2010 SACS User Conference

The 2010 SACS User Conference will be held March 23rd – 24th, 2010 in Destin, Florida at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort. Go ahead and mark your calendars now for the conference. We will be mailing registration and information packets later this year.

Our User Committee will be meeting this summer to help plan the conference agenda. If you would like to serve on the User Committee or would like to suggest classes, please email Grant Dark, grant@sacsinc.com.

We are excited about the 2010 conference. It will be a time for training, exchanging ideas and learning about our latest software enhancements.

SACS Backup Application

Our developers have completed work on a new backup application for SACS.Net. This application will allow customers using Microsoft SQL Server Express to restore to a point in time. In the past, this feature was only available to customers using full SQL Server.

The ability to restore to a specific time is a great time saver. Currently customers using SQL Express get one backup per day to their hard drive.

This enhancement verifies that your backup completes. A warning message is displayed on the menu if the backup does not complete. We always recommend that you continue backing up to removable media such as a tape or DVD.

Our support staff will be installing this enhancement later this summer.

Welcome Aboard

Please join us in welcoming our latest SACS Users:

Abbeville Housing Authority	Abbeville, GA
South Pittsburg Housing Authority	South Pittsburg, TN

Serving the public housing industry for 40 years.
http://www.sacsinc.com

SACS Conference Schedule

SACS will be attending the following conferences in August. Please come by and visit our booth! We look forward to seeing you there.

FAHRO	San Destin, FL	August 11th – 13th
MAHRO	Biloxi, MS	August 19th – 21st
THA	Fort Worth, TX	August 25th – 27th

SACS Housing Attendant™

We are proud to announce our latest software innovation, SACS Housing Attendant™. SACS Housing Attendant™ is an automated telephone attendant that can answer common applicant and tenant questions. With SACS Housing Attendant™, your agency can eliminate many hours on the phone answering routine questions.

SACS Housing Attendant™ can provide this information: how to apply for housing, an applicant's position on the waiting list, and for current residents their current balance, current rent and future rent changes. The system supports multiple languages to meet your agency's needs. All the applicant/tenant has to do is call the system by telephone and enter their SSN or HUD Alternate ID.

To hear how it works call 256-397-1799 and use 123456785 for the SSN when prompted. For more information on this new product, contact SACS Sales at 256-397-1994 or sales@sacsinc.com.

Rent Reasonableness

The next release of SACS.Net contains changes to make Rent Reasonableness easy. As you are aware, in order to comply with SEMAP, all agencies must implement a reasonable written method to determine and document, for a unit leased, that the rent to owner is reasonable based on current rents for comparable unassisted units.

The added programs and reports will allow you to easily compare unassisted units and vacated assisted units to the unit to be leased. A comparability study report is produced to document the compared units.

Accounting Department

Our Accounting Department has been busy submitting a backlog of financial data schedules. As you may know, no one was able to submit a financial data schedule since June 2008.

Deborah Blair, Accounting Manager, says that they have submitted all of the delayed financial data schedules. Depending on each agency's auditor recommendations, they are now closing the fiscal year and processing the monthly work.

The new FDS presented its own challenges. Agencies with AMPs had the daunting task of separating all of their property and grants by AMP.

We are now processing your monthly work. Customers will start receiving finalized monthly work. This replaces the "preview" reports previously received.

SACS.Net Build 3363 New Features

SACS.Net build 3363 contains a number of new features that are not enabled by default. In order to access these new features, your system administrator will need to give the appropriate employees access to the items on the menu.

Here is a brief list of the enhancements:

- Added the HUD-52650 FSS Contract of Participation
- Added the HUD-52641 – HAP Contract
- Added the HUD-52580-A – Inspection Form
- Added SSA-7004 Form – Request for Social Security Statement PDF form.
- Added FSS History – The system will now store historical information for the family self sufficiency program. A program was added to adjust the FSS balances. A print program was added to print the FSS history.

If you do not see these items on your menu, ask your system administrator for access. If you are a system administrator and need help with setting up and maintaining user access, please contact technical support at (256) 329-2646.

Our developers release beta versions of their changes every two to three weeks. If you are interested in being a beta test site, please send an email to Grant Dark, grant@sacsinc.com.

SACS.Net Next Release

The next full software release is scheduled for July. We are completing the final beta tests now.

Developers Corner

Danny Lloyd, our senior software developer, has the development team working on several new projects. The first one involves electronic submission of the 941 tax form. The IRS requires that the 941 be submitted through one of their approved providers. There will be a small fee, paid to the provider for this service.

The submission of the 941 is the first part of several planned enhancements for submission of different federal and state tax forms. We will begin testing the 941 submission capability soon.
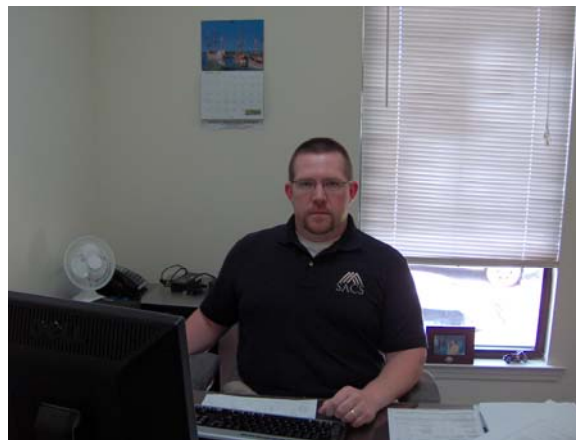
The developers are also working on an application that integrates with the PIC H.A. Query System. This will allow users to enter a social security number and quickly check to see if the applicant is currently housed or previously housed at another public housing agency. This feature will be released in our next full update.

In addition to these new features, we are talking to customers about more enhancements as well. These include web based applications, web based Section 8 information and tenant background checks, email notification for Purchase Requisitions, Work Orders and notifying the occupancy clerk when units are turned over to occupancy.

If you have any recommendations or suggestions, please let us know.

Employee Spotlight

Jason Green, Programmer

Jason Green joined the SACS team in 2005, shortly after earning his degree in computer science. He is proud of his contribution to the development of SACS.Net and looks forward to enhancing the software. Jason currently lives in Sylacauga, Alabama with his wife, Christy and their two year old son, Jacob.