

APICS Template 5.0 Features and Recent Release History

iChapter network

System Software

Date: 9/21/2010

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Release History *****

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 5.0 dated 09.01.10

- **Promotional Code Support**
A chapter can now advertise promotional codes for an event to support discounts or track attendance from other organizations. A text field has been added to the registration screens in the APICS Template. If the code is entered correctly, they system will use member pricing (no unique pricing is supported at this time).
- **eMail user Account and Password**
The chapter can now manage the user account and password that supports automatic web site emails.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.6 dated 04.07.10

- **Cleanup Member/Non-Member Data**
With passwords enabled, the process for members and non-members to manage personal information can be improved and streamlined.
- **Error Page Wording Updated**
The wording of the error pages were updated to better reflect typical issues with the APICS Template and iChapter
- **Expanded Use of Web.Config file**
Considered a technical change and a massive update to the APICS Template to now use the "web.config" file for most all "static" variables or constants. This is an important modification since issues with **Internet lag recently** causes the Global.asax file to be partially updated (where these files were originally stored). If the Global.asax file does not get a "total" update, then not all variables are set properly, causing the chapter site to crash on some pages. Web.Config variables will always be available whether the Internet is running slow or not. It's a guaranteed fix to the Internet speed problem which iChapter cannot control.
- **Request Password Now Uses All Available eMails**
When a person requests their password to register for an event, the system originally used only the PrimaryEMail. Now, the process uses all emails loaded for that person, typically PrimaryEMail and SecondaryEMail.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.5b dated 02.13.10

- **Updated template to the 2.0 .NET Framework**
The template now supports Microsoft's .NET Framework 2.0, the default standard in today's Microsoft programming world.
- **Weather Service added to home page**
The template now supports the free Cdyne.com weather service which used the chapter address zip code.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.5a dated 02.01.10

- **No Reservation – Message Page Updated**
The template now tells the visitor what process caused a reservation to fail such as:
 - Reservations are turned OFF by the chapter
 - The event is FULL
 - The event has passed (registration is over)

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- **Moved Key Template Operation Variables to Web.Config**
Web.Config now stores three key settings for the template, the Account Number, Template Version and if Sending emails from the site is allowed. These originally were stored in the Global.asax file.
- **Clone an Event**
Useful for creating another event with the same people but stripping off payment information. This creates new reservations with an option to keep or change current pricing amounts. Each reservation will have a Reservation Source set to "Clone". Useful for managing in-house classes at a company.
- **Reservation Graph for Board Year**
iChapter supports bar graphs for the different areas in the BackOffice such as Membership, Reservations and Emails. Reservation graph has been added in this release, others to follow.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release **4.5** dated **11.01.09**

- **President's Message**
Ability to create a President's message each month of the year and have it automatically shown (in part) on the home page automatically (in part means the message is partial and then provides link to the entire page).
- **Event Selection in eMail-Blast**
You can now select an event on your calendar in addition to an announcement when creating an email-blast. By selecting an event, iChapter will create the information for the event title, speaker, cost, location map and sign-up. You just enter the event description!
- **Membership Status Selection**
When a person is not in the system, they can specify they **are a member** by selecting "Member" on the dropdown. They can also specify "Student". By default, the dropdown is "Non-Member". "Member" status is give member pricing on events for **45 days**.
- **Corrections to Real-Time Reservations**
The following corrections were made to Real-Time Reservations:
 - Code redesigned changing where Application variable is set. Fixed problems where the Application variable was being lost causing main reservation page to display zero reservations..
 - Created a new Application variable called: Application("HTTP_Server_Real_Time") loaded to the "global.asax" file. This pulls the HTTP site information from iChapter via a web service instead of the APICS Template setting t
 - Fixed the Gratis and Pre-Paid check-in problem status problem.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release **4.4** dated **07.05.09**

- **Support Recognition**
Chapter defined people recognition pages. Each group created shows in the default Recognition page.
- **CC Receipt Mail Box**
iChapter now supports sending a copy of Credit Card (CC) email receipts to: cc_receipts@chaptername.org. In addition, the treasurer or board person working the check-in table can also be copied.

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- **Fixed problems with Real-Time Reservations**

A number of navigation and broke hyper-link issues were addressed. Also, the entire Real-Time Reservation processing engine was updated to be more reliable and faster.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.3a dated 04.17.09

Considered to be a minor software update and supports an important new feature. All chapters running 4.3 will be updated at no cost. Release 4.3 added new capabilities to recognize speakers and instructors with biographies. That feature worked fine but created problems where no biography is loaded.

