

CPMS Newsletter

“As the Wrench Turns”

Volume 26, Issue 1

January 2020

Happy Holidays Everyone!

As another year comes to an end we have the opportunity to look back and see how we did--- at work, at home, in our community, and as a country. Thankfully our parents don't have to sign our report cards anymore! However, many of our customers have some sort of “continuous improvement program” where everyone is asked to evaluate what they do each day and then list those areas where they can make a difference and do their job better. Enjoy the Holiday Season!



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How to locate and correct data base errors

One way of looking at data base mistakes is a report using erroneous data will never be correct. Here are some recent reports from actual customers to show you how to locate and fix mistakes in your CPMS system.

Part Number	Date	Quantity	Unit of Issue	Unit Price	Equipment	Vendor ID
054-8563-13	12/19/19		EA	\$1.50	SNK-613	HEAT
IS COLLAR			ISHIDA BAGGER # 13			HEAT & CONTROL
061-4631-07	12/19/19	2	EA	\$0.50	SKPK-511	HEAT
IS DAMPER			ISHIDA SCALE #11			HEAT & CONTROL
066-6937-01	12/19/19	1	EA	\$12.00	SKPK-506	HEAT
IS DIAPHRAGM,60 REPL 066-6937-00			ISHIDA SCALE #6			HEAT & CONTROL
071-8291-08	12/19/19	4	EA	\$22.75	SKPK-000	HEAT
IS BEARING LINER BUSH			PACKAGING GENERAL			HEAT & CONTROL
091BA400M000030	12/19/19	2	EA	\$55.19	SKPF-820	BELL
IS NUMATIC AIR VALVE W/ 120V COIL			SEASONING TUMBLER			BPS SUPPLY GROUP
091BA400M000061	12/19/19	1	EA	\$88.33	SKCC-830	BELL
IS NUMATIC VALVE 24 VDC-2.5 W			SEASONING TUMBLER			BPS SUPPLY GROUP
094-9447-05	12/19/19	1	EA	\$70.25	SNK-610	HEAT
IS SCRFW FEED			ISHIDA BAGGER 10			HEAT & CONTROL

Example 1

In the Part Transaction report (shown above) the quantity is missing in the first line of data. This will cause a problem when you try and process your Part Transactions. When you use CPMS screen forms there is a lot of error checking performed “behind the scenes”. (Note: When you use Supervisor Query/Edit to make changes to your data base the “safety net” is very small. You are bypassing the validation provided in screen forms.)

For example, in the Part Transaction screen form the following checks are made: The transaction code must be OR, RC, IS or RQ which corresponds to Order, Receive, Issue or Request; the default date is today (or you can change it to another valid date) and it must not be blank; there must be a valid Part Number and not be blank; the quantity and price must not be blank; the Equipment Number can not be blank and must be in the Equipment table; and the Vendor Ident can not blank and must be in the Vendor table.

Unfortunately, CPMS can only check for obvious errors and therefore you will always be responsible for Quality Control. Make sure and periodically run Supervisor, Data Base Analyzer, and Check Quality of Your Data. This is a great way to locate invalid entries and values which are out of range.

From the CPMS Help system:

Since the quality of your data entry is reflected in the accuracy of your reports, this utility program will help you locate different types of errors. When you consider that just one bad date, dollar amount, or quantity, can throw off an entire report, it is worthwhile having a program which checks if your data ranges are "reasonable".

Every column in every table can be evaluated. You should check one or more tables periodically, especially if you are preparing an important report. Since the program will print out a minimum and maximum value for each column, a missing decimal point or date error may be picked up. For example, if you entered \$45723 instead of \$457.23 for a part, it may be shown as the maximum value for that column. Likewise, if you entered 11/12/70 instead of 11/12/07, you will see this date as a minimum. Check the min/max values for all columns in a table to see if they fall in the valid range of values.

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Example 2

In the purchase order shown below the quantity is 2, the unit price is \$771.40, the extended price is \$1542.80, but the Subtotal and Total price are \$3085.60. What?!

Qty	Part Number	Account Nbr	Ordered For	Unit	Tax	Price	Extd Price
2	22000320 BREAD GUIDE RAIL R.H.	0214-0062	B180 #1 SLICER	EA	N	\$771.40	\$1,542.80
						Subtotal:	\$3,085.60
						Tax	\$0.00
						S & H	
						Total:	\$3,085.60

It is important to remember that although you can have the same part number entered more than once on the same PO, it must be for a different equipment number. CPMS uses the combination of the part number and equipment number to determine a unique PO line item.

