

Shire NEWS



NUMBER ONE UK PRODUCER OF CMMS SYSTEMS

PAT TESTING SOFTWARE - IT DOESN'T GET ANY EASIER!

Are you the person responsible for the safety of electrical systems, portable appliances, pressure vessels, lighting equipment, ladders ...?

Shire Systems have become the industry standard for Portable Appliance Testing and Inspection and Test software over the past decade with the Safety 1st software application which is well known and extensively used by contractors.

To bring Inspection and Test into the 21st century Shire Systems will shortly be launching Safety 1st Xpress - PAT software of the future.

Safety 1st Xpress combines the ease of use of earlier software products with modern Windows presentation standards such as tree and tabular view, filtering and drag and drop, to make the most productive PAT Testing software on the market. The system is designed to ensure compliance with Health and Safety legislation whilst keeping administration costs to a minimum.

Safety 1st Xpress uses database technology to hold a register of equipment, a history of test results and a forward schedule of testing requirements. A full template for Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) is included in the software with the added feature of test records of any other equipment such as ladders, lifting tackle, cooling towers, emergency lighting, fire extinguishers, in fact any equipment that needs regular inspection and test.

Features include:

- On screen graphic display for each reading
- Unique screen presentation for assets - assets can be listed, several to a page with all fields shown in a neat line format
- Unique keyboard interface reduces the dependence on mouse operation
- Automatic updating of standard tables on data entry
- Use of short codes for key data
- Generate unlimited 'reader' systems from the licensed system
- Journal system providing the ability to record events such as visits and an asset journal which complements the test history
- Asset tracking - an automatic journal entry is created when an asset is moved from one location to another
- Adaptable to each clients requirements
- Compatible with all popular PAT testers including downloading PAT testers:- Seaward Supernova, Europa, 2000, 2000I, ee,1000,1000X,1000S, SEN60204; AVO PAT 4; Metrohm MicroPAT+ & Robin Smart PAT 5000,

To reserve your FREE 90 day 'live' evaluation copy of this easy to use software or for further information please contact the Shire Systems sales department on 023 8022 4111



Christmas Timetable

Shire Systems will be providing Help Desk facilities for its portfolio of software on the following dates spanning the Christmas Period:

December	
Mon 17	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
Tues 18	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
Wed 19	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
Thurs 20	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
Fri 21	Normal 0900 - 1200hrs Telephone Answering Service 1200 - 1700hrs
Mon 24	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
Tues 25	No Coverage
Wed 26	No Coverage
Thurs 27	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
Fri 28	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
Mon 31	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs
January	
Tues 1	No Coverage
Wed 2	Normal 0900 - 1700hrs

From all the team at Shire Systems we would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



STAFF UPDATE

New faces at Shire

Since our last Shire News several new faces have joined the team and a few farewells have been expressed across the company.

The development team has been strengthened by Helen D'Alessio, who is involved in the testing of current and future software,



George Sinclair, who joins the team as a programmer and Ron Watson, who has returned to the fold after several years to continue in the role of programmer.



Support have said farewell to Steve, who has returned to Greece and has welcomed Mark Ryder who joins the technical support team.



Finally, Sue joins administration in the accounts department.

London to Brighton

Congratulations to Judy West, Chris Williams, Mark Vernon, Diane Noyce and supporters Brian Webb and Roger Cooke who cycled 60 miles in aid of the British Heart Foundation in June this year.



DOS TO WINDOWS

Problems Running DOS-based Software Under Windows

Shire Systems have been successfully producing DOS-based software applications since 1986. However, with the introduction of more modern operating systems such as Windows Millennium Edition, Windows NT4, Windows 2000 and Windows XP, a number of concerns have arisen regarding the viability of continuing to operate DOS-based software applications in the future.

Problems that have emerged to date include: Continual CPU polling
DOS-based programs generally assume that no other programs are running on your PC and will continually check for keyboard input. This continual check causes the CPU to run at 100% whenever one of our DOS-based products is running. The performance of other Windows-based applications is therefore greatly reduced. This is particularly noticeable under NT4, Windows 2000 and Windows XP.

Network printing
DOS is unable to print to a network printer without forcing the printer path to map to a local port. This has implications for users who wish to print to multiple printers.

Windows only printers
Many manufacturers are now producing printers that will only print from Windows-based applications.

Windows Millennium Edition
This operating system does not make any use of the traditional Config.sys and Autoexec.bat files when it boots up. Since our DOS-based software requires changes to be made to these files in order for the software to operate correctly, it is necessary to make configuration changes in another way.

