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Astratis Introduction

Astratis is a company fully and only committed to the computer system and software needs of the travel industry. We have increased in strength and stature over the years and offer a very wide range of products and services.

The world of travel is very well known to us as we stay in close contact with the Industry through the travel press, feedback from existing clients operating in every segment of tour operations and by recruiting staff from within travel itself.

All Astratis software programs are expressly designed to operate on a variety of different platforms such as Windows 2000, Windows NT, Unix, Pick and Linux.

That means anything from a desk top PC right through to the largest of main frame computers. We do not dictate the make of hardware you should buy.

Allied to a fourth generation Relational Database, Astratis software has a significant edge over many less flexible computer systems.

This is a real bonus for operators requiring choice, and what we term as a 'future proof' product. Even if you change or expand your hardware, you will not require new software.

All our programs are installed on a single version basis. What this means is you get the very latest technology, fully updated to take account of user generated enhancements.

Also revised travel trade criteria and any statutory requirements originating from government organisations, such as the CAA and ABTA.

For the first twelve months after installation, all such upgrades are free of charge.

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

Astratis Introduction

All Astratis quotations are fully inclusive - never a hidden extra.

Once you are working with us you will appreciate not only the quality of our programming, but also how much attention we pay to detail and backup.

Our team of programmers are always on hand to advise on improvements to your system and help with training, although little of that is required to get operational. We also 'tweak' programs to meet your specific requirements.

All our installations can be modem linked and accessed by the Internet to our London office, so that we can solve issues with you on a 'what you see, we see' basis.

Astratis is a member of the Computer Services Association and has an ESCROW agreement, which means all our programs are lodged with them - an added bonus for the future of your system and to protect your investment.



TAURUS

Taurus Reservations System

Introduction

Taurus is a Reservations, Administration and Accounting System for Tour Operators, Seat Only Sales, Accommodation Sales, Ground Services Suppliers and certain types of Travel Agent.

We will describe some of the features and methods employed in Taurus. It is not a definitive list because the system is continuously being developed to cope with the changing and developing requirements of the industry and individual clients.

From loading parameters, inventory and client details through reservations, amendments and reporting Astratis have made the whole system easy to understand, easy to learn and easy to use.



TAURUS

Input/Maintenance of Holiday Availability

Prior to the start of a selling season for any new brochure, where it is necessary, files must be set up containing the details of every accommodation type and transport type to be used, together with the capacities and allocation and the selling prices applicable to each holiday.

The main components are listed below:

Main accommodation file:

```

accommodation type - hotel/campsite/ship
accommodation name
address
telephone number
telex number
facilities offered
control attributes
direction details for vouchers etc.
```

Accommodation unit file:

```

unit type tent/room/cabin
name - "twin with facilities"
number of beds/extra beds
```

Accommodation availability:

```

availability of accommodation units within centre
over date ranges (on option, sold, on request, on commit-
ment/bed bank availability).
blocked availability for specified duration's
sharer facilities
```

Main flight transport file:

```

transport type flight/coach/car/ferry etc.
routing
flight/transport number (i.e. flight no. Up to 8 charac-
ters)
control attributes
```

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

TAURUS**Input/Maintenance of Holiday Availability**

Transport availability:

departure date
 flight/transport number
 availability totals - free/on option/on request/
 on commitment/free-sale
 local departure/arrival time
 costs and selling prices
 aircraft type
 supplier(s)
 reservation status
 coach files
 coach types
 coach details
 pick-up points
 routing
 coach linking
 operational diagnostics

Tour details:

holiday structure (skeleton itinerary)
 number of accommodation centres
 availability controls
 number of transport sectors
 accommodation numbers associated with this tour

Tour prices:

basic price
 child price
 infant price (if applicable) air tax etc.
 special discount
 party prices
 costs
 child/infant reductions

MORE.....



Contd...

TAURUS**Input/Maintenance of Holiday Availability**

Supplements & reductions:

supplement name e.g. "insurance for 10 days"
 (flag individual supplement to manual or automatic status)
 cost
 sell
 commissionable controls
 surchargeable controls
 reportable controls - sales reports
 purchase ledger supplier code

Car hire:

groups & descriptions
 prices by resort and/or country & brochure
 costs by resort and/or country & supplier

The files and their updating techniques are designed to avoid redundancy, as far as possible, in both file content or where that is not possible, input requirements.

The files contain common descriptive material for each accommodation and transport type and holiday combination, for screen display, confirmation, invoicing, departure documentation and internal reports, thus ensuring consistency at all stages of the system.

The basic capacity and allocation information together with all selling prices can be subsequently adjusted through this file maintenance suite, or adjusted on line.

As surcharge parameters are determined for a route (flight) or resort (currency), these are fed into the system and update the Holiday Files.

The dates to which any set of parameters apply are also defined and then the system can be correctly surcharging for a multiplicity of departure dates at the same time.



TAURUS

Input/Maintenance of System Parameters

The Taurus package has been designed to allow the introduction of new brochures, products, airports, resorts, transport types, accommodation types, marketing strategies and pricing policies at anytime without program modification.

