

## Technical Bulletin

### ISS45 Archiving Data — Adjusting Retention Settings

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New releases (those systems that were loaded fresh from a CD, not upgraded from CD) contain realistic data retention and archive settings. In older V8 systems the number of days to retain historical data was set, by default, to a number of weeks, months or years that your customers may not find reasonable.

For example, in older systems the “Number of history years for year PLU sales” to be retained was set to 180. That’s 180 *years*, perhaps not a realistic figure. In newer systems this figure has been changed to a mere 30 years. Retaining this much data (180 years or 180 months) will likely cause your SQL database to become extremely large. All V8 systems should be checked, the figures adjusted, and the database “shrunk” to a more reasonable size.

#### ARCHIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Go to General System Parameters | Store | Front Office | End of Day | Archive. The following are reasonable and customary figures for retaining historical data. Note: please read this technical bulletin in its *entirety* before making any changes!

- Number of history days for daily PLU sales 30 <sup>1</sup>
- Number of history weeks for week PLU sales 30
- Number of history months for month PLU sales 30
- Number of history years for year PLU sales 30
- Number of history shift for Cashier/POS history tables 70
- Number of history days for all other history tables 30
- Number of history days for user access log 30
- Number of history days for PLU Batch table 1
- Number of history days for EJ 180
- Number of history days for PLU Batch table (Error) 1
- Number of history days for archived reports 30
- Number of history days for Basket Analysis history tables 750
- Number of history days for Alert table 180
- Number of history days of audit query 7
- Number of history weeks for customer weekly accounting tables 26

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<sup>1</sup> Your customers may wish to retain more PLU sales data. Using 90 to 180 days is often considered a reasonable amount, although a good default is 30 days.

If changes are made to your system so it agrees with the figures listed above then the next step is to shrink the size of the SQL database.

- *Never perform this task on a live system.*
- The system should have completed a successful End of Day and *no* operators should be logged on while performing this task.
- Always check the C:\PCMASTER\LOG\PCMCRC.LOG file for errors before using this process: if any CRC errors are found do *not* continue until they are resolved.
- This process only works on SQL 2000 — it will *not* work on SQL7 databases.

#### PROCEDURE TO SHRINK THE DATABASE:

- 1) From a DOS prompt switch to drive D:, change directories to D:\MSSQL\DATA and note the size of both the FrontOffDB.MDF and FrontOff\_log.LDF files
- 2) Exit the DOS prompt and open SQL Enterprise Manager
- 3) Go to Microsoft SQL Servers, SQL Servers Group, MFS1, Databases
- 4) Right click on FrontOff, select ALL TASKS and then select SHRINK DATABASE
- 5) Set the “Maximum free space in files after shrinking:” to 10%
- 6) Place a check mark in the box next to “Move pages to beginning of file before shrinking”
- 7) Click on the FILES button and select the “frontoffdbData database file
- 8) Make a note of the number in the “Space used:” box
- 9) Click on the radio button to the right of “Shrink file to:”
- 10) Adjust the “Shrink file to:” number to the size you noted in step 8 above
- 11) Click on OK and wait until the system tells you this procedure has completed successfully
- 12) Change the database file to “frontofflog” and repeat steps 8 thru 11 above
- 13) Click on OK until you have exited this window and then close Enterprise Manager
- 14) Repeat step 1 above

**NEVER PERFORM THIS TASK ON A LIVE SYSTEM**

To Your Success,

*Speros*  
Speros Voss  
Technical Specialist

