GrandMaster Suite Release Notes

The release notes included in this document are cumulative and include changes beginning from our January 2011 release (v6.09).

Note: The July 2011 Federal tax changes, included in this release, are based on the "*Payroll Deductions Formulas for Computer Programs – T4127(E) Rev. 11*" document released by the CRA on May 16, 2011.

Additionally, employees who have personal exemption amounts that are greater than the federal or provincial base amount for 2011 will need to resubmit personal exemption forms and have these new amounts updated in Payroll Specific Information prior to running a July 2011 pay to take advantage of the tax savings based on the new exemption. The July tax changes are specific to the provinces of MB, NB, NS, and SK. The federal tax formula and the formulas for the remaining provinces have not changed.

August 19, 2011(v6.23)

Summary of Fixes (see below for details):

- **Date format not working when exporting.**
- **Worker's Compensation Assessable Earnings report.**
- **Current hours without an applicable earning amount no longer printing on pay stub.**

FIXES:

- **Date format not working when exporting.**

  Some of the reports where incorrectly formatting the date when exported to a .csv file. The date was being forced to YYYYMMDD regardless of options selected. This has been corrected.

- **Worker's Compensation Assessable Earnings**

  If an employee worked in multiple provinces through out the year, they were still being included on the report in that province several periods later, with zero assessable earnings and premiums. This has been corrected.

- **Current hours without an applicable earnings amount no longer printing on pay stub.**

  If you had an earnings code that had hours only and no dollars paid in the period, the hours were no longer printing on the stub. This has been corrected.

July 15, 2011 (v6.22)

Summary of Fixes (see below for details)**:**

- **Deductions not calculating on “payout all” transaction.**
- **Worker’s Compensation Assessable Earnings.**

FIXES:

- **Deductions not calculating on “payout all” transaction**

  When a transaction was keyed to payout all of the balance of an accumulator, the accumulator was being adjusted but the amount was paid under the earnings as a negative amount.

- **Worker’s Compensation Assessable Earnings**

  When an employee reached the maximum assessable, the assessable amount for that period should have been zero. The system, seeing the absent amount, tried to calculate assessable amount.

July 8, 2011 (v6.21)

Summary of Fixes (see below for details)**:**

- **Deductions not calculating on auto-payout of an accumulator.**
- **No revaluation on accumulator setup as "Transfer Balance".**
- **Date structure was incorrect when exporting data to CSV files.**
- **Deduction code 56 (TRAF) was not correctly annualizing salary when not full FTE.**

FIXES:

- **Deductions not calculating on auto-payout of an accumulator**

  When an accumulator was set to auto payout and a deduction was set to calculate on that earning that was being paid out, the deduction was not picking up the payout amount.

- **No revaluation on accumulator setup as "Transfer Balance"**

  When an accumulator was set to revaluate, if an employee received an increase in pay, the program was suppressing the revaluation.

- **Date structure was incorrect when exporting data to CSV files.**

  The date export structure was being set in two different location’s so that the results of the CSV files were uncertain,

- **Deduction code 56(TRAF) was not correctly annualizing salary when not full FTE**

  The program was calculating an annual salary based on the FTE and was using an incorrect formula.

June 21, 2011 (v6.20)

Summary of Enhancements:

- **The option to print Amended or Cancelled T4 Statements added.**
- **Support for User specific printer settings added.**
- **Descriptions for additional fields, etc. now included in add employee wizard dialog.**
- **The Gross to Net export can now export multiple pay sequence data.**
- **New deduction calculation method added for pension related calculations.**
- **You may now import employee permanent tax override settings.**
- **Conditional Group option added to select CPP/QPP, EI, or QPIP exempt employees.**
- **Option to export the WCB Report added.**
- **The option to print or export the current and YTD EI Earnings from the Customized Payroll Report.**
- **Effective hourly rate added to pay stubs and cheque printing.**

Summary of Fixes (see below for details):

