

MediFlex Newsletter

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Editor - Phil Kirby

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Distribution: ALL MEDIFLEX USERS

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Two digits make all the difference!

With each upgrade to MediFlex for Windows, our training sessions have touched on the importance of using FOUR DIGIT YEARS everywhere a date is entered. As the new millennium rolls on, this is becoming more important. Users are assuming that the system will correctly interpret and convert a date such as "03/05/02", but is the year supposed to be 1902, or 2002? Please instruct all MediFlex staff to enter ALL dates as four-digit years. That way, no possible confusion or misinterpretation can arise.

RACGP Conference August 2003

Its' on again, at Darling Harbour, Sydney August 10,11 and 12. It has been our policy to attend this conference as a sponsor, at this year

will be no exception. This years conference promises to be the best yet, running in conjunction with the Health Informatics Society of Australia (HISA). The theme of this years conference is "**Beyond the box: Making IT work for GP's and patients**". We will be demonstrating the first stage of "MediFlex Clinical", our advertisement-free, MIMS-based, cheaper than "you-know-who" script-writing and clinical product.

HIC On-Line, PKI and the meaning of life ! (Episode 3)

Phil recently attended a GP Division Information Evening in Gippsland. The HIC were present, promoting HIC OnLine. I asked their rep (James Elliot) how it was all going. He said that currently there are about 20

practices in Victoria using the product, and most of them are Optometrists ! I shall leave this topic rest now until next year some time. By then we may have something meaningful to report.

MediFlex for Windows Update

The conversion process rolls on, and we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel. It is now well over three years since our first Windows client was installed. As we are now at the stage where "Visual MediFlex" is now operative in the majority of our client sites, (only 40 sites now still running DOS) a few issues are looming.

Firstly, the supply of continuous stationery may become a problem. We have historically been ordering very large quantities of this paper in order to obtain it at the best price possible (millions of sheets per order). With over eighty percent of our clients now not using the continuous paper, obtaining it at a reasonable price will be extremely difficult. We have around fifty cartons currently in stock, and are unsure as to our ability to get another batch manufactured at a reasonable price.

Secondly, as development of the DOS product is well and truly finished, we are not in a position to modify the product if there are any legislative rulings that may change the way MediFlex must behave. We hope that no such changes are announced before we convert our last DOS client.

Stationery

As per the above article, stocks of the continuous stationery may be limited, (but are still available at time of print). For our Windows users, we are now supplying Reflex brand cut-sheet

80gsm A5 paper, in cartons of 10 reams (500 sheets per ream) at a cost of approx \$60.00 per carton including GST (plus shipping where applicable). As a price comparison, Viking Office Supplies are currently selling "noname" brand A5 Laser copy paper for \$67.60 per carton of 10 reams (Buyers Guide Autumn 2003, page 16).

We are no longer supplying ribbons for the Epson dot matrix printers due to quality and compatibility problems. They are readily available from office and stationery suppliers.

For those using the Dymo Labelwriter, we have secured supplies of 89x28mm labels in rolls of 350 . This large-size roll is not available anywhere else ! The per label cost is the same as the smaller rolls, but you gain the convenience of having approx. 100 more labels to print before you have to change rolls. Contact us for supplies.

Did You Know.....(Visual MediFlex only)

- That the Patient Master List (Reports Menu) offers you a huge variety of filtering criteria, to allow you to generate lists of patients matching age, gender, date-seen, seen-by, postcode region, etc, etc.
- You can make the Ref/Class field on the Patient Maintenance view compulsory (as of version 7.0.1). See "File|General Setups|Patients - Miscellaneous".
- You can print a Credit-Card Remittance Advice slip on the bottom of your Monthly Statements (but only when printing those statements on A4).

Brain Teasers

- 1) When Jim was taking a stroll one day, he met his father-in-law's only daughter's mother-in-law. What did he call her ?
- 2) Your solar clock isn't working perfectly. Each day in broad daylight, it gains half a minute and each night in the darkness, it loses one-third of a minute. In how many days, starting at sunrise on the first day, will it be five minutes fast ? (Assuming that daylight and darkness are constant)
(Solutions next issue)

Solutions to last issue's Brain Teasers

- 1) Thirteen cans on the bottom row to one on the top, but he would have to have four cans deep to use all 720.
- 2) 16 grandsons \$256
13 granddaughters \$169
4 great-grandchildren \$16

Let's Laugh (courtesy Dr Mark Kennedy's inexhaustible Joke Library)

Useful English System conversions/units

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter: Eskimo Pi
2000 pounds of Chinese soup: Won ton
Half of a large intestine: 1 semicolon
1000 aches: 1 megahurtz
Basic unit of laryngitis: 1 hoarsepower
Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement: bananosecond
1 million microphones: 1 megaphone
1 million bicycles: 2 megacycles
2200 mockingbirds: two kilomockingbirds
1 millionth of a fish: 1 microfiche

Confucius Say

"Man who run in front of car get tired."
"Man who run behind car get exhausted."
"Man who walk thru airport turnstile sideways going to Bangkok."
"Man who eat many prunes get good run for money."
"War does not determine who right. War determine who left."
"Man who stand on toilet is high on pot!"

