TECHNICAL BULLETIN FROM GLOBAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS

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The Global Product Set CD and Updating Global 3000 V4.5 Program Libraries

Although it was never our intention to release the Global Product Set (GPS) CD (i.e. the CD that contains the Global 3000 V5.0 Global Cabinet Files) on a **regular** monthly basis, the irregular release strategy has caused a certain amount of confusion. Consequently, we have changed our internal procedures to produce a GPS CD on a regular monthly basis. Thus, the recently released October-2001 GPS CD will be followed by a November-2001 GPS CD, and so on. The GPS CD for a particular month (containing the changes and enhancements that have been QC'ed during that month) will be released during the first week of the following month. For example, the November-2001 CD will be released during early December-2001.

Furthermore, we have recognised the difficulties involved in creating a fully updated Global 3000 V4.5 G3PROG program unit. These difficulties are largely caused by the problems involved in applying large numbers of Autozaps to an installed site on a regular basis. Until recently, the Service Centre produced "updated" Global 3000 V4.5 program libraries that were available for download from the Global web-site. However, both the update library creation process and the update library application process were time-consuming and potentially error-prone.

Some recent improvements to our internal systems have made it possible for us to easily, and reliably, distribute a complete set of fully up-to-date Global 3000 V4.5 program libraries directly from our internal product masters. It is our intention to release a complete set of fully updated Global 3000 V4.5 program libraries on every new version of the monthly GPS CD. These updated program libraries are "activated" using a new utility, $UNPACK.

The $UNPACK mechanism has been designed for upgrading Global 3000 V4.5 on GSM (Windows) configurations. However, it is also suitable for other Global products (e.g. Global Payroll). Furthermore, as explained in the $UNPACK documentation, with a few file renames the $UNPACK utility can also be used on GSM (Unix), GSM (Novell) and GSM (MS-DOS) configurations.

$UNPACK **cannot** be used **on** GSM (BOS) configurations. However, it can be used to update end-user Global 3000 installations

running GSM (BOS) by using a reseller GSM (Windows) system as a "staging-post". This technique is covered in the notes that describe $UNPACK.

Of course, $UNPACK is **not** required for Global 3000 V5.0, where the superior Global Product Service Pack mechanism is already available. The $UNPACK utility will be formally released with GSM V8.1l Service Pack 6. A version of $UNPACK will be available, as file UNPACK.GSM, on the October-2001 GPS CD. Use $BBS to import UNPACK.GSM to $UNPACK on SYSRES. $UNPACK will only function on GSM V8.1l, or later.

For those resellers who do not currently receive the monthly GPS CD it can be ordered from the Production Department by quoting product code CD 1.0.