BULLETIN NUMBER GT548, 24 JULY 1992

Global 3000 Distribution Suite
Sources Available

Bulletin GT545 announced the availability of the Global 3000 Distribution Suite. This bulletin announces that the source of that software is now available. We intend to release the source for all Global 3000 software as and when the software is released; thus any special requirements for a user can be fulfilled by the reseller.

MODULES AVAILABLE

The distribution software sources consists of seven modules:–

WS	Global 3000 Sales Order Processing Source
WO	Global 3000 Purchase Order Processing Source
WI	Global 3000 Stock Control Source
WJ	Global 3000 Source Routines
WX	Global 3000 Development Tools
WQ	Global 3000 System Test
WW	Global 3000 Documentation

WS version 4.0 contains the sources peculiar to Global 3000 Sales Order Processing version 4.0.

WO version 4.0 contains the sources peculiar to Global 3000 Purchase Order Processing version 4.0.

WI version 4.0 contains the sources peculiar to Global 3000 Stock Control. It also contains the sources of Global 3000 Product Maintenance version 4.0; this, as far as the user is concerned, is part of Stock, SOP and POP; however, it has been developed as a separate module.

WJ version 4.0 contains the sources which are shared by the Global 3000 Distribution software. Version 3.0 of WJ already exists (for the Global 3000 Ledgers); this version in no way supersedes version 3.0 – the source routines needed for the ledgers and distribution software are quite different (for the time being at least).

WX version 4.0 contains programs to help in the compilation etc of the sources.

WQ version 4.0 contains the system test `Record & Playback' scripts.

WW version 4.0 contains the `Wordperfect for Unix version 5.0' documents of the Distribution Suite Manuals. Both 3½" (format O2) and 5¼" (format G1) diskettes are provided.

AVAILABILITY

The sources are available to any Global reseller who has signed a `Global Source Agreement' which specifies the distribution suite modules explicitly. A Global source agreement is a contract between a reseller and TIS Software Ltd. The main purpose of the contract is to ensure, unambiguously, that both parties agree that if a modified application is installed at a user site by a reseller who has the source, the user must be licensed at the usual price by TIS Software.

Global Source Agreements are available from the despatch department at the city office. The front page contains easy-to-follow instructions for getting the contracts signed. The Global Source Agreement does **not** cover the supply of source to users.

REPORTER

You will need Global Reporter to amend any reports. Indeed, if all you require is the ability to amend reports, Reporter is the only module you will need to do the vast majority of required amendments.

SERVICE POLICY FOR SOURCES

The service policy for users with amended sources is the same as the standard policy for bespoke sites. That is, we ask the reseller to reproduce the problem on non-bespoken code.

We are introducing a new policy for the support of users with sources. This policy addresses the issue of how we inform resellers who have the source of the software about the changes resulting from zaps and repackagings. The policy is as follows:-

- Each of the sources will have a document MWxZV4.0 distributed with it. This will be called the `Zaps' document for the module. Product Maintenance has its own `Zaps' document separate from Stock Control.

- When the module is brand new the `Zaps' Document is merely a blank piece of paper.

- When a zap is produced for a module we do **not** update the sources held on diskette in our software production department. Instead we update the `Zaps' document with a description of the changes to be made to the source to emulate the zap. When a component is re-packaged it is added to the sources held on diskette in our software production department **with a different name**. The `Zaps' document is updated to reflect that fact.

  We envisage that the above will occur about once a month.

So, if a reseller who holds the source of a module wishes to apply the changes corresponding to a zap, the MWxZV4.0 document should be ordered free-of-charge from the software production department. This free-of-charge policy does not apply to updated copies of the sources on diskette irrespective of the reason; it merely applies to the associated documentation.

DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM TO BE USED

The Global 3000 Distribution Suite has been written in a way which exploits the facilities of version 8.0 System Manager and Presentation Manager. Once version 8.0 of Speedbase Development System is available (within the next few months), this will be the development software to use when amending these sources.

