

# NEWSLETTER

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## A Big Thanks to all 2008 User Conference Attendees!

*By Matt Frey*

First things first ... THANK YOU for all the ideas that were generated at the conference.



We had an absolutely overwhelming response to the surveys distributed throughout this year's event.

I'm honestly at a loss for words. I'm absolutely humbled by the outpouring of feedback, gracious comments, and great ideas. Making BUCS®, CHIPS®, and CUBIC® great products is clearly not only the responsibility of Frey & Company, but something its users take ownership of. I can't thank everyone enough for each and every word and assure everyone that our entire team is reading each of the comments and together, we will determine when and how we can leverage these in future releases of BUCS®, CHIPS®, and CUBIC®.

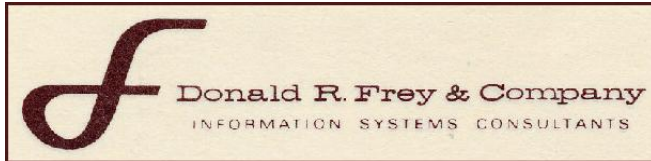
As we were looking at the comments, we realized that our software already has some of the features being requested. If you included your name on your comment/survey sheet, a member of our support team will be contacting you with information on how to use these features. It is possible our applications already have the feature you're looking for too!

For those of you that did not attend this year's user conference, the focus was on *Your Vote Counts! With Frey Software*. It was held August 10–12<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Covington, Kentucky.

Sessions were held on all Frey software applications. These sessions described the many new extensions and enhancements. New this year were the “Birds of a Feather” question and answer sessions for each software system. This allowed for more in-depth question and answer sessions while other application sessions were being conducted.

Our evening event was a cruise aboard the Celebrations Riverboat, the “Queen”. A delightful evening was had by all with great food, good company and live entertainment provided by the Caribbean duo.

It is never too early to start thinking about and planning for next year. The 2009 User’s Conference dates are August 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Mark those calendars NOW! ☐



Above is our original logo. 2009 marks our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary. While our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary provides Frey & Company with an opportunity to reflect on the past, it also gives us the chance to chart its course for the future. We eagerly await the challenges that lie ahead as we continue to serve our customers in the US and abroad. More to come in our next newsletter...☐



## What Does the Future Hold for Your Frey Applications?

Don and Matt are constantly exploring new technology and opportunities to integrate

valuable features and services with your software applications. Some examples currently being explored include:

**Off-site Backup Services:** A fully integrated, easy to use off-site data backup service. Scheduled automatic transmissions of your critical Frey application data to an off-site secure location for easy restoration of your systems should the unfortunate need arise. Set it and forget it!

**Collections Services:** A fully integrated feature which would generate a data file based upon utility account balance’s date. The file transmits to our collection service partner for processing. Depending upon the aging category of each account, a collections process would be administered. First tier would receive a phone call from an automated system alerting the customer of an overdue utility balance and requesting payment action. Second tier would receive a dunning letter and live collection call. Third tier would administer skip trace technology and credit damage. Collecting unpaid balances is a time consuming relationship impacting work activity and best handled by a professional third party. Your stress goes down and your collection results go up, up, up!

Please feel free to contact Frey & Company with your thoughts and feedback on these developing ideas. ☐



## BUCS® 10.2 Released More New Capabilities

The new release of BUCS was shipped to all clients who have a support agreement. Below are a few highlights:

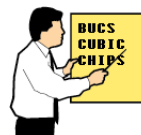
**Interface Changes:** The interface has been enhanced to work with a minimum screen resolution of 1024 x 768. This gives BUCS® the ability to present more information on the screen for our users. The icons in the Task Pane have been enlarged and clarified while the icons on the Toolbar have been redesigned to give a fresher appearance.

**Electronic Payments:** A new feature has been added that allows the user to assign an invoice as an electronic payment. An example of an electronic payment would be a payment that was made in some form other than a check. This will work in a similar manner as pre-paid checks do.

**Invoice Processing:** The interface for Invoices and Standard Invoices has been redesigned to make it less cumbersome and easier to use. The list that shows all the detail items has been changed to a grid so the detail descriptions show for each transaction.

**Bank Reconciliation:** A new Cash Transfer option has been added. This allows for the transfer of cash from one checking account to another from within Bank Reconciliation. Another new feature is a clearing function that will allow for the clearing of a partial deposit.

Almost four dozen features and improvements are in the update underscoring Frey & Company’s commitment to providing you the finest software available.☐



## Tips From Your Support Staff

By Adam Best

**BUCS:** New in BUCS® 10.2 is an option in A/R that allows receipts to be reversed. To reverse receipts, go to Receivables-A/R Receipts-Reversals. Enter in the customer’s number or click on the Magnifying Glass to select a customer. A list of receipts will appear. Select the receipt that you want to reverse by placing a checkmark next to it.

**CHIPS:** In Employee Maintenance on the Year-to-Date tab, there is a Previous Years YTD button. By accessing this screen, the user can view previous Year-to-Date information. On the left side of this screen, you can select which year’s information to view.

**CUBIC:** Changing a reading date on bills is now very easy to do. It works the same as changing the due date. In Interactive Billing, click on Change Dates - Change Read Date. Enter in the current read date and the new read date. This

will globally change the read date for all bills with the same prior read date.

By Dean Eldridge

**BUCS:** When entering a journal entry, there is a new option on the screen to 'Save as Standard'. This allows you to save an entry as 'standard' while entering it. If a journal entry is being keyed in and you realize it is one that will be made repeatedly, you can merely click on "Save as Standard" and use it again in the future. This would also become useful if while entering a long entry, an interruption occurred. This entry could be saved as a standard and loaded for completion later on. If you encountered a problem while balancing an entry, the entry could be saved while the problem is being researched and loaded again later without losing any work.

