Newsletter

July/August 2008

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to the fourth Newsletter of 2008.

Tabs 2008 Pocket PC Released

At last the waiting is over. Our 2008 new edition of Tabs for pocket PC has been released to the team and is in the final stages of testing. Tabs for Pocket PC was initially written in a programming language called Microsoft Embedded Visual Basic, first released by Microsoft in 1996. This programming language was the best choice available for our developers at the time. 12 Years later this programming language is no longer supported by Microsoft and offers limited functionality compared with newer programming languages.

As from August 2008 Tabs FM hand held software is in a newer programming language called Microsoft C#. (The latest incarnation of which has only been released this year).

By rewriting Tabs for Pocket PC, we can take advantage of many of the new features found within the new programming language and also newer versions of Windows Mobile based devices. This will ultimately lead to a large number of improvements in the software.

Some general improvements that will be obtained from rewriting the software are as follows:

- Quicker synchronization of data between the mobile device and database server
  Newer versions of SQL Server for Windows Mobile offer improved data transfer speeds

- Improved compatibility with a wider range of Windows-Based Mobile Devices
  Mobile Devices that support different screen resolutions and latest versions of Windows Mobile

- Improved connectivity with GPRS, ActiveSync & Wireless LAN
  The new version of the software will be able to initiate connections if required

A sample of modified areas is as follows:

Only download data that is relevant to your operation
The new Tabs for Pocket PC system is intelligent when retrieving and uploading data from the remote database and will not download any information that is irrelevant to the modules you are using.

Greater control over features
System settings for the software have been designed from the ground up to be logical, simple, and powerful to use. A greater degree of control is available for system administrators to customise Tabs for Pocket PC on a global or per user basis.

Streamlined user interface
The new version of Tabs for Pocket PC has a graphically improved user interface that allows users to navigate around tabs with the minimum of effort. New menus and forms look uncluttered whilst retaining the strengths of the existing functionality. A 'switchboard' will look and feel similar to the main Tabs system.

Simplified setup and configuration
A new configuration wizard will allow users to setup Tabs on their mobile device with a minimum amount of effort.

Redesigned modules
Modules are designed and adjusted to better suit the needs of the user. They've been developed to be consistent with the methods used by the current Tabs Management Information System and Tabs intranet System. The Asset Tracking, PAT and Fixed Electrical Testing modules conform to current legislation (where applicable).

Multiple Connectivity
The new Tabs for Pocket PC system now offers the functionality to configure multiple connections. This provides your mobile workforce with the ease and ability to connect to base either Internal or External to your organisations network.

"Questions are more powerful than answers." Anon

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Pocket PC Continued...The generic advantages of Tabs mobile technology are many and varied…

* Maintains communication with staff on the move in real time
* Aids Customer Service
* Increases operational efficiency
* Reduces paperwork and duplication
* Links directly to your Management Information System
* Allows workers to progress, update and close down jobs
* Gives a tremendous cost saving
* Reduces response times

Version 2008 looks great. We feel confident that current Mobile PC Clients will love the new look and functionality.

We also recommend that any clients not using a mobile solution arrange to see Tabs 2008 Pocket PC as soon as possible. Just give us a call to arrange a full demonstration.
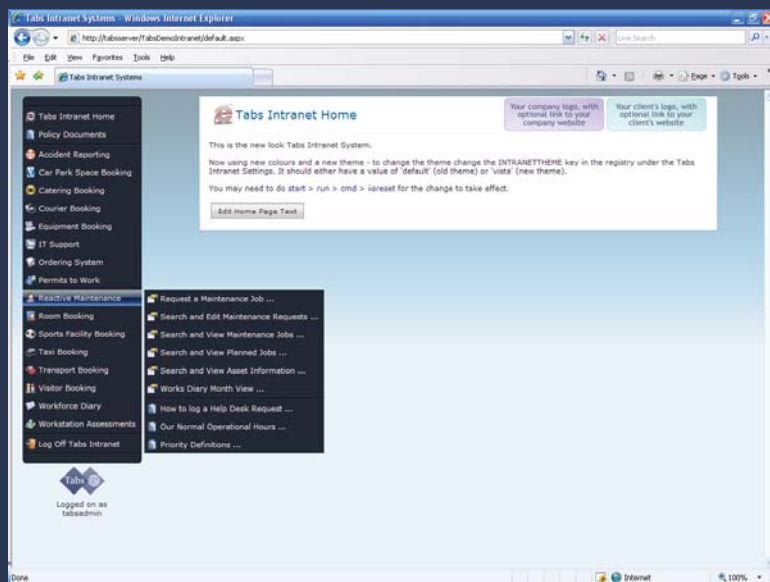
Other Tabs Development…

The Ordering System

We have re-written this module in .NET format. The ordering system is now more intuitive and has a host of new features. This has now been released, so please contact us for further information.

Tabs Intranet Enhancement

Our Intranet development team have carried out a Trinny and Susannah makeover on the Intranet System, giving it a very contemporary look. We need to address Form and Function and realise the impact design and feel can have for users.

And finally…

May we take this opportunity to wish you well over the summer holiday period and look forward to knuckling down to some serious work in the autumn.

New Team Member…

We welcome Adrian Soper to the Tabs Team. Adrian joins us in the role of Support Consultant and brings 17 years IT Industry experience, the last five within the FM sector. Adrian is a Developer and Project Manager and will be a versatile and valuable member of the Team.

New Clients…

We warmly welcome some new clients to Tabs:

Fraikin
Beths Grammar School
The Scout Association

As always, we look forward to strong and productive relationships

Tabs Referrals…

Many of our new clients are referred by existing Tabs users.
We appreciate your thoughts and gestures on this front and will always give our full attention to any third party introductions.

Thank you.

"You're only supposed to blow the bloody doors off" Charlie Croker (Michael Caine)

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