Version 4.2 Global 3000 Advanced Product Information

Please find attached an Advanced Product Information (API) document for version 4.2 of Global 3000. The software referred to in the API is scheduled to enter QA in November.

If QA testing completes successfully, the software will be released at the beginning of December.

Any feedback from this API should be faxed to Andy Smith, clearly marked Global 3000 V4.2 API.

This document is advance notice of a development project. It is provided to our resellers so that they can be aware of an impending product release. This document represents our current intentions. Results from test sites and feedback from this document may mean that our current plans are revised.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

Global 3000 V4.2 software contains major enhancements to the three ledgers and the first release of the new Cash Manager module. There is a matching release of the distribution modules (Sales Order Processing, Purchase Order Processing and Stock Control), Sales Analysis (version 6.4) and Global 3000 Intrastat module. These contain some minor enhancements.

Many of the enhancements add to Global 3000 facilities that were previously part of Global 2000. The revised audit trails are secure, easy to follow and designed to meet the requirements of the formal company audit at year end and to assist in day to day account tracking and analysis. Multiple payment accounts are supported. More selections are available when producing reports. In addition all special stationery reports and the more important management reports are printed using Global Reporter so that they can be tailored by the user.

A number of further enhancements requested by existing users of Global 3000 software have been incorporated.

The sample data has been improved so that it better demonstrates the unique selling points of the Global 3000 range of software, and integrates with the sample data for the distribution modules.

Global 3000 Cash Manager brings a wide range of cashbook facilities

to complement the Global 3000 General, Creditors and Debtors Ledgers. It provides direct entry of receipts and payments both as a transaction entry function in its own right and as part of the bank statement reconciliation. Cash Manager handles any number of cashbooks, each of which can operate in any one of the currencies defined. Postings to General Ledger are generated automatically in the currency of the company owning the cashbook.

Source modules corresponding to each of the Global 3000 applications will be released with the exception of Intrastat.

All of the above software requires version 8.0 or later of System Manager PM.

2. TIMETABLE

The Global 3000 application software and Global 2000 Sales Analysis software is undergoing system testing, and is due to enter Quality Control in November. Subject to QA approval we hope that the software will be available in December.

Module-specific Upgrades should be released in December. The source modules are scheduled for release in January.

The version 4.2 General Upgrade will not be released until 1994.

3. DETAILS OF MAJOR FEATURES

3.1 PARAMETERS AND INDEPENDENT RECOVERY

Some parameters such as batch numbers which are updated by only one ledger were previously held centrally. This prevented individual ledgers being restored. These parameters have been moved out into the appropriate ledgers. As a result it is possible to restore individual modules under carefully controlled circumstances, i.e. if no postings into other modules have been made, nor any system wide parameters changed.

Parameter Print now provides the ability to get a printout of system parameters and a print of company parameters for each company in the system.

3.2 DEBTORS LEDGER

Statement print

Statement print has been completely rewritten for V4.2. The overview for the new version is:-

Global 3000 Debtors Ledger provides two types of statement: "Diary" statements, which are usually printed at end of period for ranges of accounts, and "Requested" statements which can be printed at any time for individual accounts.

Diary statements can be printed in alphabetical or customer code sequence. The range in a run can be limited by credit rating, salesperson, territory, or any of the four user defined customer categories.

On open item ledgers, statements can be printed in either open item or balance forward format.

Open item statements show all transactions with an outstanding amount on the account and can optionally include fully allocated items added to the account since its last diary statement was printed.

Open item diary statements can be printed at any time. Printing a diary statement effectively marks all completed transactions printed on the statement as having been diarised and prevents them appearing on the next statement.

Balance forward diary statements are printed at period end and show the balance carried forward from the last diary statement printed for the account plus transactions recorded against the account subsequently.

Balance forward requested statements show the balance carried forward from the previous diary statement and all subsequent transactions to date. Such statements do not affect the carried forward balance printed at the start of the next diary statement.

System parameters are available to control the content of statements including: printing the company address on statements and remittances, printing statements for accounts with zero balance or zero balance accounts with transactions recorded since the last statement print, printing an aged debt analysis on the statement and printing or excluding zero value transactions added since the last diary entry.

