

SPECIAL ANALYZER SOFTWARE ISSUE

UTAH COUNTY TECHNICAL BULLETIN 2001-4



<http://www.co.utah.ut.us/dept/health/Air.htm>

SOFTWARE VERSION 1.29

Great News! We have completed our beta testing of analyzer software release version 1.29. This version will correct the widespread “screen freeze” or “lock-ups” that have plagued the analyzers since they were new. This version meets all of the original contract requirements for minimum analyzer operating performance. We will now be focusing on “enhancements” to the program that will expand the capabilities of the analyzers and improve the user friendliness of the interface. Your input and recommendations for future enhancement are encouraged.

CERTIFICATE NUMBERS BY PHONE LINE

Due to the widespread abuse of certificate numbers, version 1.29 removes the ability for the station manager to load the emission certificate number inventory. After version 1.29 has been loaded on your analyzer any certificate numbers purchased will be loaded via the phone line by our host communication system. **IMPORTANT: The inventory downloads will only be performed during our nightly dial sessions.** This means that some advanced planning may be necessary for station personnel in order to avoid running out of certificates mid-day. It is neither practical nor efficient for us to load certificates on an individual basis throughout the day. This also means that if you purchase certificates on a Friday you must leave your analyzer in standby that evening in order to have new inventory on Saturday or Monday morning. This also places an additional importance on shutting down your analyzer each night for communication. If we are unable to communicate with your analyzer, you will not have certificates loaded until the next scheduled communication (the next evening).

CERTIFICATE PURCHASE BY MAIL

We have had a mail purchase program operating for some time now. If you are interested in purchasing certificates by mail please fill out the enclosed application completely and mail it to our office along with payment. We will load your certificate numbers by phone and an auditor will deliver your paper along with a receipt and a new application. Unfortunately we do not currently have the capability to accept credit cards for certificate purchases. We will most likely be able to accept them sometime in the future but we don't know exactly when. We will keep you posted of any changes in this policy.

INFORMATION UPDATES

Technician transfers, new technicians, date changes, etc. will also be performed via the phone line by our host communication system. **IMPORTANT: These updates will only be performed during our nightly dial sessions.** Because of the potential volume of transactions we do per day it is not practical or efficient for us to dial analyzers on an individual basis throughout the day. By loading the information each night stations will in most cases see updates sooner than if an auditor had to make a trip out to their station.

AUTOMATIC ANALYZER LOCKOUTS FOR NO COMMUNICATION

This change will go widely unnoticed for 85+% of the stations that we have no problem communicating with on a regular basis. For those few stations that we have continuous problems communicating with, the analyzer will countdown the days since the last successful communication and lockout the analyzer if XX number of days have passed. This is currently set at 15 days which would equal approximately 65 failed attempts to communicate. These lockouts will be cleared when a successful communication has occurred during a routine dial session.

SURPLUS CERTIFICATE PAPER

Some stations, particularly those who do not do any safety-only inspections, may develop a surplus of certificate paper. If you have any **unopened** packets of certificate paper you may return these to our office for a \$10.00 credit towards your next certificate purchase, permit renewal, etc.

CABINET DOOR UPDATE

The new cabinet door seems to work great on some analyzers but not very well on others. ESP has designed a new and improved latch system that will correct the door problem. The latch will have a positive locking mechanism that will secure the door closed to prevent it from falling open.

UTAX BARCODE

The new software enables the barcode reader to read the UTAX barcode on the new registration renewal forms. This will speed up your data entry considerably by populating the analyzer data fields. **Remember to verify the VIN number on the vehicle with the VIN entered from the UTAX form.**

TECH TIP

TECH TIP # VE0037 Setting Inventory Warning Levels

The analyzer is capable of warning the operator when the certificate number inventory is running low. You can adjust this level by going to the Station Manager Menu and selecting “inventory warning settings”, in the box put the minimum number of certificates remaining when you want to be warned of low inventory. By being warned well in advance you should have sufficient time to purchase certificates and have them loaded by our dialer and never run out of certificates unexpectedly.

