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## Software

Synchronics Inc. has been supplying the retail and wholesale business sector with quality software solutions for over 25 years. The vendor's CounterPoint SQL is a retail management solution designed for both the single storeowner and the larger store with multiple locations.

### **EASE OF USE — 5 Stars**

CounterPoint SQL's main menu contains a series of buttons that will take you to any of the program functions. The top row of buttons contains navigation functions such as Exit, Home, Main Menu, Back and Help. The main menu area contains one-touch access to the POS area as well as to the Inventory, Customers, Purchasing, Sales History, Ecommerce, System and Setup functions. The ticket entry screen in CounterPoint SQL is easily navigated, with the customer number entered at the top of the screen. Item information can be scanned in using barcode scanners, or it can be entered manually. The product also offers a terrific lookup option that lets you zoom in on a particular item and access detailed inventory information about that item, including recent sales, open POS, and a monthly history. You can choose the type of transaction you wish to process: Sale, Return or More. The More option can be used for backorders or layaway. If you prefer, you can use the touch-screen ticket entry screen. The user interface can be easily customized, allowing you to set up categories and frequently sold items for one-touch processing.

### **MODULES/SCALABILITY — 5 Stars**

The following modules are included with CounterPoint SQL: POS, Inventory Control, Customer Tracking, Purchasing, Sales History, Ecommerce, Order Processing, Credit Cards, Accounting, Labels, Receivables and Reporting Tools. The company also offers an Advanced Pricing add-on, which allows you to assign various pricing

levels based on product, location or even sizing. The Receivables option adds

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### **FEATURES/FUNCTIONALITY — 5 Stars**

The latest version of CounterPoint SQL includes new Perfect Keyboard functionality, which enables users to program single keys or key combinations on a per-screen basis, eliminating unnecessary keystrokes. The Quick Setup feature gets the system ready to go, using only one user interface. A direct accounting interface is included for several popular accounting software products, and the cash drawers are now connected to Windows printers. Users can choose between regular or touch-screen

transaction entry, review ticket history, and process multiple currency types. Excellent customization capability means that user interface screens can be set up to reflect the information and items that are deemed important. Images can be attached to inventory items or even to customer data. The optional password protection feature limits register access to those authorized to use the system. CounterPoint SQL has built-in check authorization, debit and credit card processing, and even EBT food stamp processing.

### **INTEGRATION — 5 Stars**

CounterPoint SQL offers complete integration with a variety of hardware peripherals such as receipt and invoice printers, electronic register drawers, signature capture and check readers, weight scales, PIN pads, and barcode readers and scanners. As noted above, a direct accounting interface is now included for Microsoft Great Plains V-8.0, BusinessWorks Gold V-5, MAS 90 and MAS 200 V-4, QuickBooks 2005, and Peachtree 2005.

### **TRACKING/REPORTING — 5 Stars**

CounterPoint SQL designs all of its standard reports using the Crystal Reports engine, and all reports can be customized to fit your needs. Daily POS reports include daily cash drawer reports, exception reports, payment overages and

shortages,

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### **RELATIVE VALUE — 5 Stars**

CounterPoint SQL is an excellent product for retail stores. The attractive, fully customizable user interface provides one-touch processing, and easy navigation means little training time is needed. A single location, single-user system starts at \$995 for the Express version or \$2,000 for the Enterprise version. Additional modules, users or locations will increase the price accordingly.

**2005 Overall Rating: 5 Stars**

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