



# **Iatric Systems**

*Magic and Client/Server Products and Services - NPR Report Writing*



## **Updates! An E-Newsletter from Iatric Systems**

### **March 2002**

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#### **Current Subscribers Eligible to Win a DVD Player in our Appreciation Drawing**

Since August of 2001 we have been delivering our *Updates!* Newsletter to our customers and other subscribers that are part of the Meditech Community. Due to your referrals, our subscriber list has grown significantly and we continue to receive very positive feedback about the content of the newsletter.

In appreciation for the support of our current subscribers, all current subscribers as of May 31, 2002 will be included in a drawing for a home DVD player. Your entry into this drawing is automatic. If you would like to increase your odds of winning, you may refer any of your colleagues that you feel might benefit from our Newsletter. You will receive an additional entry in the drawing for each referral you make. To make a referral, you can forward these simple instructions:

1. Visit the Iatric Systems web site at <http://www.iatricsys.com>
2. Click on the "Sign Up for our Monthly Newsletter" button
3. Enter the referring person's email in the appropriate field

The drawing will be done on June 1, 2002. The winner will be notified by email and will also be listed in our June 2002 Newsletter.

#### **Suspend Utility Assists in Protection of Patient Information**

A nurse is currently documenting a patient assessment when called away from his/her workstation for a patient in need. What are the options? Exit and lose the work already entered? File a partial assessment? Delay in responding to a patient needs? Leave the

Meditech session running and compromise patient confidentiality? None of these options may be adequate.

Iatric Systems' *Suspend Job Utility* is a program that allows users to step away from their PC with confidence that their data will be protected. Should the user wish to suspend the session, simply "double click" the Magic Key by pressing <Shift> F12 F12. This will suspend the Meditech session and require the user's password to re-open the session. Once the password is entered, they will be returned directly to where they left off. This low cost utility protects patient information and increases staff efficiency. If you would like more information, simply respond to this newsletter and we will have one of our staff contact you directly.

## Joel's MUSEings

March is the month that we all start to get ready for the big event of the year: the International MUSE Conference. We're hard at work on putting together literature, demos and booth layouts. The MUSE leadership is finalizing the logistics. The schedule of sessions will be out this week or next. For those of you who missed it last year, we're going to have another open panel discussion on data repositories hosted by yours truly. Everyone connected with MUSE is working hard to organize another great conference.

I think it's important for the whole Meditech community to continue to support MUSE as the one open forum for Meditech users to be able to exchange ideas with other users, see all the latest vendor products and attend education sessions and product demos. I know that some of you may be unable to attend because of budgetary reasons. Last year, we offered discounts on some of our products to users who visited our booth and then later purchased products. Many were able to make up the cost of attending MUSE via these discounts. I hope that other vendors will offer similar deals this year. The Saturday sessions also are a great way to save money by providing low cost detailed training sessions. One other point is that attending MUSE is fun. I enjoy meeting many people with whom I've been exchanging emails and seeing old friends. It's the highlight of the year for the Meditech user community so pick up the phone and start making your travel reservations now before all the cheap flights are gone! See you in Miami.

## Past Updates! Newsletters available Online

Have you accidentally deleted an old issue of our Newsletter that included an NPR Tip you were saving? Did you just join our Newsletter and want to review past issues for helpful NPR tips and product updates?

Each issue of our Updates! Newsletter is posted to our web site so that you can easily review past issues. Just visit us at <http://www.iatricsys.com> and click on Information and Updates - E-Newsletters.

## NPR Tips: Back to Basics - String Extraction and Date Formatting

In Magic Programming/NPR Report writing, there are often multiple ways to accomplish the same task. For this month's tip, we will discuss the variety of ways to format dates with string extractors, Z programs, and by setting the data type in a computed or standard field.

Assume that you are doing a download and need to format a date as MM/DD/YYYY (or DD/MM/YYYY for UK and Canada)

### 1) \$ and % \_"the old-fashioned way"

You can use \$ (to the left of) and % (to the right of) with the "\_" (concatenation) operator to build the MM/DD/YYYY string yourself in the VAL section of a computed field:

Remember that magic numbers string positions starting from zero, and that the \$ and % operators do not include the position specified:

To the right of position 2 (%2) works as follows:

```
|-> start at position 2 (3rd character), take everything to the right
"IATRIC"%2= "RIC"
012345
```

Since an NPR date is stored YYYYMMDD, reformatting involves rearranging the MM DD and YYYY and adding the slashes:

US Example:

```
VAL=@date%3$2_"_"_(@date%5)"_"_(@date$4)
```

UK or Canadian Example:

```
VAL=@date%5_"_"_(@date%3$2)"_"_(@date$4)
```

## 2) Use %Z.date.out.long

```
VAL=%Z.date.long(@date)
```

## 3) Use a data type of DATE10

## 4) Use a data type of BDATE

## 5) Use Z.date.text

```
VAL=%Z.date.text(@date,"N/D/Y")
```

For month, use N for month as number, padded with zero if <10, n for month as number, no padding, M for alpha month full name, m for alpha month abbreviated.

For day use D for day as number, padded with zero if <10, d for day as number no padding.

For year use Y for four digit year, y for two digit year.

Anything between the letters is included as the separator.

A handy list of Z programs is available on our website at [www.iatricsys.com](http://www.iatricsys.com) and click on [Information](#) and [NPR Report Writer](#).

## Subscribing/Contacting Us

If this Newsletter has been forwarded to you and you would like to subscribe to future Iatric Newsletters, please visit our web site at [www.iatricsys.com](http://www.iatricsys.com). Simply click on the "Signup for our Monthly Newsletter" button.

You may always reply to this Newsletter with questions or comments. However, if you would like to contact someone directly, please feel free to contact one of the names listed below.

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