Release Notes for Omni Accounts version 7.17.64

What's New

This version will not run on Windows XP, or on Windows 2003 Server.
Still using Firebird 2.5.x. New installations will install Firebird 2.5.8 Classic, including the optimised configuration files from IBSurgeon.

General

Install vs Upgrade

There is no longer a separate download for new installations and upgrades.
Just download and run the install, and proceed as you would have before for an upgrade.
Forgotten your admin password? No problem.
There is now an option to **reset your admin password**, and have it emailed to your authorised email address.
NB. This option is disabled on your account by default. If you would like it enabled, please contact registrations@omniaccounts.co.za and they will guide you through the authorisation process.

You may now also mark a user as needing to change their password when they next logon.

Report writer can now handle memo type fields.
These can now be exported, used in the REST web service, used on custom layout reports, or else just printed in the memo field section on the standard reports (will print in a separate row on its own)

Selection on Multi-select searches has been **made easier and more intuitive** to use. There is now a tick box, and a button for accepting the ticked items. For example, adding multiple items to a stock take, to a price update batch, to an inter-warehouse requisition or to a purchase order from a stock enquiry.

Locking is more robust
A few versions back, we changed the locking to no longer keep a lock after a user crashes out of the system. People however continue to override locks, which in later versions greatly increases the risk of running into data conflicts. If a lock is overridden, the person who instantiated the lock will no longer be able to continue and obliterate the information

posted by the person who override their lock. Please check your user permissions to see which roles are allowed to override locks, and revoke permission for junior users.

Upgrades
Users can no longer connect to a company while a data upgrade is busy running for the company.

VAT rate change

When **Creating a new South African company**, that VAT rate will now **default to 15%** instead of 14%.

When **crediting an old invoice done at 14% VAT**, the VAT rate will **no longer refresh** to 15% if the line is edited to alter the quantity being credited.

When editing or invoicing an older order that was done at 14% VAT, the VAT rate will now be refreshed to 15%. You will receive a warning when this happens, so that you can make a decision on how to proceed with this order. For example, keep the old prices, or refresh them to pick up the new prices.

VAT Return

The VAT return **preparing and closing off is now a 2 step process**. First the return gets prepared. At this point the return can be printed, checked, missing transactions captured, and the return re-prepared if necessary.

It is now **possible to defer input VAT transactions** on your VAT return.
For example,
- a large purchase that would result in a refund can be delayed to a busier month (SARS currently allows this for up to 5 years*).
- In South Africa, for imported goods*, VAT can only be claimed back once the clearing agent has paid SARS and issued you with a clearance certificate. You can now delay these purchases from appearing on your current VAT return, for claiming later once the certificate arrives.
*NB. Correct as at writing, but laws may change, and other countries may differ, so please check latest rules with your accountant.

Once all checked, and ready to submit to the receiver, you then Submit your return in Omni, which marks the return as submitted, after which it can no longer be modified.

If you forget to finalise your return, and carry on invoicing, it is not as big a deal as it was in the past, as the transactions are already flagged as being on that return. Also, you are now prompted to print *after* submitting, so the printout will now reflect that this is the finalised submitted return.

When finalising your return, you are now also prompted to **post a banking transaction**, which will prefill a new banking Payment with the VAT control account as the target account (something that is not usually intuitive to people doing their VAT for the very first time).

UK VAT return and making Tax Digital

We have started developing against the HMRC test API. This option can be invoked, and will communicate with the HMRC test API. It will be changed over to the main API once it is out of private BETA.

EC Reverse Charge has now been catered for on the UK VAT return.

e-Commerce

Stock2Shop have been busy setting up integrations between Omni and the major e-Commerce platforms, such as Shopify and wooCommerce. It doesn't stop there though, they also do B2B solutions which allow your reps or customers to submit orders to your Omni from anywhere using any device.
For more information, please see: https://www.stock2shop.com/integrations/omni-accounts-integration

Point of Sale

Credit Card Integration
For greater speed and accuracy, you can now integrate to Vexen's pinpad for card transactions.

Please visit www.vexen.co.za for more information, and to sign up with them.
From our side, you will need Business Pro POS (or up).
Customer Prices on Stock Enquiry
When you do a stock search, you can now see the price the customer will be paying. This is especially useful if you make extensive use of Customer Deals and Prices per customer, run

specials (using deals), or use multi-currency (the Customer Price is shown in their currency).

Multi-column Stock Menu
The stock menu can now be dragged wider, resulting in more than one column showing. This means far more items can be displayed at once before a scroll bar will appear.

The POS screen defaults have been spruced up, so that new POS systems fresh out the box, now look like the picture on the box, without having to change settings, enable stock menu's, etc.

