

PineSoft Newsletter : October 1998

Latest Developments : Completed Summer 1998

The implementing a number of new additions to the application, many in response to Customer Requests, is now complete. New toggle yes/no fields, make it easier to answer questions such as :

- o How many applications, job offers, acceptances have been made to date
- o Which students are placed / still require a placement
- o Which companies have responded in a user defined time period
- o Are the Health & Safety requirements satisfied

New Features (Version 2.2b - available October 1998)

(1) Applications Pop-up Form

A new "Toggle" Placed field and a 20 character "info" field to distinguish between different vacancies at the same company, or other details etc. All Yes/No fields activated by single click toggle. It is now easy to filter out applications where offers have been made, whether or not the offer has been accepted etc. Reports updated appropriately.

(2) Main Company Database

A new date field labelled "last response". This makes it easy to filter companies with last responses after a user specified date, or between specified dates etc. New Health & Safety fields - see below.

(3) Main Student Database : New Yes/No Fields for Placement : Required and Placed

These new one click toggle fields make it easy to determine students currently requiring a placement, those placed, still unplaced etc. New Placement : Required / Placed Report. New Health & Safety fields - see below.

(4) Nine new Mail Reports

These new mail output reports, all refer to the latest student placement details (if a student has had a number of placements the latest will be selected automatically). Letters, labels and envelopes may be created for the Supervisor, Student c/o Supervisor, or to the Student (only) at the company address.

(5) An extra Flag field for Student Placement Records

This enables students who may have left a company to be filtered out, so that they may be omitted when a letter is sent to all current placement students. . New Health & Safety field - see below.

(6) Health & Safety

Health & Safety requirements, as detailed in the Health and Safety Guidance for the Placement of HE Students publication, relate to 3 database tables. The company database has a new certified toggle field and date field. These will make it possible to check which companies satisfy H&S requirements. If you decide to update company H&S certification after a given time period, the date field makes it easy to filter appropriate records. The student database has two new toggle fields to record whether the student has been briefed and whether he/she has received their information pack. I don't think the date of these events is relevant so have not allocated date fields. The final toggle field for H&S authority is in the appropriate student placement record. Again I don't think a date field is needed, what I believe is important to know, is whether a student has been briefed, had the information pack and has been given authority to start the placement. For convenience all appropriate H&S details may be viewed in a new H&S form and output from two new H&S reports.

(7) New and Modified Visiting Tutor Reports

These reports make it easy to see which visiting tutors are still to make their placement visits.

Any other items on your Wish List? Please let me know. Use the on-line "submit" form for electronic returns/requests.