

Star*Key Software Releases Version 5.5 of Estimating Software, Presstimator

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Brea, California - February 5, 2011 - Star*Key Software, creator of the estimating software program for web offset printers, the Presstimator, has expanded the capabilities of its standalone estimating application.

Version 5.5 of the Presstimator includes multiple printing plant support within a single database for printing job estimating. This was designed for those users with multiple plants or multiple printing locations within a single plant (i.e. coldset and heatset or sheetfed departments), and it allows users to have multiple 'Defaults' within Shop Settings that will apply to jobs produced in different plants or on different presses.

Version 5.5 also offers:

- **Web Form Importing.** A customizable "Request a Quote" web form is available that allows potential customers to enter job specs using an Internet browser. You can create different versions of this web form for different customers or job types, and the web form can also be used internally by the sales staff. The web form includes the various entry fields and drop-down choices you want to have for your customers/sales staff. Once the form is filled out in the browser, the request is emailed to your estimator. After receiving the email, the estimator can import the request directly into the Presstimator which enters the customer's job specs into the appropriate fields in a New Quote. Clicking on the "Load All Defaults" button after importing the contents of the web form completes a quote within seconds. Click here to view a sample web form on our website. http://www.starkeysoftware.com/sample_request.html
- **Inserts Inventory.** Within the Inserting Tab in Shop Settings, users can specify an insert name and the current quantity on-hand in inventory. Within a Quote, simply select the name of the insert from Shop Settings. When indicating a job has been accepted by marking the Job Accepted checkbox on the Main Customer Tab in a Quote, the Presstimator will prompt you to deduct the number of required inserts from the number on-hand in Shop Settings. The Auditor will also check if the number of inserts in inventory is enough to cover the required amount for the job and report accordingly.
- **Database Backups.** When exiting the Presstimator, the user will be prompted to back up the database. Creating regular backups of your data is critical (the file containing all of your Presstimator data is named data.pdb). When a database is corrupted or lost (can happen with a power outage, a Windows crash, a hard-drive failure, or if it is inadvertently deleted), nothing can be done to restore the data except revert to a recent backup. When exiting the Presstimator and choosing to back up the database, the user will be presented with a File window to select the folder into which the back-up will be copied. The current date will also be appended to the end of the filename to clarify the date the back-up was created. It is recommended that this file is then copied to a flash drive, emailed as an attachment, etc., so it can be safely stored in a different location. For users that have the Presstimator database on a network/shared drive with automated back-ups, this back-up prompt can be turned off by going to the Setup menu and selecting Options.

In this new version, the Presstimator's functionality has been expanded to include many features requested by both newspapers and commercial web offset printers. For more information, please visit <http://www.presstimator.com>. In addition to containing FAQ's, product features, sample reports,

comparisons to spreadsheet estimating, and ROI discussions, the website offers a downloadable Presstimator Tour. Visitors to the website can also request a free demo disk of the Presstimator.

About the Presstimator

The Presstimator is a web offset printing estimating software application for newspapers and commercial web printers. This print estimating software prompts the user for detailed job specs in a user-friendly interface. Completely customizable costs and settings can be adjusted in Shop Settings to create sophisticated and reliable estimates. The optional Presstimator Budgeted Hourly Rates module calculates rates to be entered in the Presstimator to ensure overhead expenses are being covered in generated estimates. The Auditor feature helps the estimator avoid mistakes by checking for any missing information, which can help eliminate costly oversights. The Presstimator also incorporates a wide variety of reports that can be generated directly from the estimate, such as Customer Reports, Job Tickets, Estimates vs. Actuals, Profit Analysis and Materials reports. These reports can not only save time, but they can also help the user track costs and initiate standardized cost studies. Quotes are stored in a searchable database for fast retrieval and easy modification. A customizable web form interface is available for potential customers or sales staff to input job specs and have Quotes generated in seconds.

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