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of Contractor/Construction Accounting Systems

Version 8.0 of JobView from A-Systems is the vendor's 30th Anniversary Edition. Released in three separate updates, JobView 8.0 contains more than 100 new functions and system enhancements. With over 30 years of development experience, JobView continues to add up-to-date features to enhance its strong construction and contractor software product.

Learning Curve/ Ease of Use — 5 Stars

If an easy program installation is an indicator of how easy the product is to use, then JobView is strong on both counts. The product was quickly installed in less than five minutes. JobView's main screen contains a standard drop-down menu bar at the top of the screen, with a series of icons displayed on the left side of the screen that provide access to installed system modules. Data-entry screens are easily navigated with excellent use of tabs, function keys and lookup options throughout. The 'New Company Setup Wizard' makes it easy to enter company information and get up and running almost immediately.

Numerous

tabs are available in the job setup screen to allow users to enter as much detail as needed.

After entering standard information, clicking on one of the tabs will allow users to add job budgeting information; handle any change orders; enter detailed job site information, certifications, architect and financing information; and add any notes particular to that job. Ten user-defined fields can also be set up to track information. Job cost codes can handle up to 10 alphanumeric characters and can be customized to suit the user's needs. All cost-related expenses, including timesheets and invoices, are maintained and tracked for each phase of each job, making it easier to manage larger projects without going over budget.

New features in version 8.0 include the addition of both a credit card processor

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JobView is available in three different editions: the Small Builder Advantage Edition (SBA), which is a basic version; the Standard Edition; and the Preferred Edition, which comes bundled with the most popular functions. The Preferred Edition includes GL, Job Costing, Payroll, AP, AR, Sales Quotes, Fixed Asset Management, Credit Card Processing (new), Subcontract Management, Management Overview, Report Generator, Projections, and Contact Management. Numerous add-ons include Inventory and Warehousing, Electronic Import and Export, PDA Interface, Purchase Orders, Point of Sale, an ODBC Interface, and DataView (a custom report writer).

Productivity Tools — 4.5 Stars

The Management Overview Screens provide supervisors and managers with a quick glimpse of financial information, including drilldown capability to the originating document. Vital information found in the overview screens includes total cash balances, active jobs, total contracts, total billed to date, total received for each job, and both AP and AR balances. The GL Projections/Modeling function allows for the creation of sales and expense projections on specific projects, including projected cash flow for up to 36 months. And the addition of the ability to scan and attach invoices and receipts to specific job files makes managing paperwork easier than ever.

Import/Export/ Integration — 5 Stars

As previously mentioned, JobView is a completely integrated system. All modules, even add-ons, are designed to work together, so it's easy to add modules as needed. Users can easily import QuickBooks data files as well as estimates from any estimating program that contains the ability to export data. Electronic timesheets can also be imported. ODBC drivers allow for the export of data into third-party reporting tools such as Crystal Reports. Data can also be imported

into a JobView batch file prior to posting in order to prevent system posting

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and creation of custom forms such as invoices, purchase orders or checks. DataView also allows easy export of data to third-party report writing programs.

Support & Training — 4.5 Stars

Product support is available during regular business hours, with after-hours support available on an as-needed basis. Support can also be reached via e-mail at any time. Tech support agreements vary in price and can be purchased on a quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis. Maintenance agreements are available, as well. An excellent Help feature is available, and full tutorial training is also available via telephone for \$750.

Relative Value — 5 Stars

A-Systems JobView is a scalable product that will suit the needs of virtually any size construction or contracting firm. Growing companies especially will appreciate the flexibility of the system. The Preferred Edition of JobView is \$4,995 for a single-user system, with add-on modules costing extra.

2008 Overall Rating: 5 Stars

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