Large sections of the system are therefore controlled by data literals known as System Parameters.

The most common examples of System Parameters are listed below:

- Next Booking Reference
- Next Payment Reference for invoices/other documentation
- Special Information texts
- Label (Address) controls
- Rates
- Board Types
- Option Expiry Date
- Ticket on Departure Days
- Invoice Layout Controls etc.
- Option Expiry Period in Days



TAURUS

Reservations/Availability Enquiries

This constitutes the main program within the system.

It is essential that reservations staff can enter booking details as quickly as possible whilst checking availability and only be allowed to overbook in certain circumstances.

It is also essential that clear displays of "linked" accommodation and transport types are available.

Basically during an availability enquiry, Reservations staff should be able to access information and if the client agrees, to activate certain special function keys to accept the booking.

The main features are:

- Clear simple prompts

- Clear and immediate availability display

- Booking of accommodation and flight/transport and/or car hire etc.

- Special key entry to display further information

- To be able to add supplements and reductions manually or automatically

- Automatic generation & re-generation of brochure prices

- Creation of transport and accommodation records within reservations for ad-hoc bookings

- Entry of direct client details (either new or automatically from mailing list)

- Entry of travellers details

- Immediate update of availability

- Abandon current booking leaving availability intact

- Change any detail before acceptance of the booking

- Automatic generation of sequential booking reference

- Maintenance of transaction (booking) log

- Alternatives

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

TAURUS**Reservations/Availability Enquiries**

When an option or booking request cannot be satisfied due to the non-existence or insufficiency of the requested items the system will respond with the most likely available alternatives which might satisfy the customer and enable a sale to be made.

Despite the automatic alternatives display, there may be occasions when further enquires are required to enable a sale to be made.

Typical examples of these are outlined below:

"Flight Dates"

"Flight Enquiry"

"Resort Enquiry"

"Package" Where can I go at this time?

When can I go to this resort?

Where can I stay from this flight?

When can I stay at this hotel (with matching transport type)?



TAURUS

General Booking Procedures

This is broken down into these areas:

BOOKING CONFIRMATION PROCESS

Entry of booking reference (locator)

Display relevant booking details

Entry of cash to confirm booking

Confirmation of booking from credit agent (i.e. No cash, only credit advice)

Update number of options on availability records Booking forms are passed to the appropriate department for confirmation.

Where the agent has quoted the booking reference number given, then the booking details can be recalled to the screen by entering the reference.

Failing this, the relevant option may be searched for, either on lead passenger name, by agent, by departure date, booking date or details are normally checked by the operator against the booking form and any discrepancies may either be amended online or the Agent contacted to reconfirm the Client's requirements.

When the operator is satisfied that the details match, he confirms the option with the appropriate deposit amount or DCA and enters all the relevant additional booking details from the booking form as necessary.

BOOKING CANCELLATION PROCESS

Entry of booking reference to display details

Entry of cancellation fee or cancellation fee code so that charges may be calculated

Release holiday units back to availability records Produce or spool cancellation invoice.

At any stage in the 'life' of a booking, it may be recalled to the screen for outright cancellation, cancellation/rebooking or amendment.

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

TAURUS**General Booking Procedures**

A simple recall procedure and instructions to cancel the reservation achieve outright cancellation of either option or booking.

For a confirmed booking, the machine will respond with a request for cancellation charge information (loss of deposit, percentage charge, whether insurance premium should be retained etc.)

Note:

The only reason to cancel a booking due to re-booking is when the booking has been confirmed under the wrong Customer/ABTA/ATOL number. Otherwise every other type of booking change can be considered or amended however complex i.e. change of party size, departure date, hotel, etc., thus keeping the original booking reference/locator.



TAURUS

Amend Existing Booking Processes

All items within a booking should be open to amendment as it is important to keep the same booking reference for a client/agent/operator communication and at the same time, it is more economic as far as disk storage is concerned.

The main sections should be:

CLIENT DETAILS

Travellers name (including lead traveller)

Direct clients addresses and telephone numbers

Travellers details

Number of travellers

Addition and deletion of infants on booking

PRICING, SUPPLEMENTS & REDUCTIONS

Display/add/delete/amend supplementary items on bookings

Amend fuel/currency surcharges

Amend basic adult/child/infant prices and costs

Amend Agents commission rates

Any price modifications to update appropriate Sales and Purchase

Ledger records

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

TAURUS**Amend Existing Booking Processes**

HOLIDAY DETAILS

Amend all Transport details - updating supplementary items on bookings.

Amend all accommodation details - updating main availability records.

Change overall departure date, i.e. move the whole holiday forward or back one week, updating all relevant availability records.

SPECIAL REQUESTS AND TEXTS

Amend any special or standard texts associated with bookings.

Amendments affecting either party size or inventory records (changed date, hotel, room type etc.) are dealt with as re-bookings but retaining the same booking reference number.

The original booking is recalled to the screen and those relevant components withdrawn pending satisfaction of the alternative request.

The cancelled items are not returned to stock for selling until the new requirements have been satisfied.

The booking as originally input is then redisplayed for any necessary amendments to be made.

