

# ACCPAC

## Advisor<sup>®</sup>

## INSIDE:

Page 2:

*Built to Last*

*ACCPAC Architecture  
Diagram*

Page 3:

*Built to Last  
(continued)*

*Why You Want  
ACCPAC 5.0*

## ACCPAC 5.0- New Features, Great Benefits!

**A**CCPAC International has been a leading worldwide provider of business management applications for more than 20 years. This longevity is a result of ACCPAC's in-depth understanding of the business requirements of companies and their dedication to creating reliable and flexible software.



The ACCPAC Advantage Series 5.0 release continues to build upon this proven approach. This release increases the technology leadership position of ACCPAC while continuing to provide the stability and reliability expected by the user community. While many features are subtle improvements based on user feedback, the overall enhancements add up to a truly groundbreaking release.

In addition to the standard windows interface, Advantage Series 5.0 provides a web-based interface that allows anytime, anywhere access via the Internet. The only requirements are a PC with a standard Internet browser and an Internet connection with sufficient security rights. This can be a cost-effective option for remote users and offices.

Advantage Series 5.0 also showcases a new customizable user interface. Data entry screens have been re-



designed to display all critical information, including detail lines, on the first screen. This, combined with the new ability to resize forms, dramatically increases data entry and inquiry efficiency.

**“The ACCPAC 5.0 enhancements add up to a truly groundbreaking release.”**

The customization available in Advantage Series has also been stepped up in this release. The improved security allows access to be defined at the field level for each user. The ability to hide and disable individual fields and buttons on each screen provides more control for management and greater efficiency for users.

These enhancements highlight some of the many advances made to the Advantage Series product line. They also emphasize ACCPAC's dedication to deliver feature-rich, cost-effective solutions to mid-market companies. ■



566 W. Adams St  
Suite 260  
Chicago IL 60661

T 312.669.9500  
F 312.669.9310

# Built to Last

In today's business environment, the efficiency, cost-savings and flexibility provided by early adoption of new technologies are essential to remain competitive. ACCPAC users have always been able to quickly and efficiently take advantage of new technologies as they become available while other accounting system users are forced to wait for program modifications. ACCPAC's continuing ability to deliver advanced features and technology is a direct result of their underlying architecture.



To help us better understand technical features such as architecture, multiple tiers and an open model, we can examine how constructing software mirrors constructing buildings.

## A System Blueprint

Architecture is formally defined as a well thought-out method for design and construction. A system architect maps out the construction of a business application much like a traditional architect maps out the construction of a building. A building architect accommodates the building usages, number of residents, material costs, completion time and future expansion needs. A system architect accommodates the application requirements, number of users, overall costs, delivery time and future needs.

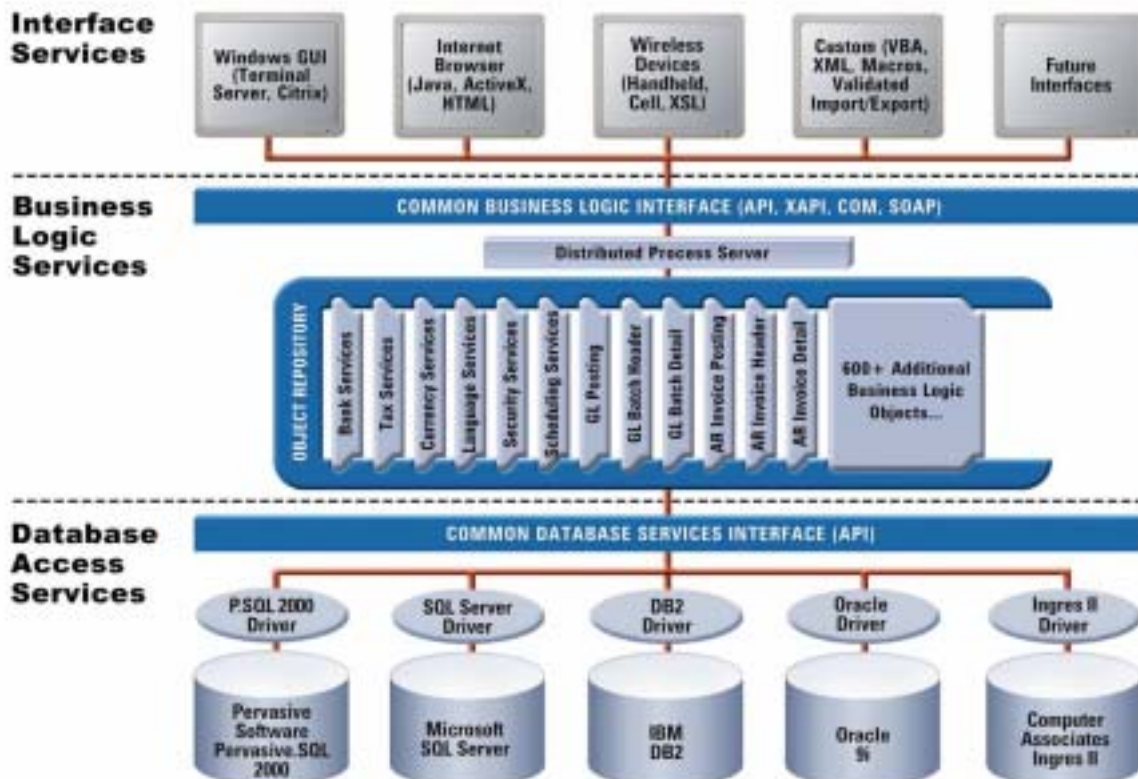
Ultimately, architects need to deliver an end result that is solid and reliable, to meet current needs, and flexible and adaptable, to meet future needs. By accommodating both requirements, ACCPAC provides businesses with a dependable, long-lasting foundation and ongoing investment protection.

