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Save the Date for Summit 2008

November 17-20, 2008 in Denver

The annual Sage Summit conference is where Sage Software customers connect. It's the place to be if you want to discover new ideas, concepts, skills, strategies, and technologies that make life around the office just plain better. This year Sage is proud to offer expanded session content and more ways than ever to network with peers and product insiders. More information can be found at www.SageSoftwareSummit.com.



We are excited to announce the implementation of our quarterly newsletter, DSI Press, a publication for our valued clients and colleagues. We will keep you up-to-date on industry news, our mutual successes, product updates, and tons more. Have feedback and suggestions for our future editions? Send it our way, we'd be delighted to know what you're thinking.

In this edition we are thrilled to give you the highlights of the new Sage Pro ERP 7.5. There's also a sneak peak at a phenomenal success story, announcements about the Economic Stimulus Package and much more.

For more information, please visit our website at www.designedsolutions.net.

Sage Pro ERP 7.5

You chose Sage Pro ERP for its distinct capability to meet your unique business needs. Whether you selected Sage Pro for its advanced customization tools, the easy access it gives you to real-time business information, or its integration with a wide range of extended business solutions, you have come to trust Sage Pro to help your business succeed. There are now even more reasons to rely on Sage Pro with dozens of new features designed for your business in version 7.5. Many of your requests have been build into this newest version, giving you tools to improve your business productivity, and enhanced access to critical business information.

Some of the new features in Sage Pro ERP 7.5 include:

- ▶ Customizable and Expanded Drilldowns
- ▶ Added Customer and Vendor Maintenance Access with Expanded Dashboard Capabilities
- ▶ Work in Progress Components Released to General Ledger Upon Work Order Release
- ▶ Numerous Manufacturing Enhancements
- ▶ Job Cost Integration with Manufacturing Modules
- ▶ Master Production Schedules for Work Orders
- ▶ Include Landed Cost
- ▶ Support for Sage Payments Solutions Gateway in Credit Card Processing
- ▶ Improved Program File Security
- ▶ And More Time Saving Enhancements

The Economic Stimulus Package of 2008

In February 2008, congress enacted the Economic Stimulus Package of 2008. This legislation is designed to make increased spending by business more attractive for the 2008 tax year. This legislation provides companies with incentives to purchase assets such as **software**, and improve their business. By understanding the full benefits provided by the passage of this act, and taking full advantage of them in 2008, companies can reduce the cost of qualifying property by purchasing it and placing it in service in 2008.

It is often mistakenly thought that "off the shelf" computer software is not considered qualifying property. Quite the contrary; since 2002, Section 179 has included software in the list of qualifying property, but this provision is to be phased out after 2010.

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We Love Referrals

Do you know of a company that is struggling with their accounting software, or not getting enough support with their current system? We can help!

Simply let your fellow colleagues know that we are available to here to serve them! We would be honored to have an opportunity to earn their business.

Our customers get personal attention, prompt support, and unparalleled service.

Refer someone today!

Sage Pro 7.5 Back on Track Offer

Save BIG on your upgrade to Sage Pro v7.5*. Sage is offering many opportunities for you to save. All offers end 9/26/08!

Call our office today to see which offer you can take advantage of.

*Some restrictions apply. Call Designed Solutions for details of special.



The Upside Of A Recession

By Robert Croston & Patrick Cahill, RainToday.com

The market drops 370 points in a single day, corporate earnings disappoint & housing prices continue to sink. We are in uncertain economic times. We may be in a recession right now, or could slip into one next week....or next month.

As optimists, we don't like forecasting difficult economic times. But, even optimists have to come to grips with the realities of our uncertain marketplace.

With economic anxiety looming, many of our clients are asking: how should I position & market my firm in the year to come? Assuming yours is a healthy company, here are our general recommendations.

The Cumulative Power of Marketing

The laws of marketing never change, even in a recession. In fact, if played correctly, they can compound in your favor. Marketing, in any economic environment, is about sustained & integrated activity.

Like the principle of compound interest, a little investment, applied consistently, will pay great dividends down the road. There are of course short term benefits - marketing assists in generating immediate sales - but the real power of your marketing program is cumulative. This cumulative effect drives awareness & ultimately preference in your service so, at the elusive time of need, your prospect thinks of you first.

A sustained marketing effort will help ensure that your pipeline is consistently replenished, leads are properly nurtured, and your market presence is maintained. To read the rest of the article, visit: www.designedsolutions.com

Designed Solutions Accents Bernards Inc.

Founded in 1983 by Herman Bernard, Bernards, Inc. is an importer and distributor of residential home furnishing. They specialize in selling wholesale furniture to retail furniture companies and chains.



Distressed Inventory Issues

Bernards prides themselves in being able to ship products on demand. With the previous system at full capability, Bernards found several limitations with inventory management and they faced a number of unique problems with their old system. There was a need to better control inventory. Bernards wanted to know the exact location and quantity of their inventory in the warehouse in order to meet the shipping demands. Moreover, Bernards had outgrown its main warehouse and was storing items in smaller trailers. Because of the lack of accurate inventory, warehouse staff had to search the premises to find items to fulfill client orders. They knew it was time to upgrade their system, yet wanted to retain some of the features they liked in their old program.

Bernards found themselves with a brand new system that couldn't run their business, or so they thought. Joe Cheek, Chief Financial Officer at Bernards, remarked, "We were to the point of totally abandoning the software, probably a \$120,000-\$130,000 investment at that point. We were within minutes of just pulling the plug and starting over."

For the full story, keep an eye on your mail in October!

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Economic Stimulus Plan

Careful planning will ensure that companies can write-off a larger portion of their asset purchases. By analyzing the timing of asset purchases, and determining whether to take Section 179 and/or the 50% bonus depreciation, companies will be able to maximize the benefits available.

To read the entire article by Sage Software on The Economic Stimulus Package of 2008 visit www.designedsolutions.com or call our office for a copy. You should consult your accounting and tax professionals for advice specific to your situation.