For confirmed bookings, the new version of the booking is added to the file.

Minor changes not affecting inventory status may be affected by simply recalling the relevant section of the booking and making the amendment (e.g. extend option period, insure passengers etc). A new version of the booking record is added to the file.



TAURUS

Global Update Procedures

Automatic levy of currency and fuel surcharges on ranges of bookings updating Sales Ledger Accounts Files accordingly and printing or spooling revised invoices.

Change of transport codes, i.e. change of flight number for certain date ranges.

Change of other transport details.

Change of departure/arrival times.

Re-routing of transport.

Batch update for supplements.

Add/delete certain supplements and/or reductions on bookings within certain ranges.

End of Day Procedures

Daily Audit Trails

Booking File Transaction Log

Option Expiry Report

Expire Options Procedure

Print Spooled Client Documentation



TAURUS

Exception Reporting

Exceptions such as:

- Overbooking of transport (stock out)

- Overbooking of accommodation (stock out)

- Price overrides

- Commission overrides

- Achieved Sales Targets

- Availability Errors

- New customers created within Reservations Overbooked Transport/

Accommodation Reports:

A list of all transport types or accommodation which have been overbooked or which are full, showing seats/room types sold and on option.

These reports are updated at confirmation stage when transport/accommodation types are overbooked.

The transport/accommodation types will stay on the reports until the appropriate records are amended so that the seats/room types are no longer overbooked.

Availability Errors:

The object of this report is to find any discrepancies, highlight these errors and to find out why these errors occurred in the first place.



TAURUS

Invoice & Associated Client Documentation

Confirmation/Revised/Final Invoices
(individual/batch/spool)

Passenger Tickets

Accommodation Vouchers

Service (excursion vouchers)

Car Hire Vouchers

Various Itinerary Layouts (full A4 text type itinerary layout to meet Client's own requirements)

On the clients' invoice, the booking reference will act as the invoice number. An amendment or surcharge invoice will retain the same number plus a bar and a suffix. It will show the following information.

Confirmation/Final/Revised/Cancellation Invoice

Agent or Clients Name and Address

Departure /Arrival airports/ports/points

Transport details, transport number and timings

Number of passengers and all names

Departure Date

Accommodation Name(s)

Accommodation booked

Resort(s)

Number of nights

Car Hire Details

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

TAURUS**Invoice & Associated Client Documentation**

Basic Holiday Price

Supplementary Items and Prices

Insurance

Surcharges

Car Hire Prices

Invoice Remarks/Special Requests

Deposit Paid

Balance Due by return if less than 8 weeks prior to departure, on date calculated if more than 8 weeks prior to departure.

If the booking is through an agent the remittance advice will indicate the percentage commission applicable to the booking.

The appropriate self-billing VAT information will be printed according to the booking type and whether the agent is designated as self-billing or not.

The production of tickets may be made dependant on receipt of the final balance. In this case, all tickets for fully paid bookings and for credit agents, may be produced in a group for immediate despatch.

Tickets for unpaid bookings may be produced separately and held pending receipt of balance or not produced until fully paid.

In all cases, a manual override facility is available for repeat ticket runs.

When a booking is confirmed vouchers are raised for appropriate ground services if required. These may be printed out by running the relevant print program and loading the required voucher stationery on to the printer.



TAURUS

Documentation for Principals & Suppliers in the UK and Abroad

Transport (flight/coach/ferry/cruise, etc.)

Arrivals/Rooming Lists

Pick-Up Lists (coaches)

Arrivals Lists by tour (for multi-centre tours)

Spool facility for all manifests

Facility to "last list" certain manifests

Report on amendments to last listed manifests

Direct link to Telex for all of the above (if required)

Departure documentation is normally produced in bulk at the appropriate lead-time for each document prior to departure although individual items may be produced by request.

Following the bulk documentation, details of late changes for room/transfer manifests may be produced to ease clerical updating and the production of telexes.

Transport Manifests:

For a transport number and departure date, a numbered list of passengers will be produced, indicating ages of children, sex, insurance requirements, and special request and departure/arrival local times.

The inbound date, together with duration will be printed on the outbound manifest and vice versa. Infants will be printed but not as numbered passengers.

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

TAURUS**Documentation for Principals & Suppliers
in the UK and Abroad**

Arrival/Rooming Lists:

Lists will be produced for each accommodation type or tour.

For accommodation types, the list can either be produced for each flight for an arrival date or consolidated for a period of arrival but with detailed arrival information for each booking, including room allocations by duration of stay.

The list will report on both confirmed bookings and option.

Pick-Up Lists:

These highlight the complete picture of one flight but are organised according to tour or hotel and are used as an aid to the resort representative to check arrivals at airport.

Special Note:

The printing of transport manifests/rooming lists has always been a time consuming affair for tour operators.

By using these print programs, the User will be able to select many manifest ranges and let the machine get on with the printing as a background process.



TAURUS

Sales Reports

The following are special reports to be sent to suppliers:

Insurance Report:

All passengers who have taken out insurance for a range of departure dates, together with sell/cost for each duration, for each booking. A total of each will be given and the total for each column. Additionally this report details cancellations.

