

APICS Template 4.5a Features and Recent Release History

iChapter network

System Software

Date: Feb-1-2010

Author: Richard Jurek

Plans

This priority list could change over time. Always request a new copy of this document from iChapter network when the above page header date is greater than 30 days. Send requests to support@ichapter.net

APICS Template Release 4.6 planned for 1st Quarter 2010

- **Board of Director Page Support**
iChapter manages the Officer, Director and Advisor pages so a web master is taken out of the loop. Any board member can update the BOD pages from iChapter. Names on the board pages are pulled from your member/non-member data.
- **Web Site Visitor Managed Biographies**
A important evolution in the iChapter network world. With this implementation of iChapter, your visitors can now expand web visitor responsibility for managing the content your web site displays! (for example: personal biographies) Visitors can now load their own biographies in a "Word" like environment.
- **Multiple Reservation Capability**
A feature that allows anybody visiting your site to sign up multiple people for an event and pay with credit card or PO in advance on the web site.
- **Reservation Payment adds PO (Purchase Order) Capability**
A chapter can now support payment via company PO. This feature is required to support the new National Job Bank feature below. In addition this capability now supports the entire reservation process.
- **National Job Board**
Long awaited feature by many chapters that allows job postings to be shared between chapters that use iChapter. Job Postings can be sold by a chapter via check, PO or credit card (if chapter has credit card service). Jobs listings can also be limited to "Members Only".
- **Meeting Presentation Download**
Ability to upload presentations from PDMs, Seminars and other events in a .PDF format only. iChapter then supports the pages in the APICS Template to present this to visitors of your site. Web pages can be restricted to allow members only to download or anybody visiting the site. (PDF content is difficult to copy, protects the chapter)
- **Calendar cleanup planned**
 - Turn off sign-up link when reservations are turned "off" for an event
 - Option for "Late Fee" or "Early Bird" fee on calendar
- **Cleanup Member/Non-Member Data Editing**
With passwords enabled, the process for members and non-members to manage personal information can be improved and streamlined.

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Release History *****

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release **4.5a** dated **02.01.10**

- **No Reservation – Message Page Updated**
The template now tells the visitor what process caused a reservation to fail such as:
 - Reservations are turned OFF by the chapter
 - The event is FULL
 - The event has passed (registration is over)
- **Moved Key Template Operation Variables to Web.Config**
Web.Config now stores three key settings for the template, the Account Number, Template Version and if Sending emails from the site is allowed. These originally were stored in the Global.asax file.
- **Clone an Event**
Useful for creating another event with the same people but stripping off payment information. This creates new reservations with an option to keep or change current pricing amounts. Each reservation will have a Reservation Source set to “Clone”. Useful for managing in-house classes at a company.
- **Reservation Graph for Board Year**
iChapter supports bar graphs for the different areas in the BackOffice such as Membership, Reservations and Emails. Reservation graph has been added in this release, others to follow.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release **4.5** dated **11.01.09**

- **President’s Message**
Ability to create a President’s message each month of the year and have it automatically shown (in part) on the home page automatically (in part means the message is partial and then provides link to the entire page).
- **Event Selection in eMail-Blast**
You can now select an event on your calendar in addition to an announcement when creating an email-blast. By selecting an event, iChapter will create the information for the event title, speaker, cost, location map and sign-up. You just enter the event description!
- **Membership Status Selection**
When a person is not in the system, they can specify they **are a member** by selecting “Member” on the dropdown. They can also specify “Student”. By default, the dropdown is “Non-Member”. “Member” status is give member pricing on events for **45 days**.
- **Corrections to Real-Time Reservations**
The following corrections were made to Real-Time Reservations:
 - Code redesigned changing where Application variable is set. Fixed problems where the Application variable was being lost causing main reservation page to display zero reservations..
 - Created a new Application variable called: Application("HTTP_Server_Real_Time") loaded to the “global.asax” file. This pulls the HTTP site information from iChapter via a web service instead of the APICS Template setting t
 - Fixed the Gratis and Pre-Paid check-in problem status problem.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release **4.4** dated **07.05.09**

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- **Support Recognition**
Chapter defined people recognition pages. Each group created shows in the default Recognition page.
- **CC Receipt Mail Box**
iChapter now supports sending a copy of Credit Card (CC) email receipts to: cc_receipts@chaptername.org. In addition, the treasurer or board person working the check-in table can also be copied.
- **Fixed problems with Real-Time Reservations**
A number of navigation and broke hyper-link issues were addressed. Also, the entire Real-Time Reservation processing engine was updated to be more reliable and faster.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.3a dated 04.17.09

Considered to be a minor software update and supports an important new feature. All chapters running 4.3 will be updated at no cost. Release 4.3 added new capabilities to recognize speakers and instructors with biographies. That feature worked fine but created problems where no biography is loaded.

- Cancel Days is set in the global.asax file, will be moved to data driven from iChapter BackOffice in 4.4.
- Fixed a problem where instructors and speaker names on the calendar were not shown unless a biography existed (or at least a biography reference, even if it was turned off)
- Fixed a problem where the biography page bombed if company and title fields were blank.
- Set the iChapter Release information on the home page to only be shown on the TEST account. Simplifies new installations.
- Fixed mapping name inconsistency problem when N/A and TBD were used. This problem has existed for years.
- Reformatted the Biography page for better presentation.
- Added **Application("COPY_PASSWORD_EMAIL") = "OFF"** to global.asax to turn on/off email password sending to iChapter.

