

Newsletter

Special Interest Articles:

- MIE Trak 10.2.
- MIE Exchange
Live Testing.
- MIE Docs
Released.
- Sneak Peeks .

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Letter From The President

Welcome to our 3rd newsletter where we are pleased to announce the upcoming release of MIE Trak 10.2. The development team has been working hard on features which are not just “nice to have’s”, but features which will make tasks more efficient.

I’m also pleased to announce the release of MIE Docs which is a file management application to manage the hundreds of thousands of files on your network from cad files to financial spreadsheets. Download MIE Docs from our website and try it out for yourself. MIE Exchange is ready for live usage as the integration into MIE Trak has begun where purchase orders from buyers are brought into MIE Exchange with no re-keying of the data.

Lastly, the rewrite of MIE Trak using the DOT Net Framework and SQL Server is moving forward with many new features and capabilities. We are analyzing each module, screen and report to provide the best capabilities far beyond what the existing MIE Trak brings to you.

Thank you from
David Ferguson
President

MIE Trak 10.2

MIE Trak 10.2 is on schedule to be released November 2008 with a number of new features and bug fixes. At the current count there are over 150 items that have been added, fixed or modified for the 10.2 version.

A few of the major changes in the 10.2 version of MIE Trak

- Create Work Orders in the Sales Order Query
- Create Work Orders in the MRP Module
- Create Purchase Orders in the W.O. BOM Requirements Query
- Resizable Screens
- Integration With MIE Docs
- Integration With MIE Exchange
- Quick Order Entry imbedded in the sales order entry module

The 10.3 release of MIE Trak is scheduled for the end of the 1st Quarter 2009 and will hopefully bring about as many good changes as the previous four releases.

We are always striving to make a better product to serve your needs and by entering cases into NetSuite you can let us know about features you want.

What Is MIE Exchange?

MIE Exchange is a web system enabling your community of buyers and suppliers to work together. This is not an AUCTION site where buyers put out RFQ's and suppliers compete against each other to get the work. MIE Exchange is designed to streamline how you do business with existing buyers and suppliers and includes:

- RFQ Management
- Purchasing Management
- Document Management

How does MIE Exchange compare and contrast to MFG Quote?

MFG Quote is designed as an open bidding or auction system when it comes to its usage. We do not actually compete directly with MFG Quote because MIE Exchange is not an auction system and also MIE Exchange handles purchasing and document management.

A positive aspect of MFG Quote is if a company needs to source some new parts MFG Quote will allow the company to place an RFQ on its website where suppliers can bid for the job. This is beneficial for the supplier because they may end up getting more work. This is beneficial for the buyer because they may be able to get a better price.

The downside of MFG Quote is when you ask suppliers, would you like all your customers to use MFG Quote? The resounding answer has been no because a supplier has worked hard on building a relationship of quality work and on time deliveries to name a few. MFG Quote would potentially destroy your business if all your customers used such a wide open auction system where low ball bids change the dynamics of the true cost of the part.

MIE Exchange can be used side by side with MFG Quote if this is what a supplier or buyer wants. MIE Exchange is designed for the other 99% of companies who already know the supplier community that they do work for or send work to. MIE Exchange is not going to bring in new customers; MIE Exchange is going to make the communication and relationship with your existing customers and vendors more efficient.

MIE Exchange is setup in a community model where all your suppliers and buyers your company does work with must be invited and accepted into your community. Once they're in your community you can proceed with RFQ's, responding to Bids, and document management.

The screenshot shows the 'My Bids' interface. At the top, there are fields for Organization (a), RFQ Package No. (13), RFQ Status (Accepting Bids), Title (rfq-test), Bid Status (Accepting Bids), and Created date (04/15/2008). Below this is a navigation bar with tabs: Address, Line Items, Attachments, RFQ Status History, Bid Status History, and Messages. The 'Line Items' tab is active, displaying a table with columns: Line #, Number, Revision, Description, and Status. The table contains two rows: Line 1 with Number w1 and Line 2 with Number w2, both with Status 'Accepting Bids'. Below the table is a 'Details' section with tabs: Attachments, Part Attributes, and Part Attachments. The 'Part Attributes' tab is active, showing a table with columns: No., Revision, Description, Quantity, Unit Price, Ext. Price, and Removed?. The table has two rows: Row 1 with No. w1, Revision, Description, Quantity 5, Unit Price \$15.00, Ext. Price \$75.00, and Removed?; Row 2 with No. w1, Revision, Description, Quantity 10, Unit Price \$12.00, Ext. Price \$120.00, and Removed?. To the right of the table are sections for Shipping Notes, Manufacturing Notes, and Material Provided By. A 'Save' button is located at the bottom left.

