

## ***In this Update...***

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### **Expanded Real-time Display program**

Back in the old days this program was called the 'Floor Display program'. With the advent of Testream/CS the name changed and became the 'Lab Data Display program'.

With the current capability to import on-line results into Testream/CS, this program has undergone yet another name change to the 'Real-Time Display program'. However, the name is not the only change!

Completely re-written in .NET the *totally new* Real-Time Display program offers many more features than its predecessor program and is compatible with XP and Windows 2003 server version. The 'look and feel' of the program has been updated and some of the new capabilities are:

- **Data Entry.** Now you can type test results directly into a real-time display page...ideal for machine operators to add important information to a display page, or for any manual data entry requirement.
- **Customizing the page display.** By choosing to 'dock' various objects onto the page they will remain resident for easy access/use, such as the list of available spreadsheets (for *all* Sample ID sets!), graphs, detailed view, shortcut key commands list, etc. Pages may also be color-coded differently for each machine.
- **Appended/overlay graphing.** As in the IA you can now select multiple data columns and either overly or append them to easily see trends and/or relationships.

**"How can I take a look at this new software? What is the cost?"**

If your support services agreement is current you will be receiving the new Real-Time Display program at no charge as part of the latest release of Testream/CS, v 6.5. Please contact the Help Desk at (516) 349-7786 ext 101 or Sally Keil at ext 126 if you'd like to schedule an on-line demonstration to see the new program 'in action'. When you're ready to install we'd be happy to set up some remote training sessions too, at your convenience.

### **Let's Catch Up!**

It has been a while since the AcquiData Update was last issued and *so many* new features have been added to Testream/CS! So, let's get caught up with all the new developments!

A major new expansion of Testream/CS came about with the release of the **Project Entry & Management** program. This new program positions Testream/CS as a powerful LIMS system in addition to its traditional role as a product quality data acquisition/data management system.

Project Entry & Management delivers an array of tools for researchers, customer service reps, and all others who submit samples to the lab to enable them to fully define the problem they have or the information they need. Extensive text notations can be entered; lists of properties to test and the number of required replicates are just some of the information that may be entered. Submitters electronically send their work requests to the lab; multiple labs are, of course, fully supported.

Lab managers see submitted projects 'pop up' on their lab's work queue. They can 'click' open the project to add their own notations, assign the work, prioritize and schedule it. At any time both the lab and the submitter can track the status of any project.

Testream/CS will know when the project is completed and will electronically alert the lab manager and/or the submitter that test results are available in the Testream/CS database. Using the Testream/CS Data Extractor, project reports as Excel spreadsheets can be easily e-mailed for quick, efficient results!

Developments have been going on in the IA too. You can now **scan bar code labels** for sample ID entry, or enter the IDs into the IA and have it **produce a bar code label** for you. This is a great capability if you receive samples that do not get tested right away: enter them into Testream/CS to produce the label and then simply scan that label when testing actually begins.

'**Auto send**' is now available in the IA: if the data is normally distributed and the test method has been fulfilled the tester no longer needs to issue the 'send' command.... the IA will do it automatically. This is a particularly useful feature if you have a sample feed mechanism on your instrument. Also, testing of sequentially numbered samples has been made easier: you can now instruct the IA to **automatically increment your third ID** by 1 so you can stay on the data acquisition screen and simply plow through that stack of samples!

## **Before you switch PCs...**

If your company or site is planning to upgrade or replace PC hardware, please plan ahead.

AcquiData, Inc. does not include live re-installation support on new hardware under our Support Services Agreement. We will reset your installation passwords and make software available for download at no charge to Support clients with reasonable notice.

Most clients find that with good preparation, they can accomplish the transition on their own. If you require engineering support for your transition, we will be happy to provide you a quote.

Here are some helpful steps to take which will minimize your downtime and ensure a smooth transition.

- ❑ Check your new PC's setup with our PC Configuration Guide.
  - Operating System
  - SQL Server
  - Internet Explorer
  - User Setup
  - Instrument Connection
- ❑ Make a list of old & new computer names.
  - This is a network setting.
  - Verify names with I.T. Dept.
- ❑ Make a list of old & new locations for any client applications. These include:
  - Data Editor
  - Data Extractor
  - Configuration Maintenance Utility
  - User Administration Utility
  - Format
  - Specification Maintenance Utility
- ❑ Contact AcquiData, Inc. well ahead of time so that we can reset your installation passwords if necessary.
- ❑ Your IAs and Real-time Displays do not require special installation, although Internet Explorer versions and Security Settings can affect functionality of these browser-based applications.
- ❑ If you're upgrading your client PCs to XP be sure that you have also upgraded to Testream/CS' new Real-time Display program: its XP compatible
- ❑ As always, users must have valid IDs and Passwords to access the system.

## **Let's Catch Up! (con't)**

The **Testream/CS to PI interface program** has been significantly enhanced. Not only does it send lab data to PI, it can now *read* PI tag values into Testream/CS. Using the Testream/CS Configuration Maintenance Utility program you have full control over what tags to monitor; you can insure that they are defined in Testream/CS as 'read only' properties, too. This expansion is an open-ended capability: once installed you can monitor as many PI tags as you'd like. With this added capability process and machine information may now appear along side your lab data on Real-time Displays, Excel spreadsheets by way of the Data Extractor, in graphs via ChartWriter, etc!

Let's not forget **ChartWriter!** This 'drag and drop' graphing tool makes it simple to produce powerful product quality reports. ChartWriter can produce graphs of individual data points for single or multiple properties all the way up to *annual* summarizations.

The **Product Specifications Entry & Maintenance program** has been enhanced, too. You may now set color coding options on a per property per grade basis. Additionally you may turn off color coding on the less important properties even though you may have set QC limits for them. With all of these enhancements Testream/CS Real-time Display pages and Data Extractor reports can be 'fine tuned' to insure that they are neither over nor under alarming.

Contact our Sales Dept. if you'd like more information on any of these new enhancements.

## **Coming soon to a city near you...**

In the coming months AcquiData, Inc will be demonstrating Testream/CS with all of its latest features at a number of trade shows. If you're nearby we hope you'll drop in to say 'hello' and get caught up on all of the new capabilities!

### **Pittcon – 2005 Orlando FL**

Orlando, Florida Booth # 2553  
February 27 – March 4, 2005

### **Food Safety Summit and Expo**

Washington DC Booth #442  
March 16-18, 2005

### **TAPPI Paper Expo**

Milwaukee, WI Booth # 734  
May 23 – 25, 2005