- **Employee level earning rate is not showing when printing reports.**
- **When printing the T4 Report box 55 and 56 amounts are not present.**
- **Box 20 amounts are missing when printing a T4 Report.**
- **Import to set employee pay status to "Never Worked" is not working.**
- **Accumulator Rate Table does not resolve the correct rate.**
- **Export files for year-end information and EFT rejected due to French characters.**
- **Employee year-end information not included in totals when manually adding records.**
- **Revaluation option not available for Transfer Balance accumulator type.**
- **The T4 Summary did not load the company information based on the current payroll.**
- **QPP "Should Be" shown on T4 Data Report for employees not from Quebec.**
- **Mass Update with Template did not properly set employee accumulator payout option.**
- **The Input Worksheet did not provide report data as expected.**
- **The bonus tax calculation mishandles calculation on first pay of the year.**
- **Payout of accumulator balance not handled correctly on Final pay.**
- **CPP override amount in Payroll Specific Information was not working.**
- **The EI Rebate benefit does not calculate on taxable benefits subject to EI.**
- **The customized payroll report was dropping some employee's line information, but still including in totals.**

ENHANCEMENTS:

- **The option to print Amended or Cancelled T4 Statements added.**

  With this release we have added the option to print *Amended* or *Cancelled* T4 statements. The default option will remain as the *Original* statements however if you are in need to print an *Amended* or *Cancelled* statement you now have that option. The new settings will not be saved and are for the current session only meaning that every time you return to the T4 print the program will default back to the *Original* print option.

- **Support for User specific printer settings added.**

  We have made changes to the User settings, with this release, allowing you to save the printer settings to the current user. This change enables you to have a different printer profile for each of your users. This would be useful when you have users who connect to different printers within the office.

- **Descriptions for additional fields, etc. now included in add employee wizard dialog.**

  Prior to this release when you added new employees to the payroll database using the *Add Employee Wizard* the *Category*, *Additional Text* and *Number* fields, etc. did not display the descriptions that you may have applied and were using the generic descriptions. This would make it confusing to the user during the add process because you did not know what each of the fields may be representing. Therefore, with this release we have modified the *Add Employee Wizard* dialog to display the same field descriptions as you would see when displaying the employee's Payroll Specific Information.

- **The Gross to Net export can now export multiple pay sequence data.**

  The *Gross to Net* export program has been modified to allow you to select a pay range instead of a particular pay sequence. This change allows you to export employee pay data for a range of sequences that displays all the relevant pay data that made up the employee pay calculations by sequence. This change would enable you to pull pay data from the the payroll to a .csv file that would make the *Customized Payroll Report* unnecessary for reporting employee pay information.

- **New deduction calculation method added for pension related calculations.**

  This release includes a new deduction calculation method (172) similar to calculation method 35 but with separate deduction and benefit parameters that allow you to set rates above and below the YMPE for the deduction and benefit whereby the benefit rates are not reliant on the deduction.

- **You may now import employee permanent tax override settings.**

  We have included in this release the ability to import the employee federal tax calculation setting be it the Normal setting or one of the tax override options. This option is included in the Import Employees process. This change will allow you to import permanent tax overrides to employee records or reset the employee tax calculation to the Normal setting. When importing the federal tax calculation setting your file must include a *space* for *Normal*; *"X"* for *Tax Exempt*; *"F"* for *Fixed Amount*; *"%"* for *Percent of Taxables*; and *"N"* for *Net Taxable*. Additionally, several of those options would require you to include an override amount in your import. The options other than *Normal* or *Tax Exempt* would require the override amount.Additionally, this process will allow you to include an override amount of zero.

- **QPP "Should Be" shown on T4 Data Report for employees not from Québec.**

  Prior to this release there was a bug of ommission in the T4 Data Report that would result in QPP S/B (Should Be) warningsfor employees who were not Québec employees. This release has corrected this bug and non-Québec employees should not have "S/B" references in the T4 Data Report.