In addition to these specific problems, Microsoft has recently announced that, as of 31st December 2001, the following operating systems will no longer be supported:
· MS-DOS (all versions)

- Windows 3.xx
- Windows 95
- Windows NT 3.5x

This impact of this announcement is that, should problems arise with our DOS or Windows-based software running on any of the above operating systems, we will be unable to receive any support from Microsoft.

This does not mean that Shire Systems will cease to support our software products (either DOS-based, or Windows-based) that are being run on these operating systems. Our current policy is to continue to support all of our products to the best of our abilities, but we may encounter difficulties in supporting these products running under operating systems that Microsoft deems as 'Non-Supported'.

In light of these issues we would encourage customers to upgrade their DOS-based Shire products to the appropriate Windows-based versions, which are capable of running on the latest operating systems. We would also encourage users to upgrade their operating systems to ones that are currently supported by Microsoft for example Windows 98 or Windows 2000/XP.

For further information regarding Microsoft's policies on product lifecycles, please consult www.microsoft.com/windows/lifecycleconsumers.asp

For further information and advice regarding Shire Software applications, please call our Customer Support department.

The Technical Support Helpline is open between the hours of 0900 and 1700 Monday to Friday, excluding UK public holidays.

HOTLINE 023 8023 0656
FAX 023 8022 8474
EMAIL support@shiresystems.co.uk

WHY GO TO WINDOWS?

Central planner
The Windows system has a central planner as well as single asset (plant) views. You can now see all the plans on one screen.

Better report control
Windows version reports can all be copied and edited for personalised formatting. You can even add your own logos.

Stand alone work requester
The work requester allows distributive call logging and feedback. This used up no extra user licences and can be loaded on as many workstations as you like. Get other departments to do your data entry!

Better safety features
You can now record risk assessment results and permits against a task or an asset (plant record). Hazards are easily recorded and assigned to an asset for reference too.

Work order checklists
It is now possible to create work orders with checklists from the planner or as inspection & test scheduling. The clever bit is that every asset (plant item) in the checklist gets it's own history record.

Easier Condition Monitoring
It is now possible to set up monitoring points in a task as "readings to be done" so you don't have to fiddle around with individual asset (plant record) settings to define them and then switch them on.

More fields for your information
There is a facility called "other attributes" which allow you to add as much extra data as you like.

Copy and Paste
Items within the asset (plant) records can be copied and pasted from asset to asset, such as plans, test limits and other attributes which you can define yourself.

Purchasing control improved
Control of purchase order access and audit trail is much improved

More accurate stock valuation
Stock valuation is calculated based on the true history of stock receipts – using the principles of "First In/First Out" (FIFO) calculation methods.



SHIRE IMPROVES PERFORMANCE AT ILMOR ENGINEERING

Designers and manufacturers of Formula One racing engines, Ilmor Engineering are improving their performance with a Shire System. Rapid extension has seen the site grow to eight different buildings, housing a large range of sophisticated machine tools and specialised equipment. With the increase in workload on the larger site, the team has successfully installed the FrontLine Maintenance Management & Stock Control systems, as well as the Safety 1st+ software.

'Frontline provides a fast and effective way for any area of manufacturing to report or monitor any problems' Adam Labudek

Formula One engineers are highly engineered susceptible pieces of machinery. The reliability and performance is due to the high degree of innovative and creative engineering that goes into all Ilmor engines. It is vital that all equipment used in the manufacture of the engines undergoes continuous maintenance and testing. To ensure ongoing improvement, FrontLine is being used to control and organise all preventative and planned maintenance procedures. To help with the rigorous testing process, Safety 1st+ is used to carry out regular portable appliance testing on over 3000 items.

'The products are extremely cost effective, particularly as the system is only a fraction of the cost of some of the alternatives' Adam Labudek

With the Shire software in place, Ilmor Engineering now have the ability to report and monitor any problems with the production plant. The Plant Maintenance Department have control of all outstanding issues and a thorough history of all equipment, ensuring the smooth running of the site.

'The most valuable aspect of the system is the ability to give a fast and organised response and maintain an accurate plant maintenance history' Adam Labudek

Ilmor Engineering have taken advantage of the extensive training programmes available for each software module, providing them with an in-depth knowledge of the system.

'I found the Shire Systems product training to be excellent and the technical support team very helpful' Adam Labudek

The company are now looking into the future with more powerful integration with additional products in the Shire suite of software.



ROLLING FORWARD YOUR FRONTLINE PM PLAN

Every January the Shire Helpline receives many calls to do with rolling forward the PM plan in the Frontline Maintenance Management system. We hope that the following points will clarify what needs to be done.