Multiple Payment Accounts

The Debtors Ledger can be configured to operate with any number of payment accounts per company and currency. Ledgers configured for multiple payment accounts ask you to select an account when creating payment or void cheque batches. You can choose any of the payment accounts established for the company and currency to which the batch is being posted.

If Global 3000 Cash Manager is used with multiple payment accounts, Cash Manager asks whenever a cashbook is created whether or not an associated payment account exists and if so, adds the account details to the central list of payment accounts for the company and currency.

Payment and void cheque details will be posted to the General Ledger on the next posting run following closure of the batch. Details of the payments and void cheques are posted to the cash book in Cash Manager at the next close session.

Payment Processing

Terms handling has been extended. The date on which an invoice becomes overdue (due date) and the date up to and including which settlement discount is available (discount date) can be specified as a particular day in a future month as well as in the current month.

Audit Trail

In Debtors Ledger the daybooks are sequentially numbered and presented in sequence item within batch within financial year. To provide flexibility to print daybooks while batches are being processed, the following enhancements have been made:

If a batch is open when the daybook is printed, it is not marked as audited and no details of the batch appear in that section of

the daybook. Instead, a one line reminder appears indicating that for audited details of the batch you need to look in a later section.

Batches closed once a daybook print is in progress are marked as belonging to the next daybook and do not appear in the current print.

Before a financial period can be closed, all batches in that period must have been closed and their details secured in a daybook print.

Deleted batches and transactions are retained and printed as an audit trail.

Debtors Ledger can be configured to force an audit print of all changes to customer account details.

Enquiries and Reporting

Customer enquiries now appears on the top level menu rather than a sub-menu.

Turnover by customer is maintained.

Unrealised exchange gain/loss is shown on the trial balance and aged debt reports.

The credit limit and current balance are displayed in account search.

Statement print, aged transaction report and some other reports are printed using Global Reporter so they can be tailored by the user.

3.3 CREDITORS LEDGER

Multi-company invoicing

The net value of transactions can now be analysed across multiple companies. The company is included on the batch print and session audit reports.

Multiple Payment Accounts

The Creditors Ledger can be configured to operate with any number of payment accounts per company and currency. Ledgers configured for multiple payment accounts ask you to select an account when creating payment or void cheque batches. You can choose any of the payment accounts established for the company and currency to which the batch is being posted.

If Global 3000 Cash Manager is used with multiple payment accounts, Cash Manager asks whenever a cashbook is created whether or not an associated payment account exists and if so, adds the account details to the central list of payment accounts for the company and currency.

Payment and void cheque details will be posted to General Ledger on the next posting run following closure of the batch. Details of the payments and void cheques are posted to the appropriate cashbook in Cash Manager at the next close session.

Payment Processing

Terms handling has been extended. The date on which an invoice

becomes overdue (due date) and the date up to and including which settlement discount is available (discount date) can be specified as a particular day in a future month as well as in the current month.

Autopayments now takes the settlement discount recorded against the invoice being paid rather than assuming standard terms for the supplier.

Automatic Payments

The system provides a final payment list before printing cheques and posting to General Ledger. A new entry has been added to the auto-payments menu `F - Print Final Payments'. Selecting this entry will print a final payments list and mark all items to be paid in this run as untouchable until the payment run has completed. The report title will be "Final Payment Selection for Run nnnnnn" rather than "Provisional Payment Selection" printed previously.

Better control over document print and reprint during autopayment has been implemented:

   system parameter to enable and disable printing of the company name on cheques.

   system parameter controlling the print of OCR lines on credit transfers.

The `Print Cheques' option is re-titled `Print Documents', and leads to a sub-menu containing the following options:

        B - Post BACS Payments
        C - Print Cheques
        D - Print Combined
        T - Print Bank Transfers
        R - Print Remittance Advices
        L - Print Remittance List
        X - Exit

Logged Invoices

This area has been rewritten to bring the dialogue in line with other areas. Problems logging foreign currency invoices have now been resolved.

Each item is now given a unique log number which provides a separate audit trail for the logging operation.

The actual invoice number is recorded when the invoice is logged and the log numbers are kept on approved invoices to cross reference the logging operation.

Audit Trail

The daybooks are sequentially numbered and presented in sequence item within batch within financial year. To provide flexibility to print daybooks while batches are being processed, the following enhancements have been made:

   If a batch is open when the daybook is printed, it is not marked as audited and no details of the batch appear in that section of the daybook. Instead, a one line reminder appears indicating that for audited details of the batch you need to look in a later section.

