

connect

Subscribe to
Oakland Newsletters



www.oaklandcorp.com/subscribeoaklandnews.aspx

SPRING/SUMMER 2015



Setting a New Direction at the Scale

Dan Oakland
doakland@oaklandcorp.com

Oakland is pleased to announce that development is now underway on our own scale management software. This new scale application is designed for ease of use, speed, and flexibility in ticketing workflow, while still conforming to Oakland's solid foundation of business rules, as well as weights and measures standards.

With this new addition to our software lineup, Oakland is combining decades of experience supporting day-to-day scale activity with a wealth of client feedback and the latest technology to create a truly unique solution for all scale-related agribusiness operations. Scale installations will run at least one primary PC that connects to the scale head, moisture testing equipment, RFID scanners, printers, and other auxiliary devices or automation systems. This PC will normally be connected to a touch screen or other display and serve as the primary controller for the scale or scales at the location.

Scale locations will also have the option to connect additional displays, tablets, laptops, and other devices to view or control certain aspects of scale operations at that location. Here are a few examples of this feature:

- An office employee could grab a tablet and head outside to collect preliminary information from vehicles in line for the scale.
- Displays could be placed in other areas of the facility to keep ground personnel updated on what vehicles have left the scale and are inbound to unload.
- Key management and operations personnel could monitor live scale activity from another location.

(continued on page 2)



Returning a Product Against a Specific Invoice

Dolores Morgart
dmorgart@oaklandcorp.com

With the arrival of Spring, comes also the busy agronomy season. Busy for the applicators, as well as the office staff doing the billings. With the volume of billing that is done, the occasional issue is possible. Perhaps a farmer wants to have something billed differently than he had originally indicated, or he is not going to be using all of the product he had originally taken out to the field. Within Point of Sale in the OAKLAND System, there is a function which will make doing the credit much easier. You have the ability to do the return tickets

against the original billing, so the original costs will be credited exactly like they were billed, hitting the prepaid, deferred, or regular accounts.

When going into the credit POS ticket, you input the regular credit distribution code that you would normally use. At the description, input the product that you want to credit and hit enter. Then input the quantity and press the F2 key, to skip allowing the system to do the automatic return lookup. At the Unit Price field, press the F2 key again for the Return

(continued on page 2)

Events

Holiday Closings

- **Independence Day**
July 3rd
- **Labor Day**
September 7th

Summer Conference Dates

- **Tuesday, July 28th**
- **Wednesday, August 5th**
Contact us to Register for
Summer Conferences

Agronomy Conference 2015 - UPDATE



Chuck Carlson
ccarlson@oaklandcorp.com

On March 4th, Oakland hosted an Agronomy Conference here in

Story City, which included twelve representatives from seven Oakland Agronomy clients. The group included Agronomy Managers, Agronomists, Bookkeepers, and Controllers. The purpose of this conference was to provide an open forum for Oakland Agronomy clients to express current and future needs within their agronomy departments and how Oakland can assist with those needs.

We received some great ideas for **Software Requests**, which have been submitted to Development. Many participants use third party applications, which they would be interested in integrating with Oakland to ensure data integrity for pricing, bookings, inventory control, and billing. Also, due to technology advancements, many participants either have or are looking for a remote application to provide live data when presenting proposals to producers off site.

Oakland is currently in the research process of either providing some of these solutions or partnering with other progressive agronomy applications to provide a better overall solution for your Agronomy Department going forward. Some of these solutions will take longer than others, but some will be available before harvest.

Thank You to all of you who attended this Agronomy Conference in March. We appreciate your participation and input. We will keep everyone informed on our progress in this area. If anyone has any additional comments or recommendations for us regarding Agronomy issues, please feel free to contact Agronomy Support.

"Setting a New Direction at the Scale"
(continued from page 1)

In order to meet the demands of creating an application capable of running on multiple platforms such as Windows, Mac, Linux, Android, and iOS, special consideration has been given to screen layout, input methods, and program navigation. Users will be presented with context-sensitive options and fields that allow them to quickly view and/or process transactions from whatever device best suits their needs at that time.

The new scale application will initially support both OAKLAND Grain Manager and Asset Manager modules, along with provisions for "custom weigh" transactions. Future support is planned for OAKLAND Accounts Payable receiving, as well as various feed interfaces. Scale tickets and other transactions can either be posted to the Oakland server in real-time or be batched and imported at end of the day. In addition to printed hardcopies, tickets can also be rendered as PDF documents or other digital formats and posted to file servers or document management systems. Additionally, patrons will be able to keep tabs on their scale activity via email and text messaging.

Oakland anticipates that this new application will enter the testing phase later this year and become available for general release in 2016. We're looking forward to offering current clients a sneak peak at this new application during our upcoming summer conferences.

"Returning a Product Against a Specific Invoice"
(continued from page 1)

Price Lookup. A box will appear giving you the last times that the customer has purchased this product, so you can select from the list of invoices to apply the return. Highlight on the selected line and press enter. The system will then apply the return against the selected invoice, at the original unit price. If you would like, you can verify that a return went back into a booking by pressing F3 at the description field on the blank line below the transaction. Select the Product option, find your product, and press F3 to view the deliveries. You should be able to see the return amount. Press F4 to get back to the ticket and complete it.

If you have any questions, please call and one of our staff will be happy to walk you through this process to help make your life easier.