- **Conditional Group option added to select CPP/QPP, EI, or QPIP exempt employees.**

  The *Payroll Conditional Group* option has been enhanced allowing you to include the employee CPP/QPP, EI, or QPIP Exempt settings as a condition for the employee being included or excluded from a group. This could be useful where you may have a number of employees with one of theses settings in use and you want to create a group of the employees based on the setting for payroll or report processing.

- **Option to export the WCB Report added.**

  The Worker's compensation report has been enhanced to allow you to export the report to a file.

- **Option to print or export the EI insurable earnings from the customized payroll report.**

  The customized payroll report used to just allow the option to print or export the EI hours. The option to do the earnings, this is now available.

- **Effective hourly rate added to paystubs and cheque printing.**

  The option of calculating and printing an "effective hourly rate" has been added to the printing of paystubs. This is for clients who pay bonuses etc, where the hourly rate may not be all the employee is being paid. It is a total of gross/EI hours.

FIXES:

- **Employee level earning rate is not showing when printing reports.**

  If you have an earning defined as a pay period rate or annual rate at the payroll level but the employee rate has been modified at the employee level to an hourly rate, it would not be displayed when printing reports such as the *Payroll Register*. This was due to the calculation process using the payroll level setting when determining whether or not to store the hourly rate on the result record. A recent change would only store the hourly rate when the earning type was hourly. However, the process was improperly using the payroll level setting for the earning instead of the employee level. This release corrects that problem.

- **When printing the T4 Report box 55 and 56 amounts are not present.**

  When printing the T4 Report any amounts for boxes 55 and 56 were not printing on the report. This was a simple error of ommission on the .rpt file definintion for the 2010 T4 forms. We have made a change to include these boxes on the 2010 T4 report and included the new .rpt files with this release.

- **Box 20 amounts are missing when printing a T4 Report.**

  When printing the T4 box 20 amounts would print on the top portion of the report form but were excluded on the bottom slip. This was also an error of ommission when the new 2010 report was designed. We have made a change to the 2010 .rpt files to correct this problem and the change is included in the new 2010 T4 report file definitions included with this release.

- **The Retiring Allowance amounts transferred from the T4A are not present on a T4.**

  This year the CRA has made a change to how you report retiring allowances. Prior to this year any retiring allowance was reported on a T4A. However, with this year forward you will report these amounts on the T4 using the boxes 66, 67, 68, and 69 depending on the type of retiring allowance. However, when designing the new T4 report for 2010 and the program that generates the report these boxes were excluded and therefore did not print as desired. This release contains program changes to ensure that boxes 66, 67, 68 and/or 69 will print on the T4 when values are present.

- **Import to set employee pay status to "Never Worked" is not working.**

  When importing employee data to set employees to the "Never Worked" pay status the import process would actually set the employee to "Active" status. This was occurring because the import did not include an end or termination date. With this release we have made a change to allow you to import employee pay status changes to the "Never Worked" status without an end or Termination date.

- **Accumulator Rate Table does not resolve the correct rate.**

  In some cases where you use a rate table to resolve a rate for an accumulator, earning or deduction based on the number of days an employee is employed, the rate was suddenly not being resolved for long term employees. This was a result of the number of days in the table having a top end setting of 9999. Any employee who had been employed for more that 9999 days would have the rate resolved to zero due to the original program logic. With this release we have made a change so that where an employee has exceeded the top end allowable amount of 9999 days that the last or top end rate will be retained.

- **Export files for year-end information and EFT rejected due to French characters.**

  Export files created to submit pay data to banks for EFT transmissions and XML files created to submit employee year-end data were being rejected due to the inclusion of special French characters with accents that are not valid for such files. With this release we have included program changes that would search and replace the French characters with the appropriate English character that is supported.