An American businessman was at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellowfin

tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took to catch them. The Mexican replied, "Only a little while, senior." The American then asked, "Why didn't you stay out longer and catch more fish?" The Mexican said he had enough to support his family's immediate needs. The American then asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?" The Mexican fisherman said, "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos." The American scoffed, "I am a Harvard MBA and I can help you. You should spend more time fishing and with the proceeds, buy a bigger boat. Eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman you would sell directly to the processor, eventually opening your own cannery. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then LA and eventually NYC where you would run your expanding enterprise." The Mexican fisherman asked, "But senior, how long will this all take?" To which the American replied, "15-20 years." "But what then, senior?" The American laughed and said, "That's the best part. When the time is right you would sell your company stock to the public and become very rich, you would make millions." "Millions, senior? Then what?" The American said, "Then you would retire and move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos."

A man bought his wife a new car. She called and said there was water in the carburettor. The husband said, "Where's the car now?" She said, "In the lake."

I know a guy who hasn't spoken to his wife in 18 months - he doesn't like to interrupt her.

A man said his credit card was stolen but he decided not to report it because the thief was spending less than his wife did.

Signs seen around the world:

Cocktail lounge, Norway: LADIES ARE REQUESTED NOT TO HAVE CHILDREN IN THE BAR.

At a Budapest zoo: PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE ANIMALS. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUITABLE FOOD, GIVE IT TO THE GUARD ON DUTY.

Hotel, Acapulco: THE MANAGER HAS PERSONALLY PASSED ALL THE WATER SERVED HERE.

In a Nairobi restaurant: CUSTOMERS WHO FIND OUR WAITRESSES RUDE OUGHT TO SEE THE MANAGER.

On the grounds of a private school: NO TRESPASSING WITHOUT PERMISSION.

On an Athi River highway: TAKE NOTICE: WHEN THIS SIGN IS UNDER WATER, THIS ROAD IS IMPASSABLE.

In a City restaurant: OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, AND WEEKENDS TOO.

A sign seen on an automatic restroom hand dryer: DO NOT ACTIVATE WITH WET HANDS.

In a Pumwani maternity ward: NO CHILDREN ALLOWED.

In a cemetery: PERSONS ARE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING FLOWERS FROM ANY BUT THEIR OWN GRAVES.

Tokyo hotel's rules and regulations:

GUESTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SMOKE OR DO OTHER DISGUSTING BEHAVIOURS IN BED.

On the menu of a Swiss restaurant: OUR WINES LEAVE YOU NOTHING TO HOPE FOR.

Hotel, Yugoslavia: THE FLATTENING OF UNDERWEAR WITH PLEASURE IS THE JOB OF THE CHAMBERMAID.

Hotel, Japan: YOU ARE INVITED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CHAMBERMAID.

In the lobby of a Moscow hotel across from a Russian Orthodox monastery: YOU ARE WELCOME TO VISIT THE CEMETERY WHERE FAMOUS RUSSIAN AND SOVIET COMPOSERS, ARTISTS, AND WRITERS ARE BURIED DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAY.

Supermarket, Hong Kong: FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, WE RECOMMEND COURTEOUS, EFFICIENT SELF-SERVICE.

Hotel, Vienna: IN CASE OF FIRE, DO YOUR UTMOST TO ALARM THE HOTEL PORTER.

Hotel, Zurich: BECAUSE OF THE IMPROPRIETY OF ENTERTAINING GUESTS

OF THE OPPOSITE SEX IN THE BEDROOM, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE LOBBY BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

A laundry in Rome: LADIES, LEAVE YOUR CLOTHES HERE AND SPEND THE AFTERNOON HAVING A GOOD TIME.

Tourist agency, Czechoslovakia: TAKE ONE OF OUR HORSE-DRIVEN CITY TOURS. WE GUARANTEE NO MISCARRIAGES.

Advertisement for donkey rides, Thailand: WOULD YOU LIKE TO RIDE ON YOUR OWN ASS?

In a Swiss mountain inn: SPECIAL TODAY - NO ICE-CREAM.

Airline ticket office, Copenhagen: WE TAKE YOUR BAGS AND SEND THEM IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

On the door of a Moscow hotel room: IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT TO THE USSR, YOU ARE WELCOME TO IT.

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