

METRIC NEWSLETTER

For Metrology Professionals



Yo tengo *OpenMETRIC*

Published By Diversified Data Systems, Inc.
Tucson, Arizona

Volume 12, Number 1

June, 1998

Check Us Out at NCSL!



Check out our booth (#200) at the National Conference of Standards Laboratories (NCSL) in Albuquerque, July 19-23.

Mr. Don Wyatt, founder and President of Diversified Data Systems will be available to explain our industry-leading solutions for calibration, equipment, property, and asset management.

We will be featuring OpenMETRIC, "The Next Generation Calibration Management System" (see related articles on pages 2-3). In addition to an informative "slide show" about OpenMETRIC, Mr. Wyatt will also be demonstrating a "live" version of OpenMETRIC running on Windows NT.

In addition to OpenMETRIC, Mr. Wyatt will answer your questions about our PROTRAK Property Management System, EMBARC Equipment Management, Billing, Acquisition, and Redeployment Control System, and our TRAFIC Transfer and Relocation of Assets System.

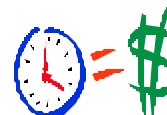
Several of our customers will be at our booth at various times to answer your questions about their experiences with DDS.

If you will be attending the NCSL Conference, plan to visit our booth. If you were at the NCSL Conference in previous years, you saw the enthusiastic crowds that surrounded our booth during each exhibit session. You can avoid the crowds by calling today to schedule a private demonstration with Mr. Wyatt during "off hours."

Looking forward to seeing you in Albuquerque!

Spend an Afternoon, Save a Fortune!

Diversified Data Systems and Integrated Sciences Group will be presenting two **free seminars**



following NCSL in Albuquerque. Both seminars will be presented jointly by Mr. Don Wyatt, President of Diversified Data Systems, and Dr. Howard Castrup, President of Integrated Sciences Group.

The first seminar is entitled "Calibration Data Management and Analysis: An Overview". This 2-hour seminar will discuss calibration data requirements and techniques and methodologies for effective management and analysis of this data. If you're shopping for a new system, or looking for ways to improve your existing system, this seminar will arm you with indispensable facts and insights.

The second seminar is entitled "Optimizing Calibration Intervals." This 2-hour seminar will explain the benefits of applying advanced equipment management methods, including statistical interval analysis, for optimizing calibration intervals, reducing equipment downtime and minimizing calibration support costs. OpenMETRIC and IntervalMAX will be used to demonstrate the methodologies and principles involved. OpenMETRIC, from Diversified Data Systems, is described elsewhere in this newsletter. IntervalMAX, from Integrated Sciences Group, is the groundbreaking implementation of the S2 interval adjustment method from the NCSL Recommended Practice (RP) #1.

These seminars are scheduled for Thursday, July 23, following NCSL, at the Doubletree Hotel. Seminar 1 is scheduled for 1:00-2:45 and Seminar 2 is scheduled for 3:00-4:45.

Space is limited and **reservations are required**. Call DDS (520-792-3250) or ISG (805-872-1683) **today**.

Y2K...

...by Don Wyatt

For years we've been told that there are only two things that are certain in life; namely, death and taxes.



Recently, it seems like death and taxes have been replaced by two new ubiquitous subjects: **Ei Ni_o** and **Y2K** (Year 2000).

Estimates of the cost of upgrading existing software for Y2K compliance range as high as **\$1 trillion**. Programmers with experience in "legacy" environments are being lured out of retirement with huge "signing bonuses" and incentives. In many large corporations, bonuses are being paid to existing employees for each legacy programmer they can refer or recruit.

Fixing the Y2K problems may turn out to be the **cheap** part of the problem. The legal profession is expected to take an even larger bite from the domestic economy.

Several experts have recently predicted that attorneys will generate as much as **\$2 trillion** in fees from suing hardware and software makers for products that are not Y2K compliant.

At DDS, we've developed Y2K-compliant systems for decades. Our bond and debenture systems have been amortizing into the 21st century since the '70's. Our IRA Custodial Management systems have been managing retirement dates in the 21st century since the 80's.

Calibration Due Dates, for items with intervals greater than two years, have required Y2K-compliance for a year or more.

OpenMETRIC is **fully** Y2K compliant. In fact, OpenMETRIC will operate correctly with dates up to and including the year 9999.

We have accumulated vast experience with numerous diverse applications, industries, and technologies. We are currently providing consultation and conversion assistance with Y2K problems.