Also various other enhancements to make data capture on invoices, quotes, orders, etc. quicker and easier. There are shortcuts for access the optional 3 selling prices and 5 discount levels quickly.

Sales Document Lines can now be moved by dragging and dropping. To avoid accidents, you do need to hold the Ctrl key down when doing this.

Serial/Batch number scanning
When scanning items at the till into a POS invoice, you can now scan the item's serial number in place of scanning the regular bar code. Omni will then look up the serial number's associated stock code, and any other batch numbers (where applicable). These then won't be asked for later when processing the document.

Sales and Purchase Order Control

All sales documents now have a **Revision Number**, Purchase Orders have **Last Modified** dates.

On the sales and purchase order, quote, proforma and recurring invoice enquiries, you can now pick **"Last Modified" as a date range to search on**.

All sales and purchase document reports have the "Last Modified" option as well in the "Date to Use" parameter. The standard Cancelled Order Reports now use this date range so as to pick up the recently cancelled orders.

When emailing documents, you can now **specify who will be following up on the communications**, **and when**. You can also **include the person the communication has been assigned to** in the list of **people to send the email to**.

When invoicing a quote/proforma, etc. it is now easier to see whether the quote/proforma has any outstanding comms that need closing, or replying to when the invoice is finalised.

Allocations

There is now a **new user permission** to prevent unauthorised users from **un-allocating** allocated transactions.

Customers

The **option to ensure a unique customer order number** has been entered has now been **split between credit notes, and regular sales documents**. This means you can now insist on a customer order number for credit notes only if need be.

Default delivery details can now be captured on the **customer's account**.

There is now an option where you can set the **default credit limit** that should be used when creating a new customer account.

Stock Control

Warehouses now have a default setting for "Allow Stock Holding". This gets picked up when new stock items are created.

On the **stock edit screen,** on the **Reserved Level** display, there is now a **one-click drill down report** for showing you **exactly what that item is reserved for and when.** Whether it's reserved for a job, decanting batch, sales order, inter-warehouse requisition, etc. it is all now available on one report.

On **Selling Price Update Batches** and **Supplier Price Lists**, there is now an option to **set all the selected lines to a specific selling price.** To help with maintaining prices where different stock codes are priced the same, for example those just different in size and/or colour. Various enhancements for using Batch Tracking for storing multiple Bin Locations. Warehouse transfers can now be used to transfer bins. Batch/Bin prompts can also be disabled in your retail warehouse (ie. used in your bulk warehouse only), so that tellers are

not prompted to select an arbitrary bin unnecessarily.

Real-time **stock integration to Nominal Ledger** can now be **set at company level**. This has two advantages:
1.   If you have multiple companies (or the Premium bundle), you can now disable the option in your company if need be.
2.   If your data is restored to a system that does not have the switch, or the switch somehow gets disabled in error, the system will now warn you as you log on that there is a problem, so that it can be rectified before your system goes out of balance.

Stock Takes

Taking stock is now faster and easier.
All the options are now in one place on the stock take screen – update your levels, print your variance report, and then apply the changes without having to go back to the main menu.

Inter-warehouse Requisitions

Communications can now be linked to inter-warehouse transfer documents. This is useful for tracking the status of an internal request to head office for stock. The buyer can then optionally use that document as a request for quote from their supplier, and use the comms to track the status of that request too.

Requisitions now also have last modified dates and revision numbers.

When you use warehouse transfer documents for the first time, it is very important that you configure the system for inter-branch invoicing, vs altering the appropriate COS accounts, and not affecting revenue. To enforce this initial setup has been checked, there is now an option in the stock options that you need to enable before you can start generating these documents.

Job Costing

Quotes
Can now generate a job from a quote

Customer Name
The customer name on the job edit screen can now be modified. Useful for cash sales account jobs.

Multi-currency

Take-ons for multi-currency can now be done via General Journals, since they will now post as Take-ons, and not Adjustments, **if posted to the Suspense Account**. Taking on using General Journals rather than journal invoices (or opening balances), allows the exchange rate to be set for each transaction imported (by specifying the exact Debit and Credit amounts in their relevant currency).

The **exchange rate can now be overridden at time of receiving goods.** When processing a supplier invoice for previously received goods, the system will now use the exchange rate from time of delivery. If multiple supplier delivery notes are added to one supplier invoice, the exchange rate from the relevant Supplier Delivery note will still be used.
The service we were using to pick up the exchange rate when you press F12 has been deprecated, and their new replacement offering is no longer free. Rather than make this paid service for you, we have found another provider that provides this service free of charge.

These are just some of the highlights. Full release notes will be available upon request.