

# **TECHNICAL BULLETIN FROM GLOBAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS**

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## **Global Windows Workstation V2.3 now available**

The V2.2 Global Windows Workstation (GUI) has been extensively revised to produce revision V2.3.

Global-3000 version 4.5 is closely integrated with the V2.3 Global Windows Workstation. If you are planning to install Global 3000 version 4.5 this version of the GUI must also be installed.

The new features present in the Global Windows Workstation V2.3 include:

- In addition to the standard Initialisation File (e.g. GSMWIN32.INI) the GUI also recognises a Customisation File (e.g. GSMWIN32.CUS). The Customisation File allows site-specific customisations to be retained over a re-installation of the GUI. In addition to the optional PC-specific Customisation File, a network-wide Customisation File can also be specified;
- A new Administrator Option allows the GUI to re-read the Initialisation (and Customisation) Files 'on the fly' without the need to perform a GUI unload/reload;
- A powerful 'trigger' option has been added to the Global Windows Workstation. This option allows the GUI to automatically invoke another Windows application based on a screen 'trigger condition'. This option allows seamless integration between Speedbase applications and other 3<sup>rd</sup> party Windows applications without the need to make any changes to the Speedbase code;
- The 'kick-off' option has been enhanced to allow a parameter, based on the contents of the current screen, to be passed to the Windows application;
- It is now possible to customise the keyboard layout assumed by the GUI to match the Speedbase Function Keyboard Customisation established by \$BACUS in the T>711 file. Note that the Speedbase Colour Customisations in T>711 must NOT be changed;
- A problem which causes a variety of unpredictable results with the 32-bit GUI, GSMWIN32.EXE, if the 'ExitOn\$E' option is enabled, has been fixed. ALL

SITES THAT ARE USING GSMWIN32.EXE WITH THE 'Exiton\$E' OPTION SHOULD UPGRADE TO THE V2.3 GSMWIN32.EXE IMMEDIATELY;

- The 32-bit GUI (i.e. GSMWIN32.EXE) now functions as a DDE Server allowing a 3<sup>rd</sup> party DDE application to send characters directly to the GUI. These characters are returned to the Speedbase or Cobol application running on the host as if they had been typed on the keyboard;
- A number of new options have been added to reduce the support overhead caused by inexperienced users. In particular, the ForbidClose option forces users to run \$E on the host before terminating a GUI session. Similarly, the SingleInstance option only allows a single copy of the GUI to be run preventing the problems which can occur if the Global Windows Workstation desktop icon is clicked repeatedly;
- A new option available with the V8.1i Menu Handler allows a bitmap file to be associated with a specific menu line. Thus, the Global Windows Workstation can be configured to display different windows backgrounds when 'live data' and 'training data'; or 'Company 1' and 'Company 2' are selected.

All the new features are fully described in the Global Windows Workstation V2.3 Notes.

The V2.3 Global Windows Workstation will operate with any revision of Global System Manager V8.1. However, a number of new facilities are only available with Speedbase Presentation Manager V8.1g, or later (see the Global Windows Workstation V2.3 Notes for further details).

The functionality of the Global Windows Workstation V2.3 will be included in the V2.7 Global System Manager (Windows NT) Global Client, GLOBAL.EXE. A further Global Technical Bulletin will announce the release of Global System Manager (Windows NT) V2.7.

Global Windows Workstation V2.3 is available at a copy charge for all users on service who are upgrading from Global Windows Workstation V2.2.

If you have any questions regarding the above information please contact the Service Centre at the City office.