If you are concerned about the Y2K compliance of your system or policies, please give us a call. If you are using a calibration management system with Y2K problems, consider switching to OpenMETRIC before it's too late.

I'm not sure if I want to be in an airplane on January 1, 2000. Or even in an elevator. But our clients already sleep better knowing their calibration systems will glide through Y2K without incident.



Outgrown your Current System?

During the past 15 years, most of our METRIC installations have replaced "legacy" systems which were developed in-house by programmers who are no longer with our clients.

Many of our recent OpenMETRIC installations are replacing "off the shelf" commercial systems which our clients have "outgrown." Many of these systems have fallen behind the technology curve and some are not even Y2K compliant (see related article on this page).

OpenMETRIC provides an ideal choice for upgrading the technology and capability of "starter" systems, bringing your organization the benefits and power of a "best in class" solution.

We can convert your data from dBase, Access, Paradox, FoxPro, spreadsheets, SQL databases, and many other data management systems.

So if your current metrology management system is not compatible with your future technology directions, consider converting to OpenMETRIC.



OpenMETRIC – Friendly to Your Environment

OpenMETRIC operates on over **700** different platforms (environments) today, and will operate on **ALL** popular platforms (environments) in the future.

OpenMETRIC operates on stand-alone PC's, Macs, LANS and PC Networks including Novell, UNIX Client/Server Systems, Windows NT Client/Server systems, and all POSIX-compliant operating systems, including OpenVMS.

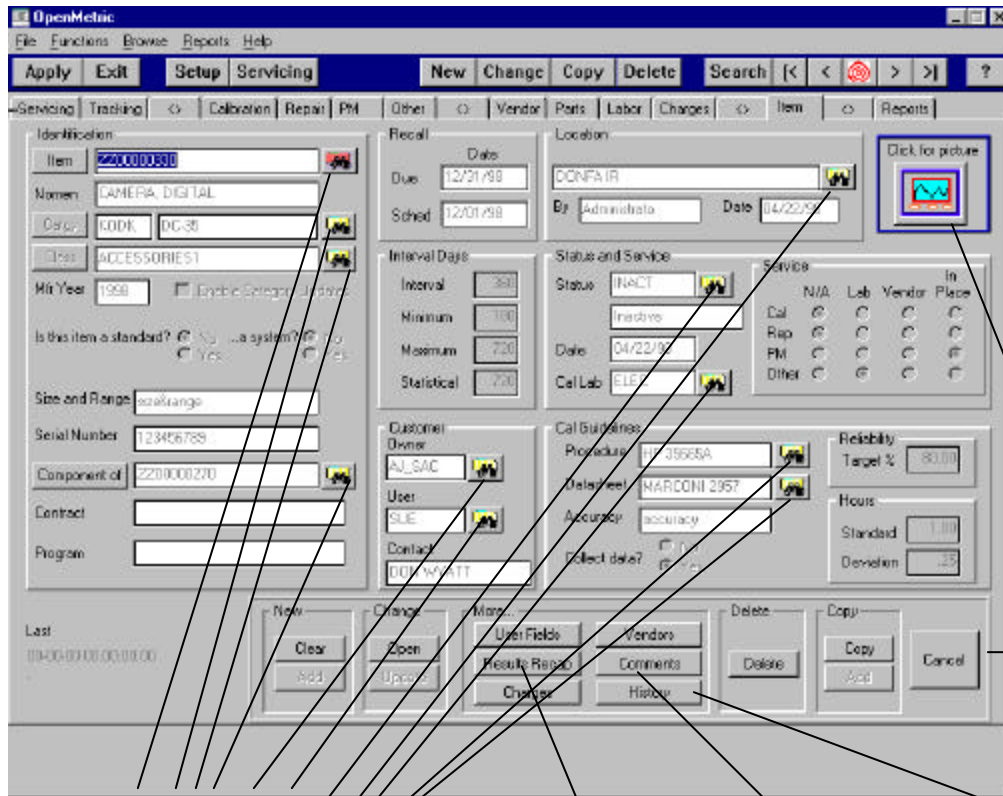
OpenMETRIC supports most popular Relational Database Management Systems (RDBMS's), including Oracle, Informix, Sybase, and SQL Server. OpenMETRIC supports ODBC-compliant databases, including Access, Paradox, etc.

OpenMETRIC data can be retrieved and inserted into Word documents, Excel workbooks, and PowerPoint slides for management reports and presentations.

