

**Visual Dolphin**

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# **Clearing & Forwarding**

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## **Clearing & Forwarding**

Visual Dolphin Clearing and Forwarding gives any freight agency the necessary support it needs in an ever increasingly competitive market. It provides the crucial elements required to monitor the agency's activity.

Powerful computational tools, reliable information management, performance integrity and operational flexibility are all synonymous with Visual Dolphin Clearing and Forwarding module.

### **Multinational Support**

Visual Dolphin Clearing & Forwarding is designed to satisfy the most demanding international requirements. Multi-currency support with two main local currencies, full euro-compliance, support for value-added taxes, combined with an extensive array of international management features, from consolidation routines to automatic generation of inter-company transactions, Visual Dolphin delivers the power to manage a global enterprise while complying with a wide variety of national accounting standards worldwide.

### **Multi-branch support**

Visual Dolphin Clearing & Forwarding is designed and developed to support remote multi-branch operations and help sharing information between the Head Office and the institution's branches.

Advert relies for that on the replication features of Microsoft SQL Server. Replication is simply the process of sharing data between databases in different locations. That is exactly what Visual Dolphin Clearing & Forwarding does: it replicates data, like the customers and financial information, to make the data available to all the institution locations or entities. In other words, it means that information is all accurate and up-to-date in every location.

Thanks to data replication, Visual Dolphin adds control to the business processes by providing the most current and global vision of the institution's situation.

### **Fully Integrated**

Visual Dolphin Clearing & Forwarding is totally linked to all Visual Dolphin Financial modules. Therefore, management of receivables from clients and payments to suppliers on pre-defined due dates is now easier with Visual Dolphin Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable modules.

### **Third Party Catalog**

In Visual Dolphin Clearing & Forwarding, third party accounts (Customers, Shippers, Suppliers, Salesmen/Collectors, Forwarders/Brokers, Shipping Agencies and Shipping lines) are created as contacts in the address book. This option eliminates redundant data entry and reduces errors. It simplifies the management of enterprise-wide information by using one central database.

Depending on the business relation with the organization, a contact is identified as a supplier, a vendor or both at the same time. Information is consolidated in the same place and made available to all Visual Dolphin modules, where required.

### **Third Party Information**

Third parties are classified by categories. This feature is important for segregation in order to provide exceptional reporting flexibility.

Contact name, main business, contact information, full address including the default dealing currency help in answering the information needs and improving the vital relationship with the third party's organization.

### **Credit Limits & Payment Terms**

With Visual Dolphin, identifying adequate credit and payment conditions ensures a prompt and efficient follow-up of the cash collection activity.

Visual Dolphin provides a flexible definition of the credit conditions, like the credit limit or payment terms, to accommodate with a diverse customer and vendor base. The client credit limit is controlled when preparing a sales order or a direct invoice.

Negotiated conditions are important to control the vendors and avoid bad debts. Debit limit and terms of payments are defined per supplier. They provide an important feature to streamline cash flow process and help saving money.

### **Inactive Third Party**

With Visual Dolphin, third party's records are flagged as inactive when regular use is prohibited. This feature helps organizing records effectively by identifying them as inactive and restricting transactions. Inactive contacts are not deleted to allow historical reporting.

## **Clearing and Forwarding Operations**

### **Airway Bill / Bill of Lading**

Visual Dolphin Clearing and Forwarding allows an easy creation and printing of the Bill of Lading/Airway Bill. This direct entry facilitates the management and tracking per container and per client of single and consolidated shipments.

The system creates from each Airway Bill a Forwarding/Clearing file and allows the addition to each file the related expenses and to generate invoice(s) for the rendered Forwarding/Clearing services.

### **Transfer of forwarding files to clearing files**

After the forwarding process, Visual Dolphin Clearing and Forwarding automatically transfers the client file, with all related information, to the Clearing, whether it is the same company that handles both Forwarding and Clearing operations, or two different companies.

The Clearing and Forwarding companies, if separate, are treated as two different entities, particularly when the operations are linked through Visual Dolphin Financial Modules.

Visual Dolphin gives also the flexibility to group many Airway Bills belonging to the same manifest and for the same client in one clearing file.

## **Costing and Invoicing**

### **User Defined Cost Elements**

In Visual Dolphin Clearing and Forwarding, the cost elements can be classified into items that can be invoiced (i.e. insurance, freight...) and others that cannot (i.e. customs, port duties...). The user can create an unlimited number of user-defined cost elements.

When posted to the Visual Dolphin Financial Systems, items that cannot be invoiced and are billed at cost, do not affect the Expenses and Revenues Ledgers, and thus do not influence the turnover of the company.

### **Invoicing**

The system allows printing one invoice in a single currency, or printing an invoice for each currency, thus invoicing the expenses, each in its incurred currency. Furthermore, the option to print two separate invoices, one for the expenses that cannot be invoiced and the other for the ones to invoice, is also available.

Once all Forwarding and Clearing expenses are processed and invoiced, the Client File can be closed. If additional expenses need to be added to a closed file, the file can be re-opened or an amendment file is created. Cost/profitability reports can be generated later on for any file (i.e. parent or child) or for a parent file and all its amendments.

## **Security**

Visual Dolphin ensures that the right to use all crucial business processes is secure. Effective tools are provided to manage security and provide users with a secure access to Visual Dolphin Clearing & Forwarding.

Security groups are created to restrict access to specific functions. Groups are assigned different authority levels that filter the rights of each user belonging to a group.

## **Reports**

Visual Dolphin Clearing & Forwarding presents a powerful set of reports that helps any freight agency get the most of its data.

The power of using Seagate Crystal Report as standard reporting tool provides the required flexibility to produce effective reports and enables the users to export all report data to an external file, utilizing most of the standard supported data types, like ASCII, Rtf or Excel.

The system generates the following periodic analysis reports:

- Tracking of expenses by date, for a specific client and a specific shipment in a specific currency,
- List of invoices filtered by date, customer, invoice status, collector and currency
- Profitability reports per client, forwarder, shipping agency, invoice and cost element
- Profitability reports by type of shipment, i.e. Air, Sea or Land
- Profitability for Import or Export operations.

- Statistics of containers detailed by commodity
- Statistics of containers / CBM
- Expected cargo
- List of client shipments per vessel
- List of customs per client, per file
- List of files filtered by multiple criteria such as, vessel/voyage, ETA, POL, Forwarder, and Client
- Total sales by salesman



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