For example, if you order two of the same part number, receive one, and back order one, when you print the PO only the back ordered part is printed. If you display the PO you will see one part has been received and the other one is still on order.

The transaction code determines the status of each part line item in the PO.

- OR Open/Unapproved Order
- OX Open/Approved Order
- RX Closed (Received) Order

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding using the Purchase Order module.

Example 3

In the CPMS Help system under Getting Started and Special Characters:

When entering your data, you need to be careful when using special characters and punctuation. Some symbols have a specific purpose and may confuse the program when it finds them in your data, especially if used in key columns. Try to stay away from:

comma	,
asterisk	*
question mark	?
parentheses	()
plus sign	+
ampersand	&
single and double quotes	' "

By way of example, if you have a double quote in a part number and are using the Part Edit screen form, when you click Next Row you will see a warning message. Since quotes are used to "bracket" text data a quote that you enter may trick the program if it is in a text field.

December 29, 2019
5:31 PM

PARTS INVENTORY

Part Number	Manufacturer	Unit Price	Unit of Issue	Location	On Hand On Order
1/4"CASTNYLON	PATCO	\$208.95	EA	SHOP	1
24"X48"X1/4" CAST NYLON					0
22000566/43"	BETTENDORF	\$626.00	EA	P-2	0
GUIDE ASSEMBLY INFEED GUIDES FOR BR SLICERS					0
					Total (Current)
					Total (Average)

In the Parts Standard report on Page 2 you can see there is one or more double quotes in the part number or part description. Try this at your plant. Go to Print, Standard Reports, Parts (Standard), Choose Part Number (or Description) and in the Value box enter two double quotes. We suggest changing the double quote to “i” or “in” for inches.

Part Tag printers

Most of our customers print part sticker labels by the sheet (14 stickers per page). Some of the drawbacks include: sticker sheets in the printer when you wanted blank paper or vice versa; a sticker peels off and gets stuck in the printer; reusing partially used sticker sheets and not skipping over the correct number of used labels; and not having a dedicated label printer closer to the parts room.



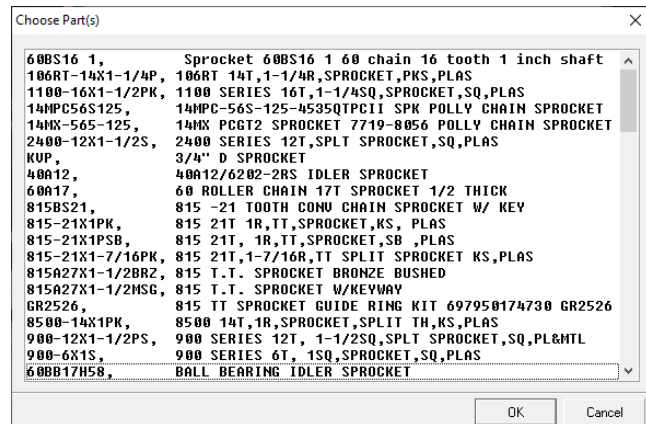
It is certainly more convenient to print just the number of labels you need from a roll using either a direct or thermal transfer printer. The downside is that the direct transfer labels are good for 8-12 months, and thermal transfer for 2-3 years, before discoloration. However, if your plant performs a physical inventory every year or so then you can check and reprint labels which are getting darker and may become unreadable. Sunlight and heat are the culprit.

And the Winner is...

No one answered the last CPMS quiz correctly. And the question was: If the Supervisors Schedule shows about 20 hours of PM every week for a mechanic and the Work History Summary report for the same mechanic accurately shows the same work was completed in 10 hours, what would explain the difference?

And the answer is: If the scheduled PM minutes in the Master Schedule for a mechanic averages about 60 minutes per PM but actually takes about 30 minutes (and entered as such when processing work cards), the Supervisors Schedule will incorrectly show twice the amount of time the PM actually takes. Correct the Master Schedule!

CPMS Quiz



For \$100

Using the Part Search option and “Sort by” Description, the rows are sorted alphabetically by description. In this example the search criteria was “Sprocket”. Why would “Sprocket 60BS16” in the first row appear before those with a description beginning with a number?

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