OpenMETRIC will interface with enterprise systems including SAP R/3, Oracle, and others.

In short, OpenMETRIC supports you...today and tomorrow.

OpenMETRIC – The Friendliest System in Town



Convenient Tool Bar with immediate access to the two major Subsystems – Setup and Servicing.

Convenient and powerful “tabs” to jump immediately to screens you need to use.

Convenient “thumbnail” image – push for larger image.

Convenient push buttons for supplemental information and processing functions.

Convenient pull-down lists for simplicity, speed, and data integrity.

Powerful Results Recap pop-up window.

Virtually unlimited, flexible, scrollable comments.

Scrollable audit trail of all changes made to Item data.

OpenMETRIC sets a new standard for the friendly and productive utilization of the latest Graphics User Interface (GUI) capabilities.

Users no longer need to traverse multiple levels of menus or remember cryptic function codes. Every feature and function of OpenMETRIC is immediately accessible by simply pointing and clicking its “tab control.”

OpenMETRIC is divided into two major subsystems; namely, Setup and Servicing.

Setup Subsystems

Definitional information is entered and maintained by the following Setup Subsystems:

- Class Subsystem
- Manufacturer Subsystem
- Category Subsystem
- Location Subsystem
- Customer Subsystem
- Vendor Subsystem
- Employee Subsystem
- Item Subsystem
- Procedure Subsystem
- Datasheet Subsystem
- System Setup Subsystem
- Gate Setup Subsystem
- Reference Subsystem

Servicing Subsystems

The day-to-day functions of OpenMETRIC are handled by the following Servicing Subsystems:

- Job Tracking Subsystem
- Calibration Subsystem
- Standards Subsystem
- Readings Subsystem
- Repair Subsystem
- Preventive Maintenance Subsystem
- Other Services Subsystem
- Vendor Tracking Subsystem
- Parts Tracking Subsystem
- Labor Tracking Subsystem
- Charges Subsystem
- Item Summary Subsystem
- Reporting Subsystem

Thick Client Technology

OpenMETRIC typically uses “thick client technology” with centralized database management on the server. This maximizes the processing capabilities of today’s desktop workstations, while minimizing traffic on already busy networks.

To take full advantage of OpenMETRIC’s capabilities, client system requirements are as follows:

- Windows 95 or Windows NT 4.0 or higher
- 32MB RAM, 50MB available disk space
- SVGA monitor (800x600 minimum).

DIVERSIFIED DATA SYSTEMS -- "TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF TRAILBLAZING"



We at Diversified Data Systems, Inc. (DDS) are proud of our dramatic achievements and enduring contributions to the development and evolution of the computer industry.

For over twenty-eight years, DDS has developed major software products and pioneered new technologies to harness the power and potential of computers for business, industry, manufacturing, health care, education, government, distribution, finance, and public safety.

In the early 70's, DDS gained worldwide recognition by producing the very first COBOL compiler for a 16-bit minicomputer. This permitted those new, powerful, and economical systems to perform tasks that previously required complex and expensive mainframe computers. DDS's COBOL compiler was the first language compiler to be certified by the Federal Compiler Testing Service, originally under the Department of the Navy, and now under the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

During the 70's and early 80's, DDS made major contributions to the development and refinement of Computer-Aided Software Engineering (CASE) concepts and methodologies.

Today, DDS is the preeminent Software Manufacturing Boutique. DDS has developed a Computer-Aided Software Production (CASP) system named WonderWare. WonderWare uses the power of computer technology to create an "assembly line" to manufacture software. With WonderWare, DDS produces DEFECT-FREE customized software solutions, virtually OVERNIGHT. Yet, WonderWare systems are so ECONOMICAL that our clients tell us that their investments with us are less than the license fees for comparable "packaged" or "canned" products.

Most of DDS's clients are large corporations or organizations who have traditionally developed most of their own software systems. However, today's backlogged MIS departments may take two or three years to develop a new application. DDS is producing such systems in 30-60 days.

Our systems are more economical than internally-developed systems. Our systems generate benefits, economies, and paybacks for our clients immediately. Most importantly, our clients get software that EXACTLY FITS their specific and unique requirements. Most DDS clients, recognizing the value we offer, return to DDS for additional systems and extensions to existing systems. In this way, DDS makes solutions that KEEP FITTING as conditions and requirements change.

Diversified Data Systems, Inc.

**Diversified Data Systems, Inc.
2601 N. Fairview Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85705**