Batches closed once a daybook print is in progress are marked as belonging to the next daybook and do not appear in the current print.

Before a financial period can be closed, all batches in that period must have been closed and their details secured in a daybook print.

Deleted batches and transactions are retained and printed as an audit trail.

Additional audit facilities are provided in the form of sequentially numbered reports in the following key areas:-

Final payments print provides a permanent numbered record of transactions written off against payments to suppliers in the run.

Creditors Ledgers can be configured to force an audit print of all changes to supplier account details.

Batch and item numbers of transactions to be paid are printed on the provisional payments list.

Enquiries and Reports

Supplier enquiries now appears on the top level menu rather than a sub-menu.

There are new reports for stand alone remittances and to print a list of remittances.

Enquiry by supplier name when releasing held orders.

Cheque print and some other reports are printed using Global Reporter so they can be tailored by the user.

3.4 GENERAL LEDGER

Transaction Entry

Transaction entry has been revised so that the dialogue now matches that in the Debtors and Creditors Ledgers.

Post batch is now available from within transaction entry rather than being a separate process.

Postings From Other Systems

The program to import batches from other systems has been rewritten. It now does the importing of the batch and the posting into the general ledger as one operation printing a new audit report (see below). Thus it is no longer necessary to post the batch after importing it.

There is an option to consolidate postings as the batch is imported. This can be enabled by individual General Ledger account. The audit trail shows full details of the transactions prior to consolidation.

The validation of the incoming files has been tightened up.

The existing narrative fields passed to General Ledger are three

lines of thirty characters each in a fixed format. Version 4.2 now allows each line to take a parameterised default and allows the second and/or third line to be marked as unused if it/they are not required.

Audit Trail

The daybooks produced by General Ledger are sequentially numbered and have been enhanced in a number of ways:

If a batch is open when the daybook is printed, it is not marked as audited and no details of the batch appear in that section of the daybook. Instead, a one line reminder appears indicating that for audited details of the batch you need to look in a later section.

Batches closed once a daybook print is in progress are marked as belonging to the next daybook and do not appear in the current print.

Before a period can be closed, all batches in that period must have been closed and their details secured in a daybook print.

When a report is asked for, the counts of unposted and unprinted items indicate whether recovery is needed, whether or not a reprint is available and whether or not a new import can be started.

The proof lists for batches from other systems have been enhanced as detailed above to show the batch numbers in the originating systems as well as the General Ledger batch numbers.

Deleted batches and transactions are retained and printed as an audit trail.

Create New Year

If creation of the new year is impossible because of a lack of file space, the data is left in a consistent state.

Enquiries and Reports

The enquiries have been improved to have larger windows showing more information.

All key reports are now printed using Global Reporter so that they can be customised by the user.

3.5 CASH MANAGER

Cash Manager brings a wide range of cashbook facilities to complement the Global 3000 General, Creditors and Debtors Ledgers. It provides direct entry of receipts and payments both as a transaction entry function in its own right and as part of the bank statement reconciliation. Cash Manager handles any number of cashbooks, each of which can operate in any one of the currencies defined. Postings to General Ledger are generated automatically in the currency of the company owning the cashbook.

The major developments currently under-way to present this module alongside the ledgers are:-

Revision of presentation to match ledgers "look & feel".

Integration with Creditors and Debtors Ledgers to provide multiple payment accounts by company and currency.

Cash Manager can operate any number of cash books. Each cash book belongs to a single company - there may also be multiple companies set up. If the General Ledger interface is used, separate GL control accounts can be specified for each cash book.

Cash Manager is capable of multi-currency processing. A table of exchange rates is maintained and can be updated at any time. Transactions for cash books in foreign currencies are converted to the base (i.e. General Ledger) currency at data entry using the prevailing or entered exchange rate. During analysis, the amounts can be distributed in both currencies.

Cash Manager provides a flexible scheme for distributing transaction amounts across analysis codes. Each Cash Book transaction can be distributed to a single fixed analysis code (defaulted from the transaction type); distributed to a range of analysis codes or distributed to a single analysis code but a range of General Ledger accounts.

Cash Manager provides for an optional automatic interface to Global 3000 General Ledger to allow daily, on request or periodic posting to the General Ledger.