## Multiple Layers for Multiple Purposes

A building has multiple layers and levels that are important to different people. The foundation and structure of a building define many things including its capacity, strength and accessibility. The cabling, electrical and plumbing inside the walls define the underlying infrastructure and services offered by the building. The furniture and fixtures define the look, feel and usage of the building for the typical resident.

(continued on page 3)

**“ACCPAC provides businesses with a dependable, long-lasting foundation and ongoing investment protection.”**



# Built to Last (continued)

In the same way, the database tier acts as a foundation for the system and defines many things including the capacity, performance and accessibility. The business logic tier acts as an infrastructure and defines the business rules and functions available to the end-users. The user interface tier acts as the interaction point and defines the look, feel and usage of the system.

By clearly defining and separating the layers in this manner, ACCPAC maximizes the flexibility of the system and allows each business and user to configure the system to best meet their needs. This approach also allows businesses to quickly take advantage of new technologies, such as web or PDA interfaces, without waiting for time-consuming or expensive system rewrites.

## An Open Model

An open model is a well-defined approach for developers to use underlying business rules and functions. This approach is very similar to electrical outlets in a building. As long as an appliance uses the appropriate voltage and plugs into the wall socket, you know it will work correctly. The same holds true for the phone system, cable modems, satellite dishes and other infrastructure services.

An open model makes it easier for both ACCPAC's internal development team and third parties to continue to expand and enhance the product feature set. This is important because it exponentially increases the number of developers that can create add-ons and it delivers unprecedented customization ability to each end-user. Customizations and modifications can be made to the system without wor-

rying about changing the underlying infrastructure.

By adhering to this open approach, Advantage Series is designed to accommodate evolving business needs and a changing technology landscape. Users can immediately implement the choices that best fit their current requirements and remain confident that a wide range of options will be accessible to meet their future requirements.

**“ACCPAC maximizes flexibility by allowing each business and user to configure the system to best meet their needs.”**

## Benefits

While it is rare, even unlikely, that a building would be constructed on the fly without consideration to its architecture, many business applications on the market today were designed to use current technology to address immediate needs. As new technologies are introduced and as business needs evolve, workarounds and shortcuts are developed and forced into applications. This creates significant product instabilities and ever-increasing development timeframes and in some cases, complete system re-writes, as additional technologies and needs are accommodated.

Because ACCPAC took a more disciplined approach to develop a solid architecture, Advantage Series users have been able to immediately reap the benefits of new technologies such as Web and PDA interfaces, eCommerce stores, Customer Rela-

tionship Management software and more. For ACCPAC users, this translates into increased efficiencies, reduced costs, investment protection and stability. ■

## Why You Want ACCPAC 5.0

### Improved Ease of Use

- Resizable data entry forms allow you to see more information on each screen
- Header and detail information are now available on a single screen
- New keyboard-friendly menus allow for faster, more efficient navigation

### Greater Flexibility

- VBA macro language simplifies task automation
- Web browser deployment allows anytime, anywhere access
- Behind-the-scenes architecture tweaks insure continued technology leadership and investment protection

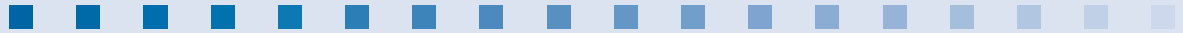
### Improved Efficiency

- Improved drill-down capabilities allow for more efficient detail inquiries
- Customers and vendors can be added while in the invoice screen
- Posted and deleted batches can be hidden with a single mouse click

**Contact Peter Wolf for your 5.0 upgrade today at 312.669.9500 x 14 or [pwolf@pcginc.com](mailto:pwolf@pcginc.com)**

566 W. Adams St  
Suite 260  
Chicago IL 60661  
T 312.669.9500  
F 312.669.9310  
**PARAGON**  
Consulting Group, Inc.

# Inside



## ACCPAC *Advisor*®

- ACCPAC 5.0 - New Features, Great Benefits!
- Built to Last
- ACCPAC Architecture Diagram
- Why You Want ACCPAC 5.0



566 W. Adams St  
Suite 260  
Chicago IL 60661  
T 312.669.9500  
F 312.669.9310