Tim Vande Kamp
tvandekamp@oaklandcorp.com

Version Highlights

Here are some highlights from your most recent update. To see the entire list, go to Release Notes on the main accounting menu. If you have any questions, please give the accounting support staff a call.

More reports now have the option to view before printing. Maintenance can be set by terminal whether you want to be asked to view first, and if you are asked, whether the default is yes or no. For additional information, please contact support.

New Clients & Mergers

New Client

- Farmers Coop Oil
Sheldon, Iowa
farmerscoopoilsheldon.com



Arlen Oakland
aoakland@oaklandcorp.com

I would encourage clients to attend our upcoming summer conferences. Our summer conferences allow us to share what we have been working on over the last year. But more importantly you are able to sit across the table from another Oakland client, and hear how they use the system.



Summer Conferences and Software Modules

This year I'm excited for everyone to see the sneak peek of our new OAKLAND Scale System. Our development staff has been working hard to create a scale application that is 100% integrated into your OAKLAND Grain and Agronomy system.

Although I would like to see everyone attend our conferences this summer, I understand summer can be a busy season for some people. We are

always looking for new ways to share the content from our conferences to our clients. We have looked at recording each session or even hosting a live internet-based session for users. If you have any other suggestions on how we might share the information covered at these events, please let us know.

I would also like to make sure each company understands what software

modules they have available to them. I can work with your company and supply you a list of the modules you currently have, and explain to you the functionality of each. Our support staff is available to provide additional training on each of these modules to help you take advantage of the specific module. Our staff is available to come onsite, or we can always arrange a time for your staff to visit Story City for individual training. Not only is it important for you to understand what modules you currently have, I also want to make sure you understand what other modules Oakland provides. Lately I have sat down with some of our clients and have personally gone through the modules that might make their business more efficient. Whether it's emailing payroll stubs or backing up your important Oakland data to the cloud, I want to make sure you understand all the new features Oakland has available. I hope to see you all at our summer conferences.

Accounts Receivable

You can now automatically setup a tax booking when setting up a prepaid prod/cat booking. This tax booking will be "attached" to a specific product or category so will only be applied against when the original prod/cat booking is applied against. This will require one specific special product to be used as the prepaid tax product.

General Ledger/Asset Manager

Our most recent update added the ability to tie a piece of Asset Manager Equipment to a journal entry line (much like the ability you have had in AR point of sale and AP). When making your journal entry, at the memo field, press the "F8"

key to tie equipment to the line. This line can be split between multiple pieces as well. Some maintenance is required to set this up initially – let us know if you are interested.

Inventory

We enhanced the product status drilldown – booking fields – to include category bookings when you are looking at the status of a special product. This is an offshoot of adding the special product for tax bookings – it is considered categorical.

Client Spotlight: Farmers Win Cooperative



Locations:

Bremer, Burr Oak, Cresco East, Cresco West, Decorah, Fredericksburg, Frederika, Granger, Hawkeye, Ionia, Jackson Junction, Mabel, Ridgeway, Sumner, and Waucoma

Management:

Jim Erickson – General Manager
 Doug Van Sloten – Assistant General Manager
 Becky Forey – Accounting Administrator

Farmers Win Cooperative is a 15-location cooperative servicing members and customers in Northeast Iowa and Southeast Minnesota. Services include grain, agronomy, feed, and fuel; with annual sales of \$300 million, and employing 156 full and part-time employees.

Eleven grain locations handle 16 million bushels of grain annually, with 1 million bushels used for feed manufacturing. With four fuel locations and a convenience store, 9 million gallons of fuel and propane are sold annually.

“The two most important features of Oakland for me is the customer support staff and the capability to shoot the information/reports I want out of Oakland into an Excel spreadsheet. The IT support staff is another VERY important feature for me, not only do they know the Oakland side of things but also the Windows side.

Oakland is always looking for ways to update their system, so we as the end users have the “latest and greatest”!! We have had FarmerData here for some time now. Customers seem to really like that they can go online on a daily basis and see their activity on their account, e.g. grain activity, A/R balances and patronage totals.

I’ve been working with Oakland Corporation for the past 15 years, and this system never ceases to amaze me. The support staff took the time to train me as an end user, and now today I would consider the Oakland support staff as part

of my extended family. It’s hard to really pin point ONE fabulous feature in Oakland. If you were to talk with various employees within our company, and depending which department they work in, they would tell you the features they like.”

Becky Forey – Accounting Administrator

“We chose Oakland Corporation as our accounting software and hardware provider during our merger; for the history in our system, and because Oakland has the BEST customer support staff that anyone could ask for.

Oakland by far is the best Cooperative Accounting Software I have seen in my 40 years in the business. Oakland provides excellent management reports and great support staff for our employees involved in accounting for Farmers Win Cooperative.”

Jim Erickson – General Manager

Inside this Issue:

- Setting a New Direction at the Scale..... Pages 1-2
- Returning a Product Against a Specific Invoice ... Pages 1-2
- Agromy Conference 2015 ... Page 2
- New Clients & Mergers..... Page 2
- Version Highlights Pages 2-3
- Summer Conferences and Software Modules..... Page 3
- Client Spotlight Page 4

Oakland Corporation
 414 Broad Street
 Story City, Iowa 50248
 800.383.5114 (toll-free)
 800.733.0676 (Support)
 515.733.4821 (fax)
 www.oaklandcorp.com



PRSRV STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 STORY CITY, IA
 PERMIT NO. 5