A sophisticated program is provided to allow easy on-line matching of cash book transactions to your bank statements. Any statement direct transactions such as bank charges can be entered during the reconciliation and will be automatically matched to the statement.

A selection of reports includes the trial balance and cash book print. Period totals are held for each cash book showing net movements over time.

An auto-entry interface can accept transactions from other modules including Creditors and Debtors Ledgers.

3.6 DISTRIBUTION MODULES

Sales Analysis

Version 6.4 of Global 2000 Sales Analysis is merely a repackaging to work with version 4.2 of Global 3000 SOP. However, most of the analysis fields (Sales rep etc) are numeric 1...9999 in Sales Analysis but Alphanumeric in Global 3000 SOP. V4.1A could only look up these codes if they were numeric, right justified, with no leading zeros, which was often not understood until most of the data had been set up and it was too late to change. In 4.2, numerical equivalents can be entered which Sales Analysis can use to look up the descriptions from the Global 3000 databases.

Pricing

Versions 4.0 and 4.1A assumed that the unit code handling would allow prices to be entered to any accuracy by specifying a price to two decimal places for a large unit, eg 3.12 per 10,000 instead of 0.000312 per item. Whilst this has enabled any pricing structure required to be implemented, it does not cater for industry-specific pricing standards which demand prices be quoted in certain formats. An additional parameter has been added at the product group level to allow prices to be entered and displayed with between 2 and 6 decimal places. Third party developers please note that the actual value held

on the price list file database field is always multiplied by a
factor of 10 to the power of (number of decimals-2) e.g. the above
example would be held as 3.12 in OPPR01 and OIUPRI. This is only a
problem if you are using Speedquery or accessing the price file
directly, all programs in the Global 3000 distribution suite make the
necessary visual adjustments automatically.

Also, at the product group level, it is now possible to make
transaction entry prompt for the price and/or discount every time a
line of that product is entered, without having to select the
P-Prices option.

Cost adjustments

It is now possible to amend the cost price of a non batch-tracked,
non serialised product, providing that FIFO costing is not in use,
during sales order detail line entry. To minimise impact on existing
users, this is a `hidden' feature, to amend the cost you should key
backtab to the unit price field.

3.7 UPGRADES

Current plans are for there eventually to be two types of upgrade for
version 4.2. The first will be `Module-specific' upgrades; the second
a `general' upgrade. These are explained in detail below.

Upgrading From 4.1A

The necessary programs will be distributed on the relevant
installation diskettes.

Version 4.2 Module-Specific Upgrade

There will be four separate upgrade modules, one for each of the
ledgers and one for Stock Control. These will only upgrade from
Global 2000 data. The versions upgradable will be:

    Version 6.0 Global 2000 Nominal Ledger
    Version 7.1 Global 2000 Purchase Ledger
    Version 6.3 Global 2000 Sales Ledger
    Version 6.2 Global 2000 Stock Control

Version 4.2 will provide a one stage upgrade for Global 2000 sites.
Users can upgrade the vast majority of ledger information including
account details, outstanding transactions and historic data. For the
distribution modules the "static" data, namely product code
information and price lists can be upgraded.

It is important to note that the data structures are substantially
different between Global 2000 & Global 3000, not only in terms of
Speedbase database compared with indexed sequential files but also in
terms of the relationships between and definitions of individual
fields. So although the upgrade can be achieved with a minimum of
operator intervention the reseller may need to modify the upgrade
programs to ensure that the freshly created Global 3000 databases
contain the data in the desired format. Also the historical data is
likely to contain inconsistencies that need to be resolved before
conversion as 3000 applies more stringent checking than 2000, and
this may be best done by modifying the conversion programs. For these
reasons the conversion programs are supplied in source form.

The modules are available at £250 each with no discount. Each module
is provided in source form so that it can be tailored and adjusted to

meet each user's requirements. Both Global 2000 Cobol version 6.2 and Global 3000 Speedbase Development version 8.0 will be required by a reseller to tailor these modules.

Version 4.2 General Upgrade

This is a new release of the existing general upgrade (module ZU). We expect release of this early in 1994; however this has not been scheduled.

The general upgrade program will not be restricted to Global 2000. It will use as input either flat ASCII files, typically reports output to disk, or Global data files. The conversions to be performed to create the Global 3000 data will be table driven. It is hoped, in time, to provide conversion tables to convert from a number of packages, or new conversion tables can be defined by the reseller.