Car Hire Report:

All cars booked within each car-hire company over a date range by resort order. This report is to show all amendments since last listings. Additionally, dates, times, duration's, pick-up and drop-off points.

Special Supplements Reports:

Certain supplements such as full board, half board, ski-packs, pre-booked excursions etc, may need to be reported and sent to respective suppliers.

General Supplements Report:

Requested ranges of supplements printed for a specific tour, date, accommodation and flight ranges.



TAURUS

Sales Ledger & Accounts Function

The Taurus Sales Accounting System is fully integrated with the Reservations System. Full enquiry facilities are incorporated within the Taurus Sales Accounting System:

- Automatic creation of transactions on Sales Ledger from bookings
- Account interrogation within the customer/agent
- Itemised transaction listing
- Transactions within date/invoice number range
- Account reconciliation for ranges of customers
- Account interrogation for a specific booking
- Account Reports
- Override Payments Listing - Deposits - Balances
- Aged Debt Analysis
- Forward Debtors Listing
- Overall Ledger Balance
- Agent/Group Agent Statements
- End of Day Listings - Audit Trails

N.B.

The Taurus Sales Accounting facility can be fully integrated with the Astral Accounts Suite of programs which provides facilities for Sales, Purchase and Nominal Ledger Accounts.



TAURUS

Management & Marketing Reports

Basic statistical data is kept within the Taurus System in order that Management & Marketing Reports can be produced on either an on request basis, a monthly or cumulative basis.

However, those specified below are examples of the type which are produced:

- CAA report with a summary which can be sent to the CAA Agent Statistics in varying formats
- For sending brochures
- For marketing analysis
- For Sales Representatives
- For upgrading Agents' commissions
- Holiday Sales Reports
- Within Tour
- Within Hotel
- Within Flight
- Within Departure Point
- Booking pattern analysis reports
- Tour/Holiday profitability
- Brochure planning statistics
- Historical comparison against previous seasons
- Advertising analysis for direct bookings
- ABTA Agents File

A Travel Agent's file will be supplied with Taurus which will contain the following data for all listed:

- Name/Address/Telephone Number
- District/Category - according to volume of business by area/town - ABTA No - ATOL No
- Branches - Status
- Contact Name
- Position
- Operational Description
- Departure Points - applicable

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

TAURUS**Management & Marketing Reports**

The information is continually updated to ensure that the ABTA file details are always 100% accurate on site. During the season, information will be collated for each Agent in the Taurus package to show:

Brochures despatched

Options taken

Confirmed Bookings

Turnover

This information can then be used to produce Sales

Statistics to give reports showing

Full listing of Agent's details

Additional brochure requirements, etc

The ABTA File can be accessed at any time by individual agent, ABTA NO, ATOL NO, town or postal area and Reservations staff can look at any Agents details on request via the VDU.

It is also possible to produce name and address labels for Agents or groups of Agents if required.

Non ABTA/ATOL agents can be loaded in a special section of the same file, if there is a requirement.



TAURUS

End of Season Requirements

Although these reports, technically fall under Management & Marketing, in order to provide comprehensive historical comparisons against previous seasons, the following have been particularly highlighted:

- Hotel Costs Reports
- Flight Costs Reports
- Transport Loading Reports
- Accommodation Loading Reports

End of Season Booking Log Analysis showing total sales value, total payments received, outstanding balances, Agents commissions, organised on a monthly basis with accumulative totals by:-

- Confirmed bookings
- Cancellations
- Expired Options



TAURUS

Mailing (Labels) Facility

As mentioned before, a customer file containing ABTA agents and some ATOL Holders will be supplied with the system.

The main mailing facilities are as follows:

Print Labels from customer file (i.e. ABTA/ATOL/Unlicensed) by:

Name

Category

District

Post Key

Individually

Print Labels from DIRECT mailing list file (same sort options as above)

Print Labels from Bookings File

Enter brochure requests and print labels for these at the end of each day and transfer names and addresses to mailing list if required.

There are facilities to merge standard letters with the above mailing facilities. These are only available if the "JET" word processor is implemented on the system.



SAGITTARIUS

Statement and Payment System

This is an Electronic Agents Statement & Payment (Remittance) System which includes modules for SPS (Single Payment Scheme) ACAS, TIPS, and standard multiple statements for the likes of Thomas Cook, Going Places, Co-op Travel etc.



MARS

Customer Relationship Management

CRM Technology has been developed for the Travel Industry, as more and more Tour Operators recognise that it is far more cost effective to sell products to existing customers, than to sell the same product to new customers.

With this new development we can build an additional database of all customer information used for future customer marketing.

Retaining customers for the long term is now seen as one of the most important challenges for the Travel Organisations.



CYGNUS

Office Integration

This module has been developed to export data from all Astratis software modules into MS Applications, ie Word, Excel, Access.



JUPITER

E-Commerce System

An Interactive Web Site booking and E - Commerce System.



LEO

GDS Interface

The Taurus tour operators system caters for schedule flight bookings.

These are dealt with by type F stages within the itinerary of a booking. The scheduled flight stages can be entered manually if required.