**CHIPS:** There are a couple of items related to reports (i.e., History and Deductions Reports) that can be set as user preferences to save time when printing reports. In File-Preferences, go to Reports. Within some of these, the user can set as a preference to 'Protect Social Security Number'. This option is available when the report is printed but if this has been done previously, time will be saved when printing the report. A date range preference can also be set up. The ranges include Pay Period Ending Date or Check Date. If you are always selecting a different type of date range, setting up a preference can save time by already having it as your default. Remember, Preferences are based on User ID which allows multiple users to have different preferences.

**CUBIC:** Adjustments to usage can be made during the regular billing adjustment process. This would be useful if a bill went out with an incorrect reading. The account could be adjusted to reflect the correct dollar amount while the usage could also be adjusted. This would automatically correct the reading so when it is read the next time, the previous read is correct. There would also be a history of the usage being corrected instead of just editing the usage history. A usage comment can also be entered to explain why the usage was adjusted.

By Mike Emmerich

**BUCS:** ACH for A/P – Users that have the ACH for A/P module now have the ability to e-mail vendors for notification of payment for each invoice that was paid via ACH. After the ACH file is generated, you have the option to send e-mail notifications to each vendor. To implement this, click on General Ledger–System Control–Edit. Click on 'Checking Accts' tab and at the bottom of the screen, click on 'A/P ACH E-mail Information' button and fill in the fields. You will also need to fill in your vendor's e-mail address in Vendor Maintenance for all those vendors receiving ACH payments. Prior to adding the e-mail notification feature, vendors which requested notification when payment was remitted via ACH required the BUCS® user to fax or manually e-mail a notification.

**CHIPS:** The ability to Allow Tax Overrides in Time Payroll has been added for one time events such as Bonus Checks, Vacation and/or Sick Leave Payouts. Many times when the overall pay is quite a bit more than your normal check, the payroll program will tax the employee as if he is getting this pay all the time. CHIPS® now allows you to override the tax if needed on the Time Payroll Screen. To implement this, click on General-System Controls. Click on the Controls tab and place a checkmark on 'Allow Tax Override in Time Payroll'. During Time Payroll, you can then click on 'Override Taxes' and change FWT, SWT, OST, or CWT to any dollar or percentage amount as needed. This eliminates going into each employee's record to make these changes before doing the special payroll and then changing the records back.

**CUBIC:** Internet Inquiry – An 'Access Internet Inquiry' button has been added to the Customer Maintenance screen. This will take you directly to the customer's online account bypassing the login/password step. This feature enables the user to quickly log into a customer's account and process a credit card payment. All the necessary fields from CUBIC® will be populated automatically on the payment site leaving you to key in only the credit card number and expiration date. You will also be able to provide the customer with a payment confirmation number.

By John Milleck

**BUCS:** When vendors who weren't originally marked as 1099 required are changed to 1099 required, the user will be presented with a Recalculate 1099 Amounts window. This allows the user to select which invoices from the current and prior calendar years should be marked as 1099 applicable. BUCS® will then recalculate the correct 1099 amounts.

**CHIPS:** CHIPS® allows each employee to be placed in a job classification category. For example, create categories such as Clerical, Administrative, Field worker, etc. This is setup in Categories located under Employees menu. Once the categories are created, the user can assign the categories to each employee. These will also show on the Employee Full and Brief Reports and on Employee Global Changes option. This gives the user the ability to apply the categories range to only list the employees in a specific category for each report which then allows the report to be more defined.

**CUBIC:** The user can have the system automatically assign a Batch ID number for when they are posting. This eliminates the user from posting receipts without a Batch ID number. The option can be turned on in System Controls-Cash Receipts tab. With this option turned on, CUBIC® will automatically assign a Batch ID number when the Cash Receipts window appears. The Batch ID field generated by CUBIC® is created using the following sequence: Computer station ID/Current Date/Sequence number xxx.yy/mm/dd.xx.; i.e., CON08090801. This logical Batch ID enhances the audit trail associated with each batch processed identifying whose station processed the batch and on what date. ■

# GOVERNMENT ♦ NONPROFIT ♦ UTILITIES

## Fund Accounting, Payroll, Utility Billing

**ESTABLISHED**, in 1974 with installations throughout the US and Internationally. *We understand your business and special needs!*

**EASY TO USE**, Microsoft Windows interface with on-line Help, ODBC and extensive *search* tools. *Programs that make your work easier and more enjoyable!*

**RELIABLE**, withstood the rigors of audits in dozens of states for years. *Problem free, accurate programs!*

**ECONOMICAL**, unique pricing models let you purchase just what you need. *More value for your money!*

**PORTABLE**, designed for multi-user systems and personal computers. Frey applications run on hundreds of computers and can easily be moved from one to another. *Freedom of choice for you!*

**ADAPTABLE**, programs that can grow with your needs! Our updates keep your programs tuned to the latest in technology. *Software that is always state-of-the-art!*

**SUPPORT**, help when you need it! A **Free** 800 number for your convenience. Internet update services. *Support you can swear by, not at!*

**INTEGRATED**, applications that talk to each other. ODBC and Crystal Reports allow you to easily transfer data from Frey packages to spreadsheet, word processor and other application systems. *A team approach to your needs!*

**SPECIAL SERVICES**, custom designed modifications; full range of computer related consulting services. *Professionalism and competence on which you can rely!*

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*Systems and Software Engineering*

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