

PineSoft Newsletter : January 1998

Some New Features in Versions 2.0a - 2.1c

The display of User definable prompts; linked company addresses in Student Placement Pop-up forms and the Main Menu Placement form is virtually instantaneous even on a modest PC, a significant speed improvement over earlier versions.

The User Interface has been revised with the use of Centred Forms more suitable for users using SVGA displays with resolutions of 800 x 600 or higher. The application will still operate effectively at standard VGA resolution, however, the full screen displays used to display the Main Database Forms will show more detail at higher resolutions, especially in datasheet view. The Report Preview is also displayed full screen to make the best use of higher resolution screen displays.

I believe that the new configuration provides a good balance between the needs of Users with SVGA displays while maintaining backwards compatibility for those with VGA displays.

PineSoft Copy Record Button modified to automatically append a * character to the copied code field. Code modifications to enable users to immediately enter company contact details via the Pop-up form in a new main record. {previously a new main record had to be saved first, before using the Pop-up forms.}

New high speed entry of student name details in student records. Enter a student code using the format SURNAME_FORENAME to automatically complete the entries for the surname, fname, mailname and title fields. The code to accomplish this is activated by the "under-score" character between the surname and firstname.

See the README.TXT file supplied with the application for the latest improvements/additions. For example, 13 new reports added in V2.0d including student photographs at 16 per page and a number of company & student lists with user-definable option and custom fields.

July 1997 : Launch of PineSoft 2000

Year 2000 compliant with Pop-up calendar for entering dates { auto 4 digit year from 2000 }.

New Filter by Form option makes the selection of sub-groups of records an easy point and click procedure - you'll wonder how you managed without it! You could, for example, use one of the six User-definable Student fields to enter "UCAS Points" for students. Click on the "Filter by Form" button, enter >"20" in the newly defined "UCAS Points" field and click on the "Apply Filter" button to select all students with more than 20 points. It really is that easy.

Many other subtle improvements, like the use of drop-down lists for all "year / placement" fields.

New cut & paste import / export options and Change Password dialog.

Multiple student applications by a given student to the same company on different dates now allowed, with default application date of "today" to speed data entry. {Requires an update of existing users pinedat.mdb file}.

Additional "Visiting Tutor" Edit option in the Network Version to enable Visiting Tutors to update details pertaining to the students they visit. This self contained module is designed for remote update of placement details only, and does not give access to the full application.

Updated on-line help and new User Manuals supplied with PineSoft 2000 updates.

August 1997 : Launch of PineSoft Home Page

Check out the PineSoft Home Page at www.pinesoft.net for the latest PineSoft developments.

Laser Label Tip

You can easily make use of partially used laser label sheets and start printing at any label position using the following simple technique.

Define "blank" company records with codes ABLANK1, ABLANK2, ABLANK7 and no other field entries - this will position these records together at the beginning of your company records.

When using the Mail - Label print option simply select the required number of "blank" records to effectively skip printing these labels, before your first required company record.