- FrontLine contains a PM plan covering two years. Once a year, you need to roll the plan forward, dropping the older year and generating a plan for a new year.
- It is not necessary to roll the plan forward exactly at the end of each calendar year - normal practice is to leave it until a couple of months into the next year, when all planned work for the old year will have been completed.
- If your PM plan covers the years 2001/2002, leave it until around March to advance your plan to 2002/2003.
- If your PM plan covers the years 2000/2001, you should advance to 2001/2002 immediately and again to 2002/2003 in two or three months.
- To roll your plans forward, use Setup/System Options/PM Plans in FrontLine for Windows, or section 9.4 in FrontLine for DOS.
- You may need to add more years to the list of plan year start dates. The following are the start dates for standard calendar years.



Year start	Date	Number of weeks
2000	03/01/00	52
2001	01/01/01	52
2002	31/12/01	52
2003	30/12/02	52
2004	29/12/03	53
2005	03/01/05	52
2006	02/01/06	52
2007	01/01/07	52

FM EXPO 2001

Shire Systems decided that after years of exhibiting at Maintec that we would have a change and the decision was made to attend FM EXPO at the Excel Centre in October this year instead. The team were demonstrating the full suite of FrontLine products as well as a preview of the new 'Help Desk' software.

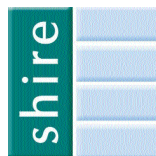
We were delighted to welcome such a large number of familiar faces to the stand as well as many new ones to



discuss their maintenance needs, and for those who were able to attend we trust you had a successful day.

With regards to

exhibitions and seminars for 2002 we are currently looking at a variety of venues and will be keeping you up to date in the next Shire News.



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Email: sales@shiresystems.co.uk
www.shiresystems.co.uk

SHIRE SYSTEMS SUITE OF PRODUCTS

FrontLine Facilities, Asset and Maintenance Management

An easy to use and comprehensive facilities, asset and maintenance management solution containing many user-definable features including tasks for planned preventive maintenance, condition monitoring and safety checks



monitoring of asset depreciation. Provides the ability to record and measure your labour, stock and miscellaneous expenditure with a built in comprehensive reporting capability.



providing historical and current views of data.

Safety 1st

The Safety 1st module is designed to keep control of items requiring periodic inspection and testing, for reasons of safety, quality or condition monitoring.



FrontLine Stock Control

Ensures a smooth and effective control of spare parts and consumables used in all aspects of Engineering, Manufacturing and Facilities Management. It can help to ensure that critical parts are in stock and that other items are held at the most economic level providing valuable statistics on parts usage.



FrontLine Labour Management

Extends the work planning and control section in the maintenance management system. This module provides the ability to manage personnel work activity and easily reconciles working hours with simple timesheet data entry.



Electronic Building Manual

This exciting new product collects and stores the essential data and documents to satisfy the requirements of the CDM Health and Safety File. This simple yet, flexible software is rich in functionality saving you time, space and resources.

FrontLine Purchasing

Provides an efficient means to generate orders for parts and services, to monitor outstanding orders, and to keep track of commitments and expenditure by cost centre, project, plant item or job.



FrontLine Work Requester

Work Requester is a practical and simple controlled alternative for lodging work requests thus eliminating paperwork, reducing administration costs and improving the two way communication link between departments.



InfoFile

A new and cost effective system for the electronic management of information and documents such as literature, drawings and electronic files.

FrontLine Financials

A simple financial management tool for the planning of projects, budget control and the

FrontLine Advanced Reports

Provides a graphical representation of information held within the FrontLine System and other applications. This unique piece of software provides the ability to 'drill down' through graphical layers

Finding out more couldn't be easier, simply call the Shire Systems sales team on 023 8022 4111 or email sales@shiresystems.co.uk

PRIORITY CUSTOMER REQUEST

From _____ Company _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____ Fax _____
 Email _____

PLEASE SEND ME A FREE EVALUATION AND INFORMATION ON:

FrontLine Asset & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	FrontLine Handhelds	<input type="checkbox"/>
FrontLine Stock Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety 1st EXPRESS	<input type="checkbox"/>
FrontLine Purchasing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety 1st+	<input type="checkbox"/>
FrontLine Financials	<input type="checkbox"/>	APS Electronic Building Manual	<input type="checkbox"/>
FrontLine Labour Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consultancy	<input type="checkbox"/>
FrontLine Advanced Reports	<input type="checkbox"/>	Training	<input type="checkbox"/>
FrontLine Work Requester	<input type="checkbox"/>	InfoFile	<input type="checkbox"/>

JUST COMPLETE AND FAX THIS FORM ON 023 8022 8475
 OR POST TO: SHIRE SYSTEMS LIMITED, FREEPOST, SOUTHAMPTON, SO15 1WA

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