- **Employee year-end information not included in totals when manually adding records.**

  When adding or inserting year-end file records for employees who were not members of the current payroll the added year-end records were not included in the summary totals for that payroll. There was a bug of omission when inserting new records that did not write the payroll ID to the record which resulted in the employee record being bypassed when summarizing the data for the T4Summary Report. Additionally, the re-designed T4 Summary report did not allow you to edit the fields to manually add the employee amounts.

- **Revaluation option not available for Transfer Balance accumulator type.**

  Recent changes to the dialog program that controls the accumulator update was disabling the revaluation options when the accumulator was a Transfer Balance type. This release includes a change that allows you to set the revaluation method of your choice since the accumulators that you might be transferring a balance from may be hours or dollars based and without revaluation the accumulator would not be able to resolve the hours or dollars.

- **The T4 Summary did not load the company information based on the current payroll.**

  Prior to this release when you viewed the *T4 Summary* information the company information was not pre-loaded into the dialog based on the current payroll. We have made a program change so that the accurate company information will load into the dialog box fields when you change from one payroll to another.

- **Mass Update with Template did not properly set employee accumulator payout option.**

  When you used the *Mass Update with Template* option to change accumulator settings and your template setting for the included accumulators had the payout option set to a specific employee earning, the update process would not apply that change and the payout would be the default earning. This release includes a change that corrects this issue and properly set the payout option based on your template definition.

- **The Input Worksheet did not provide report data as expected.**

  If the employee did not have a base earning code assigned, the input work sheet would not include the employee. This has been corrected.

- **The bonus tax calculation mishandles calculation on first pay of the year.**

  xxxx.

- **Payout of accumulator balance not handled correctly on Final pay.**

  xxxx.

- **CPP override amount in Payroll Specific Information was not working.**
  If you overrode an employee's CPP amount to a fixed period amount, this amount was not being picked up. This has been corrected.

- **The EI Rebate benefit does not calculate on taxable benefits subject to EI.**

  If you have an *EI Rebate Benefit* (calculation method 111) any taxable benefit amounts that were also subject to EI were being excluded from the EI rebate calculation. This error was the result of an indicator flag that was signaling to the calculation that the EI amount had been calculated and posted prior to the calculation of the taxable benefit amount. This resulted in the EI rebate calculation getting data that was not complete when it was calculating the EI rebate. This has been corrected.

- **The customized payroll report was dropping some employee's detail information, but still including it in the totals.**

  If the employee's earning was subject to EI hours, but no hours went through, it would drop that employee's details.

January 18, 2011 (v6.10)

Summary of Enhancements:

- **Year-end processing modified to include the recent CRA changes to box numbers.**
- **New Journal Entry export format added allowing export to PC FundWare.**
- **New union deduction calculation method added.**
- **You may now print a T4 or T4A Summary Report on the applicable CRA form.**
- **The T4A processing has been modified to comply with new box assignments.**

Summary of Fixes (see below for details):

- **WCB benefit amount not included in journal entry.**
- **The employer's name is not printing in the correct location on the 2010 T4 form.**
- **Program error encountered when attempting to print a Journal Entry Report.**
- **Password not requested if assigned to a payroll from the payroll list "Edit".**
- **Fatal error encountered when assigning employee photos in Employee Information.**
- **The EI Rebate benefit does not calculate on taxable benefits subject to EI.**

ENHANCEMENTS:

- **Year-end processing modified to include the recent CRA changes to box numbers.**

  This release contains program changes to incorporate the changes that the CRA has made adding new box numbers to both the T4 and T4A. Additionally, the CRA has moved the retiring allowances from the T4A to the T4 and that change has been included in this release as well. We have made changes to include the new box numbers as options available for selection when creating your year-end file and to have the new boxes available for edit after the year-end file has been created. Further, the *T4/T4A Data Report* has been modified to include the new boxes.

- **New Journal Entry export format added allowing export to PC FundWare.**

  This release contains a new *Journal Entry* export format that allows users to create an export file that can be imported into the *PC FundWare* software.