- Cancel Days is set in the global.asax file, will be moved to data driven from iChapter BackOffice in 4.4.
- Fixed a problem where instructors and speaker names on the calendar were not shown unless a biography existed (or at least a biography reference, even if it was turned off)
- Fixed a problem where the biography page bombed if company and title fields were blank.
- Set the iChapter Release information on the home page to only be shown on the TEST account. Simplifies new installations.
- Fixed mapping name inconsistency problem when N/A and TBD were used. This problem has existed for years.
- Reformatted the Biography page for better presentation.
- Added **Application("COPY_PASSWORD_EMAIL") = "OFF"** to global.asax to turn on/off email password sending to iChapter.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.3 dated 03.22.09

This version introduces a number of new features and fixes some know issues related to the introduction of 4.0:

- **JavaScript prevents Last Names with a dash.** This is now allowed.
- **CCDisc is not allowed for students by default, Board gets CCDisc**
- **Student pricing overrides Board pricing** (if student is also a board member)
- **Removed all the Multi-Mode reservation processing files.** These file were designed for earlier versions of the template but no longer apply. A newer version of Multi-Mode will be coming soon.
- **Meal-Type was not being saved** starting in release 4.0. Due to testing code left in on Release 4.0 and higher, the Meal Type selection a visitor to the web site changed was not saved. This is now working correctly.
- **Maps not available until iChapter completes request** (blank graphics show). The template will **now show the physical address** if the graphical map has not be created by iChapter network Technical Support. Also shows links to on-line map services such as <http://maps.google.com> and others.
- **New Support for Biographies** – these bio's can be loaded in the iChapter backend and will appear on the chapter web site when an instructor name is clicked on, same for speakers in the calendar. Just the beginning of a new a powerful feature!
- **Diags folder enhanced** – The diagnostics folder now supports much more information for troubleshooting issues related to specific member records. (this feature supports iChapter Technical staff, not a common visitor or board member. It more of an but it also allows troubleshooting of issues to be addressed much more quickly than before).

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Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.2 dated 01.09.09

XML Web Service – Performance Enhancement

Because of iChapter growth with APICS chapters, the current SCSI database access performance is suffering. Response times are slowing down and concurrent access during peak traffic can cause momentary outages. A memory drive has been added to the APICS server to address and eliminate this concern.

- Added support for InternetRAM DSN which is a memory based set of information mostly identical to Internet database
- Memory based data can be up-to 50 times faster than a SCSI hard drive
- Typical web pages can load up to 50% faster
- Supports web site **Calendar**, **Events** and **Recognition** pages
- Data is re-loaded automatically anytime server gets rebooted
- Data is synched every morning at 5:00a EST
- Critical data is synched with memory drive in real-time (like Instructor, Company Coordinator and Speaker info)

Last Data Update added to Certification Recognition pages

- The CFPIM, CPIM, CIRM and CSCP recognition pages now have the date the page was last updated stamp, based on last SAMCA import data date

Further Refinements to the Recognition CEU (Continuing Education Units) Report

- Report is more clear in regards to event type
- Report now ties back to and Invoice/Receipt number

New “Recent Speakers” page added to Recognition

- Auto-populates list of chapter speakers (dinner meetings and seminars)
- Uses events from last two years

New “Recent Plant Tours” page added to Recognition

- Auto-populates list of recent company tours
- Uses events from last two years

BackOffice Pages

- Fixed a hyper-link problem on the “file info” page buried two layers deep to be able to return to the main iChapter BackOffice page for the chapter

Non-Member Record Creation

- Fixed a problem with the single character in a name with single quote, like ‘ .
- Verified non-member processing (all the other information)

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Below is list of new features added to the APICS Template Release 4.1 dated 10.31.08

- [Global Source Workshop Series added](#) to the template as a stand alone education offering.
- Modifications made to users trying to tie themselves to a corporate membership.
- Corrected problems with the Recognition CEU (Continuing Education Units) Report

Below is list of new features added to the APICS Template Release 4.0 dated 08.19.08

- [Web Site User now has to login](#) (password only) allowing more member features to be added in the near future and increasing the security of each users information
 - Password can automatically be sent to person if email is on file
 - Once logged in, user will **not** have to re-enter password unless there is no user activity on the web site for a period of six-months maintaining an important user friendliness feature iChapter has always had
 - Each users information on-line is more secure
 - Users can no longer register for others
 - Members Only section added to the template
 - Other features to be added in the coming year
- [Users can now tie themselves to a Corporate \(Enterprise\) Membership](#)
 - Visitor must know the national assigned number
 - Expiration date, work mailing address and a non-member type code of CU is updated in the specific record
- [Reservation Cancellations w/Payment generate eMail to Chapter Admin](#)
 - Credit Card paid reservations will now generate an eMail when the reservation is cancelled on-line. eMail goes to the chapter admin address on file
- [Global.asax File Updated with New Variables](#)
 - **Suffix** has been added to Application("FirstLastCert") which covers needs like III after a last name
 - Application("MEMBERSONLY") – an ON/OFF setting when a profile is set and the person has membership in the chapter that is current
 - Application("TIMEZONE") – automatically knows what time zone a server account is set in. Values are (PST), (CST), (MST) and (EST)
 - Application("SENDEMAIL") – an ON/OFF setting which can turn off sending email for testing purposes of when development is being done on a server with no eMail SMTP account (like the iChapter test server)
- [Corrected Slow Certification Recognition pages](#)
 - Still had selection code (WHERE statement) that was using nested queries and not the newer process as used on Atlanta.
- [Recognition default page](#)
 - Fixed a navigation problem on Officers, Directors and Advisor links