For each stage a flight date, departure airport, arrival airport, flight number, seat class, status, and timings have to be entered together with passenger details associated with the flights.

All of this information would have already previously been entered into CRS/GDS systems, such as Galileo, Sabre, Worldspan or Amadeus.

Astratis's Leo software downloads "PNR" records information into the Taurus booking process.

The PNR information is entered directly into the CRS/GDS.

The user booking the flight has to have been trained to operate the CRS/GDS and "sees" the CRS system.

We therefore call this an apparent link.

Amendments made to the PNR must be made to the CRS/GDS first then subsequently again downloaded into the Taurus booking.

This type of link saves an enormous amount of data entry and thus time and effort.

Once the PNR information is loaded into Taurus then Taurus's consolidator fare base files can be used to cost bookings or full published fares are used.

Ticket information can also be downloaded and merged against bookings and individual passengers.

Multiple PNRs can be merged against the same Taurus booking to deal with group type itineraries where individual passengers may have different travel arrangements.



ASTRAL

Accounts Package

Introduction

Astral Accounts is a stand-alone accounting package offering standard Sales, Purchase & Nominal Ledger facilities.

It can be closely interfaced to the Taurus system for back office accounting purposes to provide a fully integrated solution to bring figures entered within Taurus to the nominal ledger/management accounting reporting level.

Also to provide the control of matching supplier invoices with flight/accommodation/car hire contract created within the Taurus system.

System Administration/File Maintenance

The programs of the Astral Accounts System will cover setting up certain system parameters and minor descriptive files:

Accounting Periods

(12 or 13 month years and date ranges)

Currency Codes & Exchange Rates Actual, Costed and Budget

Payment Type/Methods Codes & Descriptions

Bank Account(s) codes



ASTRAL

Nominal Ledger

Setting up of Nominal Cost Elements & Cost Centres.

Setting up of Nominal Accounts with period budgetary figures.

Facilities to enter direct nominal postings, such as:

- Bank Payments & Receipts
- Cash Payments & Receipts
- Journal Entries

These direct postings update the "Audit Trail" as do sales invoices, receipts etc., and purchase invoices, payments etc., and other transactions posted via the sales and purchase ledger.

Sales transactions from Taurus will automatically activate certain nominal accounts; e.g. Sales Ledger Control A/C, VAT Account Commission A/C, Sales Analysis Account(s).

Nominal Reports such as:

- Print/Display Trial Balance
- Print/Display Nominal A/C Transactions
- Print/Display Control A/C Transactions



ASTRAL

Sales Ledger

A standard Sales Ledger is included within the Astral accounts package for general sales.

However, all Tour Operating sales will be passed through directly into the Nominal Ledger via the Sales Accounting facility within Taurus.

- Update/List Sales Accounts
- Enter Sales Invoices
- Enter Sales Credit Notes
- Enter Sales Ledger Receipts
- Sales Ledger Reports
- Customer Statements
- Aged Debt Analysis
- List Overdue Invoices
- Turnover Report

Display/Print Itemised Accounts

Transactions entered into the Sales Ledger will be automatically entered onto the "Audit Trail" to be posted to the Nominal Ledger



ASTRAL

Purchase Ledger

A standard Purchase Ledger is included within the Astral accounts package for general bought ledger facilities.

Certain Tour Operating purchase transactions can automatically be sent through to the Purchase Ledger from Taurus such as:

- Update/List Supplier Accounts
- Enter Purchase Invoices
- Enter Credit Notes
- Enter Purchase Payments
- Purchase Ledger Reports
- Remittance Advice
- List Overdue Invoices
- Itemised purchase/Supplier Account Report
- Aged Credit Analysis

Transactions entered into the Purchase Ledger will automatically be entered on the "Audit Trail" to be posted to the Nominal Ledger.



ASTRAL

Astra Fax

AstraFax is an enterprise-wide, multi-user fax system, tightly integrated into the major accounting and distribution systems, and available on all mainstream operating systems.

It provides comprehensive, ad-hoc fax facilities from all connected terminals, PCs and NCs, and produces dramatic savings by allowing automatic faxing of business documents such as:

- Purchase orders
- Statements
- Quotations
- Call-offs
- Remittance advices
- Order acknowledgments
- Copy invoices
- Debtors letters

Enterprise-wide system:

Tightly integrated into all major accounting and distribution packages, so that the familiar application software is used to invoke the fax system. Send documents via the fax as easily as sending them to the printer.

Cut postage and handling costs:

Fax rather than post all statements, purchase orders and other documents. These cost at least £1.50 each to post (stationery, labour, postage etc.), but only a few pence to fax.

Reduce debtor days:

With just a few keystrokes, fax all your statements, debtors' letters and copy invoices. Many companies only pay on receipt of statements, so faxing ensures quicker payment. When debt chasing, simply fax copy invoices directly from the screen, for immediate payment approval.

MORE.....



Contd...

ASTRAL**Astra Fax**

Reduce telephone charges:

Rather than waste hours playing 'telephone tag' or waiting by the fax machine, faxes are sent directly from the screen in seconds.

