

THE LATEST FROM DEXTER + CHANEY

DEXTER + CHANEY'S NEWEST RELEASE OF ITS FOREFRONT® SOFTWARE FEATURES NEW FUNCTIONALITY AND SQL DATABASE

DEXTER + CHANEY

Information. Now.

✓ FUNCTION

Dexter + Chaney's Forefront® Construction Management Software provides a fully integrated solution for construction companies to manage complex businesses. Forefront Version 12, designed for SQL databases, offers significant enhancements to this robust software.

Security. Today, data security is vital (think Sarbanes-Oxley compliance for starters). With SQL, Forefront data is extremely secure because users don't access physical data files.

In addition, more than 20 new security features have been incorporated into the software. Password management includes the option to use strong passwords, the ability to prompt users to regularly change their passwords, and tracking of unsuccessful logins to alert for "hacking."

Forefront also tracks a user's path through the system: from login until they exit. The ability to set up security profiles streamlines security management.

Easy access to information. SQL makes it easy for Forefront users to access information by creating intelligent views of their data. For example, a view in Job Cost shows date-sensitive WTD, MTD, YTD, and JTD information. To the user, the data looks like a normal table. Behind the scenes, the database is automatically calculating the values based on the user-specified date.

Forefront users can utilize preprogrammed views (such as our Job Cost example) or create their own views in the database. Information never becomes out of balance because each view is calculated on demand by the database, using up-to-the-minute information.

New report filters allow users to customize report views. Users set up preferences regarding job numbers, divisions, sort sequence and more. Forefront then provides users with the data they want, the way they want it.

Interoperability. Interoperability is an important factor in reducing operational costs and providing flexible reporting. With SQL, pulling data from Forefront to use in other SQL-based programs is streamlined because the information is stored natively in the database.

With Forefront and SQL, users can create data warehouses, streamline business processes, and leverage technology investments. Sophisticated, enterprise-level financial reporting and Web-enabling of Forefront data are some benefits of interoperability.

✓ MARKET APPLICABILITY

Forefront Version 12 is developed for construction companies of all sizes and complexity. Whether an organization is running a single company at one location with a few users or multiple companies and locations with hundreds of users, Forefront's scalability allows companies to grow while enjoying unparalleled performance every step of the way.

✓ USE

Dexter + Chaney's integrated, systematic approach to construction management allows companies to reduce overhead expenses, bring jobs in on budget, and capture additional revenue. Companies report that Forefront has helped them improve profitability and grow their businesses more than 300 percent without adding accounting staff. Others report a three percent to five percent improvement in margins on change orders as a result of using Forefront.

✓ BENEFITS/MARKET NICHE

Since 1981, Dexter + Chaney has been a technology leader in the construction field. From DOS to Windows and now to SQL, its customers' software is continually upgraded as a standard benefit of their maintenance contract. Forefront users are never required to buy new versions of their software to utilize the newest features or platforms.

Innovative new modules and features are added to each release of Forefront. Project Management, Human Resources (HR), and Document Imaging have been added in recent years. In Version 12, Dexter + Chaney introduces Forefront Web Portal and Forefront Tasks.

Forefront houses diverse information for its users, including accounting, operations, jobs, and HR. Forefront Web Portal creates an administrative base for Web access of that information. More than 10 Web Portal applications are planned for release. Initial functionality will include customer service access and time card entry.

Forefront Tasks gives users the ability to create to-do lists and schedule automatic reminders. Tasks can be one-time or recurring. Sequential step-by-step sets of tasks can be set up to walk users through procedures such as month-end. Forefront Tasks takes reminders one-step further; users can actually execute the task at hand from the reminder. For example, if reminded to run a weekly aging report, a simple click will generate that report.

✓ COST

Forefront Version 12 includes 29 integrated modules for accounting, jobs, project management, HR, document imaging, equipment, materials, service, remote connectivity, and data sharing. Cost depends on the particular needs of a construction company.

✓ TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Conversion to Forefront depends on a specific construction company's timeline. Installation, support, and training are provided by Dexter + Chaney. Complete systems requirements are available; contact us for details.

✓ HUMAN RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS

Dexter + Chaney offers comprehensive conversion and support services, which ensure a successful implementation of Forefront. Consulting, electronic data conversion, and on-site and phone training are available to make the transition to Forefront as quick and efficient as possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Dexter + Chaney.

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