Special arrangements have been made for compiling the Global 3000 Distribution Suite sources. A version 7.5 **Special Development** module has been produced. This is only useful when installed `on top of' Speedbase Development System version 7.0. Once this is installed, Global 3000 Distribution Suite version 4.0 source will compile correctly. The `Special Development' module does not affect the compilation of any other Speedbase applications.

`Special Development' is module code SD and is available free-of-charge for the period until version 8.0 of the Speedbase Development System is available. Support for SD will terminate shortly after that date.

Pending the availability of the full version 8.0 manuals, a simple document explaining how to install `Special Development' is available. This is `MSDNV7.5', the Special Development Notes version 7.5.

DOCUMENTATION

The following is the full list of what is supplied when you order these sources:

- with WS°MWSNV4.0 – Global 3000 Sales Order Processing (Source) Notes. This document lists the contents of the diskettes and provides a one-line description of the programs.
°MWSZV4.0 – Global 3000 Sales Order Processing Zaps. This is explained above in the Service Policy For Sources section.

- with WO°MWONV4.0 – Global 3000 Purchase Order Processing (Source) Notes. This document lists the contents of the diskettes and provides a one-line description of the programs.
°MWOZV4.0 – Global 3000 Purchase Order Processing Zaps. This is explained above in the Service Policy For Sources section.

- with WI°MWINV4.0 – Global 3000 Stock Control (Source) Notes. This document lists the contents of the diskettes and provides a one-line description of the programs. This covers both Stock Control and Product Maintenance.
°MWIZV4.0 – Global 3000 Stock Control Zaps. This is explained above in the Service Policy For Sources section.
°MWMZV4.0 – Global 3000 Product Maintenance Zaps. This is explained above in the Service Policy For Sources section.

- with WJ°MWJNV4.0 – Global 3000 Source Routines Notes. This document lists the contents of the diskettes and provides a one-line description of the routines.

- with WX°MWXNV4.0 – Global 3000 Development Tools Notes. This document explains how to use the development tools. **It is the most important of this list of documents and should be read first.**

- with WQ°MWQNV4.0 – Global 3000 System Test Notes. This document explains how to amend and/or run the Global 3000 Distribution Suite System Test.

- with WW°MWWNV4.0 – Global 3000 Documentation Notes. This lists the Wordperfect files on the diskettes and specifies the documentation standards used.

PRICES, DISCOUNTS, COPY CHARGES

The list prices for the sources are as follows:–

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Sales Order Processing Source ................ £3,000
Purchase Order Processing Source .......... £3,000
Stock Control Source ............................. £3,000
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The above are not subject to any reseller discount.

Copy charges are at the usual price (£30 for each module for a reseller's own site).

The four other products (Global 3000 Source Routines, Global 3000 Development Tools, Global 3000 System Test and Global 3000 Documentation) mentioned above are available free–of–charge when ordered with one or more of the sources at £3,000. Otherwise these are available at the usual copy charge (£30 for each module for a reseller's own site). As mentioned above `Special Development' is always free–of–charge.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR PROSPECTIVE DEVELOPERS

Those developers familiar with the operation of Speedbase will know that the database structure of the software means that if a database is altered the `Database Generation Number' is also changed. When the database generation number changes, all sources using that database will need to be recompiled. Therefore, in general, resellers are likely to need all three sources (WS, WO and WI).

However, small changes can be made using only one source. The `database regeneration number' problem is overcome by the simple method of not actually changing the database. Extra fields can be added without changing the database by one or both of the following methods:–

· Using the spare space (typically 3 or 4 bytes) at the end of each record.

· Defining a new database. NB – If a new database is defined, this can push some compilations over the `4 databases per compilation' limit; thus necessitating breaking a compilation down into overlays to overcome the limit.

·Developers will note that the database definition platform, the meta-dictionary, is a standard speedbase database (defined in dictionary DI$DICT). this has two important consequences:

°A developer is able to create programs, standard Speedbase frames which can manipulate this database

°Therefore, a frame can be used to change the database generation number of an amended database **where prudent.**

Developers who wish to undertake any of the above activities are advised to proceed with caution and to consult TIS Software for further details.