Ad-hoc faxing saves money:

60 faxes per day is the equivalent of one full-time employee tied up using the fax machine. With AstraFax, all users can have fax facilities on their desktop, producing massive savings of time and money.

Forms overlay:

Automatically overlays the computer generated text with any number of graphic images, typically an image of pre-printed stationery, complete with logos and signatures.

Transform company Image:

Incorporate logos, signatures and graphics to ensure a high quality corporate image. Since faxes are sent directly from the computer without having to be scanned, they are always crystal clear.

Reduce costs and boost productivity:

Printing, bursting, decollating, folding and mailing can take hours or even days. Eliminate this wasted time completely with automated faxing.

Fast payback and Increased profits:

Automatic faxing boosts productivity, improves efficiency and drives down costs. AstraFax users world-wide report a payback period of just a few months, together with massive on-going savings.

MORE.....



ASTRAL

Contd...

Astra Fax

Technical Information:

AstraFax integrates tightly into all major accounting packages, including: Tetra, cfacs, Baan, Oracle Financials, System 6000, SunAccounts, Coda, Multisoft, Ross, McKeown.

Available on most UNIX platforms, as well as NT, VAXlyMS, OpenVMS and Novell, with client options for DOS, Windows, Internet Browsers and NCs.

Fully scalable system supports any number of users and fax lines, allowing tens or tens of thousands of faxes to be transmitted each day.

PC-client option enables faxing from networked Windows PCs. The software installs a 'fax' button on the toolbar for the most popular Windows word processors (e.g. Word, WordPerfect, AmiPro).

Word processor included, so that all users can send ad-hoc faxes directly from their own terminal or PC. Integrates with standard Unix and VMS packages e.g. WordPerfect, Angoss, Uniplex, Lex.

Time scheduling takes advantage of off-peak rates for non-urgent faxes. In the UK, for example, faxing overnight is approximately half the cost of faxing during the day; faxing during the week-end is just a third of the cost.

Automatically overlays the computer generated text with any number of graphic images, such as statement stationery or purchase order stationery.

Automatically generates optional cover pages, and can include company logo and contact details. Contact name, company name, date, number of pages, etc. can be automatically incorporated.

Automatically retries a configurable number of times if destination fax machine is busy or out of paper.

MORE.....



Contd...

ASTRAL**Astra Fax**

Technical Information:

Support for phonebooks and groups, so that faxes may be sent to 'customers', 'suppliers', etc. Settings can be system-wide or local to a specific user.

Facility to incorporate logos, graphics and signatures - even from text-based terminals.

Comprehensive queue management providing numerous facilities, including: amend incorrect fax number and re-send, cancel, change priority, view details.

Following a computer or power failure, AstraFax Will automatically resume from the point at which it was interrupted.

Priority control ensures that urgent faxes are sent immediately.

Telephone lines can be direct, via an exchange, or a combination of both.

Uses standard Class 2 fax modems connected to serial ports.

Supports multiple file attachments.

Configurable mail: Mail on Success, Failure, Both or Disable Mail.

Supports several types of printer emulation, including Epson, HP LaserJet, postscript.

Full context-sensitive help.

Comprehensive reports and archives.

[MORE.....](#)



ASTRAL

Contd...

Astra Fax

Technical Information:

Comprehensive toolset enables quick and complete integration into applications software at all levels, e.g. intercepting raw print file, by using extended set of APIs or by using spool file interface.

For example, pass the name of a spool file to the software and it will automatically split this into the constituent documents, overlay them on the relevant stationery and fax them all out.

Supports user-configurable scripts for actions on successful or failed faxes - for example, print a hard copy, or update a database with the fact that a purchase order was successfully faxed at 9:31 am on 12/02/04.



ASTRAL

Astra Form

AstraForm is an enterprise-wide white paper printing solution. Business documents and forms are stored on the computer and automatically merged with output data to produce high quality forms on plain paper, on Laserprinters - at a fraction of the cost of traditional pre-printed stationery.

Tightly integrated into the major accounting, manufacturing and distribution systems and available on all mainstream operating systems, AstraForm allows the efficient and cost-effective production of documents such as:

- View sample
- Invoices
- Works Orders
- Picking Lists
- Delivery Notes
- Export Documentation
- Bar Code Labels

Reliable and convenient:

Automatically and quietly prints forms to the laser printer(s) of your choice. No more noisy, slow, unreliable impact printers which often need to be located away from the office environment.

Transform company Image:

Eliminate the low quality forms produced by impact printers. AstraForm produces high quality laser forms which are crystal-clear, even down to the last part of a multi-part set.

Reduce stationery costs:

Buying, storing and administering pre-printed stationery is expensive and inefficient. AstraForm eliminates all this by storing document images electronically. In addition, the stored forms can be changed in minutes to cater for modifications to telephone numbers, logos, addresses - even the creation of an entirely new form.

MORE.....



Contd...

ASTRAL**Astra Form**

Central control:

Consistency and control of documentation is absolutely vital. AstraForm provides quick and easy global document management. New or amended forms are instantly made available to users throughout the enterprise; obsolete forms are automatically disabled to prevent unauthorised or inadvertent use.