- **New union deduction calculation method added.**

  This release includes a new custom union deduction/benefit method (171) that allows you to calculate a deduction and/or benefit amount as a percentage of the employees base rate multiplied by the number of hours worked in certain period range. This range can be the current pay, the current month or the previous month. However, if you have a pay frequency that would overlap months you MUST key the employee time daily in oorder for the calculation to pick up the number of hours in the month correctly.

- **You may now print a T4 or T4A Summary Report on the applicable CRA form.**

  With this release we have changed the T4 and T4A Summary Reports so that they will print on the CRA form. In fact, the form is included with the report as a background so you will not need an actual form when printing. The data will print in the appropriate boxes and you may choose to transpose the data on an official CRA form or you could simply sign and submit the report as we print it. However, to print these reports you MUST add two new ODBC drivers to The *Data Sources* on the worstation you are printing the reports from. We will post the instructions to manually add the ODBC drivers to our download area. You MUST add the ODBC drivers for these reports on the workstation prior to attempting to print the report or an ODBC error will occur. The document you will need to refer to for the instructions is titled *"Adding an ODBC Driver.pdf"*.

- **The T4A processing has been modified to comply with new box assignments.**

  The CRA has made some major changes to the T4A that come into effect this year. They have moved The retiring allowances from the T4A and you will now report any retiring allowances on the employee's T4. Additionally, they have added new box numbers or codes to replace the footnote codes from past years. The footnotes will no longer be included on the T4A. This has required major modifications to the Year-end process where it comes to T4A processing. We have made changes to implement the CRA changes, to the earnings setup, the Edit Year-end File, the T4A reports and the T4A XML file. Additionally, we have made changes to the T4 processing through to and including the XML file relating to the retiring allowances. Further, The new T4A report for 2010 requires that you manually add the ODBC driver required to print your T4A data to the CRA form. The instructions are included in the *"Adding an ODBC Driver"* document mentioned above. You MUST add this ODBC driver to the *Data Sources* prior to attmpting to print the T4A's to the new 2010 form.

FIXES:

- **WCB benefit amount not included in journal entry.**

  When you had an employee who did not have current earnings on a pay but only had benefits that were WCB assessable the WCB seemed to calculate fine but the process was not generating a transaction. The lack of a generated transaction for the WCB amount calculated based on the benefit would result in that amount not being carried forward to the journal database and ultimately the transaction would not be included in the *Journal Entry Report*. This release includes a program change that corrects this problem.

- **The employer's name is not printing in the correct location on the 2010 T4 form.**

  The CRA has made a minor change to the 2010 T4 form that resulted in the employer's name printing outside of the box when printing your T4's. Therefore, we have created new .rpt files to handle the T4 printing to the new 2010 forms. These new .rpt files are included in this release.

- **Program error encountered when attempting to print a Journal Entry Report.**

  When printing the *Journal Entry* report there were instances where a fatal error would occur. This error was due to the lack of a default distribution table that the program was attempting to draw information from relating to G/L settings to reconcile the G/L accounts. This release contains a program change that corrects this issue.

- **Edit Year-end File process improperly updates employee records with PPIP data.** The *Edit Year-end File* dialog boxes had a minor program bug that would result in any *PPIP* amounts that were assigned to an employee being carried over to all employee Year-end data records viewed in the same session. This error has been corrected with this release.

- **Password not requested if assigned to a payroll from the payroll list "Edit".**

  If you had assigned a password to a payroll from within the *Edit* option of the *Open Payroll* dialog box the password would be saved to the paymast database. However, the indicator flag to ensure that a password is requested when attempting to access a payroll was not set. This would allow for the continued access of the payroll without a password. With this release we have included a program change that corrects this error of ommission.

- **Fatal error encountered when assigning employee photos in Employee Information.**

  When adding employee photos to the *Employee Information* dialog box you are requested to provide the path and file name for the bitmap image. However, if the path and/or the file name contained a space a fatal error would result. We have made a program change to correct the space issue within the actual path but the actual file name cannot include a space.