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.3 dated 03.22.09

This version introduces a number of new features and fixes some know issues related to the introduction of 4.0:

- **JavaScript prevents Last Names with a dash.** This is now allowed.
- **CCDisc is not allowed for students by default, Board gets CCDisc**
- **Student pricing overrides Board pricing** (if student is also a board member)
- **Removed all the Multi-Mode reservation processing files.** These file were designed for earlier versions of the template but no longer apply. A newer version of Multi-Mode will be coming soon.
- **Meal-Type was not being saved** starting in release 4.0. Due to testing code left in on Release 4.0 and higher, the Meal Type selection a visitor to the web site changed was not saved. This is now working correctly.
- **Maps not available until iChapter completes request** (blank graphics show). The template will **now show the physical address** if the graphical map has not be created by iChapter network Technical Support. Also shows links to on-line map services such as <http://maps.google.com> and others.

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- **New Support for Biographies** – these bio's can be loaded in the iChapter backend and will appear on the chapter web site when an instructor name is clicked on, same for speakers in the calendar. Just the beginning of a new a powerful feature!
- **Diags folder enhanced** – The diagnostics folder now supports much more information for troubleshooting issues related to specific member records. (this feature supports iChapter Technical staff, not a common visitor or board member. It more of an but it also allows troubleshooting of issues to be addressed much more quickly than before).

Below is a list of features added to the APICS Template Release 4.2 dated 01.09.09

[XML Web Service – Performance Enhancement](#)

Because of iChapter growth with APICS chapters, the current SCSI database access performance is suffering. Response times are slowing down and concurrent access during peak traffic can cause momentary outages. A memory drive has been added to the APICS server to address and eliminate this concern.

- Added support for InternetRAM DSN which is a memory based set of information mostly identical to Internet database
- Memory based data can be up-to 50 times faster than a SCSI hard drive
- Typical web pages can load up to 50% faster
- Supports web site **Calendar**, **Events** and **Recognition** pages
- Data is re-loaded automatically anytime server gets rebooted
- Data is synched every morning at 5:00a EST
- Critical data is synched with memory drive in real-time (like Instructor, Company Coordinator and Speaker info)

[Last Data Update added to Certification Recognition pages](#)

- The CFPIM, CPIM, CIRM and CSCP recognition pages now have the date the page was last updated stamp, based on last SAMCA import data date

[Further Refinements to the Recognition CEU \(Continuing Education Units\) Report](#)

- Report is more clear in regards to event type
- Report now ties back to and Invoice/Receipt number

[New “Recent Speakers” page added to Recognition](#)

- Auto-populates list of chapter speakers (dinner meetings and seminars)
- Uses events from last two years

[New “Recent Plant Tours” page added to Recognition](#)

- Auto-populates list of recent company tours
- Uses events from last two years

[BackOffice Pages](#)

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- Fixed a hyper-link problem on the “file info” page buried two layers deep to be able to return to the main iChapter BackOffice page for the chapter

Non-Member Record Creation

- Fixed a problem with the single character in a name with single quote, like ‘ .
- Verified non-member processing (all the other information)

Below is list of new features added to the APICS Template Release 4.1 dated 10.31.08

- [Global Source Workshop Series added](#) to the template as a stand alone education offering.
- Modifications made to users trying to tie themselves to a corporate membership.
- Corrected problems with the Recognition CEU (Continuing Education Units) Report

Below is list of new features added to the APICS Template Release 4.0 dated 08.19.08

- [Web Site User now has to login](#) (password only) allowing more member features to be added in the near future and increasing the security of each users information
 - Password can automatically be sent to person if email is on file
 - Once logged in, user will **not** have to re-enter password unless there is no user activity on the web site for a period of six-months maintaining an important user friendliness feature iChapter has always had
 - Each users information on-line is more secure
 - Users can no longer register for others
 - Members Only section added to the template
 - Other features to be added in the coming year
- [Users can now tie themselves to a Corporate \(Enterprise\) Membership](#)
 - Visitor must know the national assigned number
 - Expiration date, work mailing address and a non-member type code of CU is updated in the specific record
- [Reservation Cancellations w/Payment generate eMail to Chapter Admin](#)
 - Credit Card paid reservations will now generate an eMail when the reservation is cancelled on-line. eMail goes to the chapter admin address on file
- [Global.asax File Updated with New Variables](#)
 - **Suffix** has been added to Application(“FirstLastCert”) which covers needs like III after a last name
 - Application(“MEMBERSONLY”) – an ON/OFF setting when a profile is set and the person has membership in the chapter that is current
 - Application(“TIMEZONE”) – automatically knows what time zone a server account is set in. Values are (PST), (CST), (MST) and (EST)
 - Application(“SENDEMAIL”) – an ON/OFF setting which can turn off sending email for testing purposes of when development is being done on a server with no eMail SMTP account (like the iChapter test server)
- [Corrected Slow Certification Recognition pages](#)
 - Still had selection code (WHERE statement) that was using nested queries and not the newer process as used on Atlanta.
- [Recognition default page](#)
 - Fixed a navigation problem on Officers, Directors and Advisor links