Software solution:

AstraForm is a software only solution, which resides on the system server, therefore no special hardware is required. Document print facilities are available to all users, with the ability to print to any available supported printer.

Boost productivity:

With AstraForm, there is no need to burst and decollate multi-part stationery or tear off sprocket holes. No more time wasted changing and lining up pre-printed stationery.

Software Integration:

No changes are required to existing software systems. AstraForm is quickly and easily integrated into standard applications software.

Fast return on Investment:

AstraForm is easy and convenient to use and produces consistent high quality documents. Users report typical pay-back periods of just 9 months from initial investment.

[MORE.....](#)



Contd...

ASTRAL**Astra Form**

Export documentation:

AstraForm is officially approved by SITPRO, the Simpler Trade Procedures Board, which is part of the DTI. This is of particular benefit to those companies involved in export documentation, where accuracy of information and procedures is of paramount importance.

Fax Integration:

AstraForm is tightly integrated into Version 6ne's enterprise fax system, which can save substantial amounts of time and money by automating the faxing of statements, purchase orders, copy invoices and other business documents.

AstraForm stores electronic images of Pre-printed stationery and automatically merges the computer text with this stored image. The resultant form therefore looks just like the original document.

The image is stored in standard PCXformat, so can be used with any Windows graphics package such as Paintbrush or CorelDraw to make modifications. In just a few minutes, changes can be easily made to phone numbers, address details, logos.

AstraForm automatically merges the appropriate form with the computer text and prints on to the laser printer of your choice.

AstraForm also supports full colour when used with colour laser printers. There is no limit to the number of forms which can be stored.

Forms can be produced and edited by any Windows package (Paintbrush, CorelDraw, etc), or existing pre-printed stationery can be scanned in.

Form changes such as new phone numbers, addresses, logos can be easily made in minutes.

MORE.....



Contd...

ASTRAL**Astra Form**

The system supports duplex printing so that, for example, terms and conditions can be automatically printed on the reverse side of a purchase order.

The system can produce 'watermarks' such as 'Urgent' or 'Customer copy' - as appropriate.

Transform printed documents - simply select the items you wish, and position them anywhere on the output form - as well as changing fonts, font size, make them bold, italic, etc..

Easily create forms using lines, boxes, shading etc.

Automatic support for bar codes - any input field(s) can be printed as a bar code; this can be any size and positioned on any part of the form.

Available on UNIX, NT, VMS and Novell.

Incorporates arithmetic calculations so that, for example, brought forward and carried forward totals can be automatically calculated.

Works with HP compatible laser printers from LaserJet 11 through to LaserJet 6.

'Conditionals' facility allows any field or fields to be tested and appropriate action taken. For example, in a situation with multiple companies on the same computer, the relevant company logo and details can be automatically printed.

Furthermore, any field can be tested and variable terms and conditions printed on the reverse of the form.

Make additional savings by using Version One's complementary product, AstraFax, to fax out all purchase orders, statements, copy invoices and many other business documents



POLARIS

Brochure Costing Module

A useful tool for producing price grids for brochures, calculated from costs.



ARIES

Transparent CRS's

The CRS package, a fully automated link system between your computer and most CRS's, including market leaders such as Galileo, Sabre, Worldspan and Amadeus



CAPRICORN

UNICORN / EDI Ferry Link Booking System

An automated Unicorn/EDI link system between your computer and the major Ferry Companies CRS's, such as P&O, Brittany etc



TELSTAR

Fax and E - Mail Interchange

Automated Fax and e-mail transaction facilities. This module can be used for sending rooming lists, flight manifests, and other management reports to suppliers, hotels, airports etc.



TOPAZ

The Viewdata Link

Topaz opens your reservations and availability to Travel Agents across the land, helping to increase business and eliminate time consuming, holidaymaker frustrating queuing on your telephone lines.

Fully tailored to your operation, Topaz gives you complete control over how and when your availability is displayed and accessed, plus the levels at which live bookings, optional or actual, may be made on Topaz.

Through a variety of parameter functions this control, in conjunction with the Taurus database and reservations module, means that last minute sales need never be lost - a real bonus to any go ahead travel operation.

Topaz - the truly open system with more than a little of your business in it.

Services

Introduction

We have a variety of Services that are designed to assist you in managing our very extensive range of products.

If you have any questions about any of them please contact our Sales Director, [Chris Gilliland](#), who will be more than happy to help you in any way he can.

E - Commerce

The term electronic commerce or e-commerce is used to describe doing business over the Internet and has been described as the new economic paradigm.

By 2002, total e-commerce transactions are projected to exceed \$200 billion dollars annually.

A direct, real-time producer to consumer virtual marketplace will dominate the national and global economies.

Hundreds of thousands of new and agile companies will emerge from around the globe.

Opportunities for prosperity will abound for those prepared to take advantage of it.

Astratis offers a comprehensive suite of electronic commerce products and services which cover all the facets of building and maintaining a Web Store.

The Astratis solution is extremely functional and low cost and brings the "global marketplace" to your site.