- **The EI Rebate benefit does not calculate on taxable benefits subject to EI.**

  If you have an *EI Rebate Benefit* (calculation method 111) any taxable benefit amounts that were also subject to EI were being excluded from the EI rebate calculation. This error was the result of an indicator flag that was signaling to the calculation that the EI amount had been calculated and posted prior to the calculation of the taxable benefit amount. This resulted in the EI rebate calculation getting data that was not complete when it was calculating the EI rebate. This has been corrected.

- **GrandMaster II© conversion program does not convert deductions settings correctly.**
  Deduction data converted from *GrandMaster II©* was not converted properly where overrides were in use. This resulted in the override being taken when calculating but when viewing the employee deduction you could not see the fixed amount that was being applied. This was related to a flag, *"Use Fixed Amounts"* that was not set on the employee deduction during the conversion process when an override amount was converted. Since the *"Use Fixed Amounts"* flag was not set the actual fixed amounts that were stored on the employee deduction record were not being displayed in the *Employee Deduction Details* dialog box. This release contains a change that corrects the conversion problem where the *"Use Fixed Amounts"* flag was not set on override amounts which in turn corrects the display issue so that you can now see the fixed amount that will be calculated.

Note: The January 2011 Federal tax changes, included in this release, are based on the "*Payroll Deductions Formulas for Computer Programs – T4127(E) Rev. 11*" document released by the CRA on December 15, 2010.

Additionally, employees who have personal exemption amounts that are greater than the federal or provincial base amount for 2011 will need to resubmit personal exemption forms and have these new amounts updated in Payroll Specific Information prior to running a 2011 pay to take advantage of the tax savings based on the new exemption.

December 20, 2010 (v6.09)

Summary of Enhancements:

- **A new utility program has been added to allow you to import new position data.**

Summary of Fixes (see below for details):

- **Deduction method 131 does work properly when dependent on another deduction.**
- **Accumulator Rate Report does not export the correct employee rate table rate.**
- **The Gross to Net and Customized Payroll Reports have incorrect QPIP amounts.**

ENHANCEMENTS:

- **A new utility program has been added to allow you to import new position data.**

  This release includes a new utility program (UTPOSIMP) that will allow you to import new position data en masse to the position database. This option is helpful for those setting up new payrolls or if you are required to add many positions to the database. If you are in need of this utility program, like any other utility program, you should contact CanPay Technical Support for assistance.

FIXES:

- **Deduction method 131 does work properly when dependent on another deduction.**

  Deduction calculation method 131, a deduction calculation used for garnishments, was not working correctly when it was dependent on the results of another deduction. This error occurred because of a program error where deduction 131 did not set a codepend flag. This error has been corrected with this release.

- **Accumulator Rate Report does not export the correct employee rate table rate.**

  When exporting employee accumulator rate information, accumulator rates resolved from a rate table were not exported. Additionally, when an employee had an *"employee specific"* rate it was not displayed in the report. This release addresses both issues and you will now find the correct employee accumulator rate included in your export file when using a rate table and the *"employee specific"* rate will be properly displayed in the report.

- **The Gross to Net and Customized Payroll Reports have incorrect QPIP amounts.**

  The *Gross to Net* and *Customized Payroll Reports* had incorrect QPIP amounts when compared to the *Payroll Register*. Additionally, the QPIP benefit YTD amount was doubled in the customized report. This problem was related to a program that returns YTD values from the pay history and was improperly summarizing the QPIP data. This release includes a correction to fix this problem.

  If you were paying out an amount from an accumulator that included the amount to be accrued on the current pay, the payout would only process the original amount in the accumulator balance and would ignore the current accrual amount. For instance, you have an accumulator with a balance of 2.25 hours and accrue 2.75 hours on the current pay. If you attempted to pay out the total of 5 hours it would only process the original 2.25 hours. You could only have the 5 hours paid out if your accumulator was set to *" Allow Negatives"*. We have made a change to the process to correct this problem.