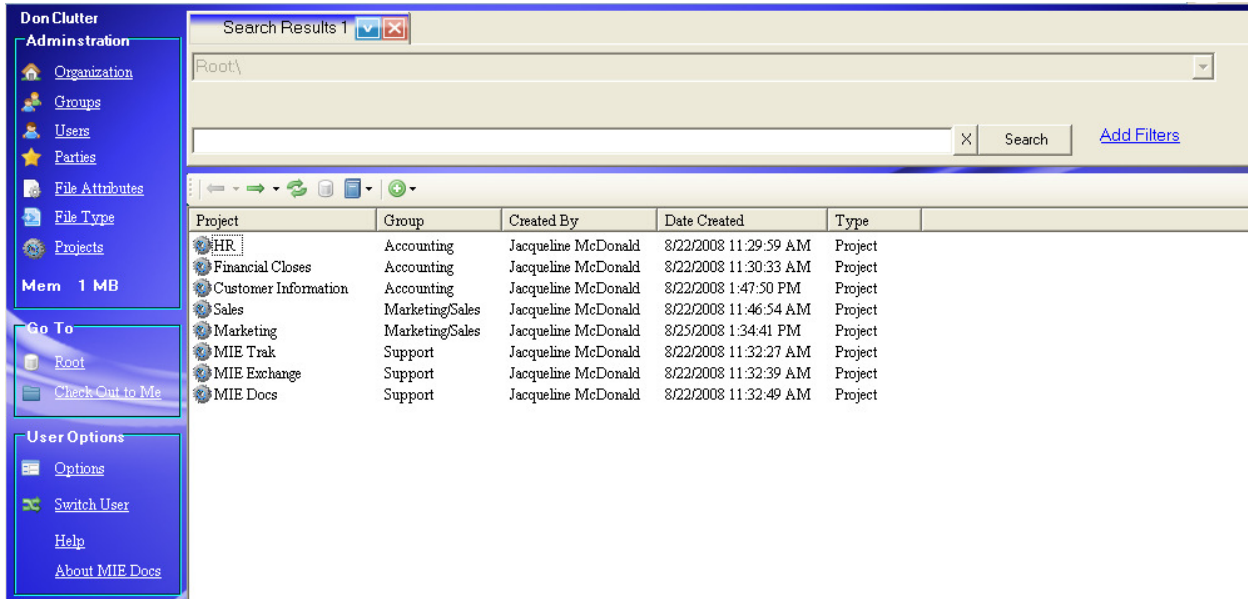
Line #	Number	Revision	Description	Status
1	w1			Accepting Bids
2	w2			Accepting Bids

No.	Revision	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Ext. Price	Removed?
w1			5	\$15.00	\$75.00	
w1			10	\$12.00	\$120.00	

MIE Docs

MIE Docs is a simple to use file management and version control program to help keep track of the hundreds of thousands of files you have floating around your network. It's simple to use interface is tightly integrated into the windows file system which enables any and all windows packages to make use of this product to manage their files. MIE Docs stores files in a SQL Server database which makes it easy to backup and restore your entire file system. MIE Docs is a time saving program to organize all sorts of files to easily find and share with others within your organization. MIE Docs has the following features and more:

1. Full Version History, Rollback, etc
2. Integration into Windows Explorer
3. Meta tabs to describe files
4. Bookmarking
5. Advanced search capabilities
6. Drag / Drop from File Systems
7. Disconnected File Syncing
8. API allowing third party software access



MIE Docs is a great tool for your entire company. Engineering, sales, accounting and human resource departments can manage their documents. MIE Docs handles the ability for a laptop to check out a file, disconnect from the network and make changes and then check the file back in once the laptop has access to the repository. File types and attributes are 100% customizable by the end user which allows the freedom to create and store any type of metadata with a file. This could include dates, text, true/false values and even dropdown list boxes.

MIE Docs integrates with MIE Trak through quoting, routers, purchase orders, work orders and invoicing by filtering all documents which match the MIE Trak criteria. One of the nice benefits is the file paths are not stored in MIE Trak where files can move, but they are referenced by properties of the file such as router number and work order number.

MIE Docs has been in BETA since July 2008 and will be released in October 2008. Please visit our website and download MIE Docs and take it for a test drive. There are many planned improvements to MIE Docs as we roll out the first release. Please feel free to give us feedback so we may make the product work for you in the best possible way.



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We're on the Web!

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<http://www.mie-solutions.com>

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Sneak Peeks

MIE Quote

Quote It is in the process of being re-written, using the latest Microsoft Technologies, in C# and SQL Server. The MIE Quote It re-write is on schedule to be released the 2nd Quarter 2009. Features include a new interface, unlimited formula variables, detailed quote history and integration into MIE Exchange which is the newly released buyer/supplier portal to manage request for quotes.

MIE Trak 2010

The MIE Trak rewrite is going forward at a good pace. Currently the entire maintenance area has been completed. There are new maintenance items like class maintenance, item number, time clock entry type, time clock entry accrual. One of the new features is the ability to have multiple units of measure types and sets which allow a lot of flexibility in purchasing and inventory control. For example, you could purchase as a crate, use boxes and inventory pieces.

The time clock module has been started which will handle vacation and sick time accruals and a host of useful improvements.

The inventory report queries are moving along very well and will be done by October. The new report queries add more filter conditions and capabilities. One of the key feature is we were able to eliminate many of the inventory report screens and replace them with a single and more powerful screen which handles all the conditions.

MIE Exchange

MIE Exchange integration into the MIE Trak sales order module is completed. Integration with the purchase order module to publish all the purchase orders to your suppliers is being done and should be ready by the end of the year. Please take a look and try the MIE Exchange product which we believe will be a real time saver for you and your customers.

About Our Organization...

MIE Solutions is dedicated to providing software to the manufacturing industry which improves the communication, reporting, employee efficiency and profitability of our customers. Our integrated product line is designed to make your business run smoother through the use of the latest computer and software technologies.