Information Management

Information management is both a strategy, driven by customer needs, and an infrastructure, shaped by technology, for handling and distributing information.

As Information management deals with the relationship between business activities, individuals and information systems within an organisation.

We at Astratis emphasise not on information technology per se, but on its role in business organisations in order to seek broad contextual understanding.

Astratis's information management activities organise, catalog, archive, maintain, and disseminate travel and travel related data and information so that all potential users are aware of and can acquire the information.

The mission of Astratis is to advance the organisation, application, management, and use of information and information technology, and to enhance the understanding of the impact of information on the travel industry.

This mission has a technical component, concerned with the analysis, design, development, use, and management of information systems, services, and products in the travel business and community

Services

Website Development

Astratis Web Development provides full-service online digital solutions for the travel industry.

Our strength is our experience in helping clients identify, clarify, and effectively realise their online business goals.

We seamlessly fuse eloquent design, strategy, and user friendly navigation to capture the visitor's interest, encourage them to absorb your message, then act on its influence.

By integrating beautiful design with the innovative technology of the web, our works are evidence and confirmation of our commitment to excellence.

Our design and development skills produce workable web sites that are an asset to your business, allows you to create the site of your dreams, promote and market your site, keep in touch with customers, sell and manage inventory, and create dynamic presentations.

Astratis develops web sites that compete with the best in the nation. Our design and development skills produce workable web sites that are an asset to your business.

The successful development of a web site consists of many facets and challenges, from design and functionality to database management and marketing. Astratis accomplishes these tasks on all of our projects

Our development services include all that you need to construct a successful site.

A few important aspects of web sites we encourage are a functional concise design, dynamic content, find-ability, and data gathering.

Astratis designs concise, easy to use, attractive interfaces.

Your design should accomplish these things: To let the visitor know where they are, and quickly accomplish whatever the goal of their web site is and to establish their business as a top quality supplier of product or service in their industry.

Dynamic content can separate your efforts from your competitors.

[MORE.....](#)

Services

Contd...

Website Development

Astratis creates efficient ways for you to manage the content of your web pages, from products and product information to press releases and job openings.

The possibilities for managed content is varied and unlimited. Let us help you determine your needs.

If your web site is dependant upon web surfers finding your site among the clutter of hundreds of millions of web documents, Astratis will help. There are a number of ways to get people to visit your site for the first time and encourage repeat visitors. We will accomplish this.

Data gathering is fundamental and more often than not overlooked in site development. Astratis will help you gather information from web visitors and help you manage and use the data. This gathering and use of visitor data has proven to be one of the most important, effective and profitable uses of a web site.

Services

Website Maintenance

Website maintenance includes revising, editing, or otherwise changing existing web pages to keep your website up to date. The periodic addition of new web pages is also part of maintenance services.

Websites are not intended to be static.

The value of a website is the ability to maintain current information online at a reasonable cost.

We assume that you will want to revise some or all of your web pages over time, as well as adding additional web pages according to your business needs.

To assist you in maintaining current information online, we offer several options for website maintenance.

Creating a website can be easy compared to maintaining it. Over the years that we have been developing websites we have discovered that maintaining a site can require more money than developing it.

At Astratis, Our Website Maintenance Service is designed to help companies with an existing online presence develop and maintain that presence into a professional and effective business tool.

Astratis, not only ensures your website is kept looking sharp and up-to-date, but also guarantees that your website receives the specialist attention it requires.

[MORE.....](#)

Services

Contd...

Website Maintenance

The main areas of website maintenance and web site management include:

1. Content:

The content needs to be alive, current and accurate. With fresh information people will have a reason to return to the site time and time again. Also old articles, comments and other information should be archived.

2. Technology:

Technology changes so fast that some say a "web year" is one month! A site begins to look and act old without updating. Furthermore components of the site can malfunction, requiring maintenance.

3. Marketing:

The number of visitors and activity should increase. This building of these activities requires promotion and regular creative improvement.

4. Response and customer service:

Site visitors, customers and members often need a response. They may have questions, comments, complaints and suggestions. We can handle your customer support, forum moderating and any kind of database management from Astratis.

We can take all or parts of these responsibilities off your shoulders.

Application Service Provider

Application Service Provision (ASP) is a service that Astratis can provide to Tour Operators, enabling them to have a managed system and application running 365 days a year.

Customers can choose to subscribe to a transaction based priced tariff (Pay per Pax), allowing forward visibility of costs, without mitigated risk.

We can host and manage the server, to ensure a day to day smooth operation with regular software updates, and data housekeeping.

Contacts

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London NW1 0SP

For further information on our Products and Services or to arrange a demonstration please call:

Chris Gilliland
Sales Director

Tel: +44 (0)20 7419 5679
Fax: +44 (0)20 7419 5680
e- mail: chrisg@astratis.com

Support & Training

For any help/support, or to arrange training courses on the systems call:

George Gavriil
Systems Development Director

Tel: +44 (0)20 7419 5679
Fax: +44 (0)20 7419 5680
e- mail: george@astratis.com

Training is included in the package price.
Multiple sessions over 1 - 2 weeks. (flexible).
Support by Modem, Internet and Telephone.