3.8 INTRASTAT

Version 4.2 of Global 3000 Intrastat provides no enhancements; it is necessary however in order to interface to version 4.2 of other Global 3000 applications.

4. PRICING AND POLICIES

Cash Manager is to be priced as a Global 3000 ledger module:-

  1 screen   £500
  2 - 3 screens   £890
  4 - 7 screens   £390
  8 - 12 screens   £890
  13 - 24 screens   £2390
  25 - 39 screens   £3090
  40 - 59 screens   £3990
  60 - 99 screens   £4990

Users with a valid service contract will be able to upgrade their existing Global 3000 modules to V4.2 at a cost of £50 per module.

Module specific upgrade modules are to be priced as follows:-

Run time programs for all modules are free of charge and are distributed with the appropriate Global 3000 module. If a reseller needs to purchase the source of any of the ledgers (Sales to Debtors, Purchase to Creditors or Nominal to General) upgrade programs the cost will be £250 per module. The revised software can be used at any reseller end-user sites.

The source to the Stock Control upgrade is free of charge and is distributed as part of the Stock Control module.

5. DOCUMENTATION PROPOSED

EXISTING APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION

The following existing documentation will remain in print and will be sent out with version 4.2 software:

Name of Document   Sent out with

MZIMV4.1 - Global 3000 Stock Manual V4.1   Stock Control version 4.2
MZOMV4.1 - Global 3000 POP Manual V4.1   POP version 4.2
MZSMV4.1 - Global 3000 SOP Manual V4.1   SOP version 4.2
MSNMV6.1 - Global 2000 Sales Analysis Manual V6.1 Sales Analysis version 6.4

NEW APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION

The following new pieces of documentation will be produced:

Name of Document   Details

Global 3000 Release Notice V4.2 Sent out with any order including one
                 or more of General, Debtors, Creditors
                 Ledger, Stock, SOP or POP but only if the
                 site had a previous version of the module
                 already.

                 Explains the differences between V3.0,
                 V4.0, V4.1 and V4.1A of the 3000 ledgers
                 and distribution software and V4.2. It also
                 explains the upgrade procedure from
                 versions 3.0, 4.0 and 4.1A of the software.

General Ledger Manual V4.2Based on V4.2 software, extensively revised
from 4.1.

Debtors Ledger Manual V4.2Based on V4.2 software, extensively revised
from 4.1.

Creditors Ledger Manual V4.2Based on V4.2 software, extensively
revised from 4.1.

Cash Manager Manual V4.2

Intrastat Notes V4.2

Intrastat Release Notice V4.2 Sent out with Intrastat (for users who
                 had an earlier version). Explains the
                 upgrade of Intrastat from V4.1.

Stock Control Updates V4.2 Explains the differences between the
                 already-printed V4.1 manuals and the V4.2
                 software. If possible this will be in the
                 form of replacement pages.

SOP Updates V4.2   Explains the differences between the
                 already-printed V4.1 manuals and the V4.2
                 software. If possible this will be in the
                 form of replacement pages.

POP Updates V4.2   Explains the differences between the
                 already-printed V4.1 manuals and the V4.2
                 software. If possible this will be in the
                 form of replacement pages.

Sales Analysis Notes V6.4

Sales Analysis Release Notice V6.4 Sent out with any order including
                 Global 2000 Sales Analysis where the site
                 had a previous version of Global 2000 Sales
                 Analysis already.

                 Explains how to upgrade from versions 6.2,

6.2A and 6.3 Sales Analysis to 6.4 Sales
Analysis.

OTHER NEW DOCUMENTATION

There will be new documentation for the upgrades and the sources.

6. PURCHASE OF SOURCE CODE

A Global 3000 Source Agreement has been drawn up that gives details
and conditions of how to purchase the source of entire Global 3000
products. This agreement allows vertical software developers to
modify the core Global 3000 modules to meet particular client needs
and/or interface to their own products.

Costs are as follows (no discount applies):£500 for each of the
ledger modules £500 for Cash Manager
£2,500 for each of the distribution
modules.

Resellers who have purchased source for V4.0 or V4.1A can obtain V4.2
source at the standard copy charge.