based revenue management solution, integrating the billing, collection, treasury, CAMA and document man-

agement functions under a single umbrella as part of the Municipal Electronic Government Administration initiative we framed nearly five years ago."

RevenueNET employs a forward-thinking design that yields several advantages:

- As a web-based application, it is compatible with any workstation running Internet Explorer, it is easy to use, and it is available anytime, anywhere with the appropriate permissions.
- It positions collectors to extend the reach of their offices with e-commerce.
- It automatically supplies content to Point's document management solution *DocumentLink™* to allow interdepartmental collaboration.
- Point implemented RevenueNET as an upgrade solution as opposed to a re-

placement product, thereby causing minimal disruption to the collector's office during installation and providing full lookup and reporting access to prior year's data following installation.

- Like its predecessor, RevenueNET requires very little maintenance to sustain its continuous operation.
- The coupling of RevenueNET and ReportNET allows the collector's office to e-mail and/or archive reports and any other documents generated by the system, such as tax bills, municipal lien certificates and abatement certificates.

Both RevenueNET and its companion application ReportNET connect to Caché, a post-relational database engine that is fully SQL, ODBC and Microsoft .NET compliant. They also share another design

characteristic: both support the open document mandates of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

With advanced functionality such as its unique "Bill Picker" control that was demonstrated at PUG, RevenueNET™ carries on the Point tradition of innovation, performance, flexibility and usability. The best part is Point will make RevenueNET™ a reality for all of our existing customers by offering this solution as an upgrade not a repurchase. Both RevenueNET and ReportNET will be supplied to our users at minimal expenses with the only costs being a one-time conversion fee plus the cost for Caché licensing.

If you are interested in learning more about RevenueNET, we invite you to contact one of our business developers. Either [Scott Choiniere](#) (ext. 120) or [Brian O'Donnell](#) (ext. 118) would be happy to arrange a web demo.

Point Announces Major Update of Collection System to Begin in August

Starting in August, Point Software will begin a staged release of a major update to the MSM collection system. As discussed at the PUG Conference, this update delivers a number of improvements such as enhanced security and inquiry features.

Distribution of the release will be achieved through a direct, secure connection from our office to the customer's computer. The software development team fully endorses GotoMyPC as the distribution medium. GotoMyPC is a low-cost, hassle-free product that

provides 24x7 access from any location and eliminates the need to maintain a separate phone line for dialup connectivity.

Further developments and information regarding the update will be posted on the Point online forums



(<http://forums.pointsw.com/>) under "Collections."



Calendar of Events

Date(s)	Event	Location
Aug. 6-11	MAAO 51 st Annual School	University of Massachusetts Campus Center Amherst, MA
Aug. 15-18	MCTA 36 th Annual School	University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA
Sept. 27	MCTA Fall Meeting	The Log Cabin 500 Easthampton Road Holyoke, MA

Online Payment Exchange Option Gains Acceptance

As we begin Fiscal 2007, Point is pleased to see that our Online Payment Exchange option is gaining widespread acceptance with our customers. Since its inception in late December 2005, about 20 municipalities have chosen to adopt the new software so far with additional users signing up on a steady basis.

This purpose-built program allows the creation of payment files for presentment and exchange with any online payment provider. The program lets the user create a transfer file for any commitment type defined in the system. As in traditional billing methods, the collector can select commitments and fashion data to any interest accrual date.

The software, available at a nominal cost, also includes a two-way data transfer. This feature allows the collector to receipt any payment transacted and forwarded electronically by the payment processor using a specially designed batch posting process. Those interested in obtaining the online payment option should request an Order Acknowledgement (OA) from Debbie Goldaper at 1.800.368.9538 extension 103. A software update will be made with the return of the signed OA.

PUG Social Event a Memorable Experience

Capping off the first day of the 2006 PUG Conference was a social event that will be talked about for a long time. Great food, great entertainment and great conversation all highlighted the evening of June 14.

Joey Voices had everyone in stitches with his dead on impersonations of famous singers and other celebrities. The way he interacted with the audience was an absolute riot.

The event was also a wonderful opportunity for customers to network with



their peers and talk one-on-one with Point personnel. Staff members made themselves available throughout the function to discuss user questions and feedback.

To see photos of the occasion (taken by resident photographer Ramon Villanueva), go to: <http://www.pointsw.com/gallery/pug2006/index.html>.



Q: How do I back out a bad check?

A: Use the following procedure to back out a bad check:

1. Select PAYMENT POSTING from the main menu.
2. Select POST PAYMENTS.
3. Enter the levy tax year.
4. Select the commitment type.
5. Enter the interest date.
6. Enter the deposit date.
7. Enter a unique batch number to use for bad checks.
8. Enter **N** to skip Quick Post.
9. Enter the bill number associated with the payment you are backing out.
The account summary screen appears.
10. Enter the date following the date of the original posting.
The posting screen appears.
11. Post the negative amount for any field to which you originally posted a positive amount. (Example: If you originally posted a payment of 500.00 with 400.00 to tax and 100.00 to interest, now post a payment of -500.00 with -400.00 to tax and -100.00 to interest.)
12. Press **Enter** to skip the other fields.
13. Enter **Y** to save.
The account summary screen reappears.
14. Enter **O** for options.
15. Select **Account Flagging**.
16. Enter **BC** for "bank charge."
17. Enter the flag code date.
18. Enter **Y** to apply the flag code.
The returned check bank charge is added to the total due.

From the Help Desk to Your Desk