

# Sage Alerts & Workflow for Sage ERP:

### How To Make Your Organization <u>Data-Driven</u>

**Don Farber, Vineyardsoft Corporation** April 16, 2018

# **Fact:** Time-sensitive information in your ERP system is constantly changing and much of it requires your attention and action.

### Currently . . .

 You periodically run (& review) ERP reports, analyses, & queries to identify important, actionable data. You then determine who needs to know about that information and what actions need to be taken.

The 'yellow highlighter' approach.

### The Goal . . .

• Your ERP system should proactively <u>monitor itself</u> for critical, time-sensitive information, <u>auto-deliver</u> needed info to the right people, and <u>auto-execute</u> the appropriate responses.

The 'data-driven' approach.

### **Data-Driven: The Bottom-Line**

Can the delay of a week, a day, an hour, or even a few minutes in responding to critical conditions in your Sage ERP system spell the difference between success and failure, or between satisfied and dis-satisfied customers?

(When was the last time you were made aware of crucial activities in your business and you felt like saying . . . )

"If only we had known . . . "

### Do you have . . . ?



(due dates, expiration dates, promise dates, deliver dates, discount dates, etc)

- ... business thresholds you need to monitor?
  (within 10% of credit limit, more than 'x' late deliveries, gross profit below 20%)
- In the contract of the second seco
- □ ... exception management as a corporate initiative? (identifying duplicate records, reducing data entry errors, spotting excessive price increases)
- □ ... the need to automate trend analysis? ("How do you know if a client has changed their buying habits or if a salesrep is performing better or worse than usual?")
- In to know when critical accounting fields are <u>changed</u>? (client credit limit or credit status is changed, item price is changed, expected delivery date is changed)
- ... a need to automate tasks (e.g., invoicing & reporting) currently done manually?
  ("Do you have past due invoicing, report generation & distribution, or other processes) that you'd like to automate?")

If you said 'yes' to 2 or more items on the preceding slide . . .

... you should consider Sage Alerts & Workflow.



## Sage Alerts & Workflow . . .

### ... is like a Smoke-Detector for your Business.

- -- You tell it what business conditions to watch for
  - ... how to respond (alerts & actions)
  - . . . and turn it on.
- -- **<u>12,000</u>**+ customers; less than <u>**9**</u> support requests a day

#### History:

- -- Sage Partner of the Year (3 years running)
- -- "Editor's Choice", "Partner's Choice" awards
- -- VARBusiness Five-Star Award
- -- Forbes' "Top Productivity Enhancing Tool"



### So how does Alerts & Workflow work?



### **Sage Alerts & Workflow**

#### Auto-monitored:

- ✓ Every 'x' minutes
- ✓ Hourly
- ✓ Daily
- ✓ Weekly
- ✓ Monthly
- ✓ The 1<sup>st</sup> or last day of Month
- ✓ The 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday
- ✓ Weekdays/Weekends
- ✓ Only between certain hours
- ✓ Not on holidays

# sage

### **Alert Scenarios**

... clients with overdue invoices ... salesreps offering excessive discounts ... leases & contracts about to expire ... unapproved purchase orders ... repeat customers who stopped buying ... low stock inventory items ... new on-demand AP checks ... late deliveries ... vendor price increases ... sales with low profit margins ... duplicate items in inventory ... customers who change their buying habits



### Sage Alerts & Workflow

**Real-Time Alerts** 



Email	Text
IM	Fax
Web	FTP

# **Alert Delivery Methods**











The right information, to the right people, at the right time, via the right method



text message







### And ... Alert Acknowledgements

Sending an alert is all well & good, but how do you know that the recipient has

gotten it, read it – and whether they'll be able to act on it?

In Alerts & Workflow v9, an alert can require that a recipient "acknowledge" the message.

Acknowledgements enable such critical processes as 1) clients review of order details, and, 2) staff confirmation of changes to their benefits.

Alerts & Workflow tracks which alerts required acknowledgements, who has (and hasn't!) responded (along with their comments), and how long it took them to acknowledge.

#### to me 💌

sage Alerts & Workflow

Thank you for your order. Please review the information below and confirm your order via the link provided.

Your order summary:

Account Number:	VINET
Order Number:	10248
Order Total:	\$440.00

Is this order correct?

Please click here to confirm

http://127.0.0.1:4477/ack/3C3BFD6BEE3B24F32ED76882BC76F931C879A45CD976AF498A9259DE493334FE

Select "Yes" (to confirm the order), "No" (to request changes to the order), or on "Cancel" to cancel the entire order. You may also add comments or further instructions.

R

Thank you very much for your business.

Vineyardsoft Corporation 800-850-8055 www.vineyardsoft.com



## **Sage Alerts & Workflow**





Email	Text
IM	Fax
Web	FTP

### Forms, Reports & Charts

**Forms**: Automate invoicing, statements, POs, dunning notices, et cetera.

#### Reports:

- Scheduled: Hourly stock status report, daily sales listing, A/P check reconciliation, monthly vendor performance.
- Triggered: E.g., if a client exceeds 90% of credit limit, then generate an A/R Aging report for that client and deliver that report to the client's salesrep.

**<u>Charts</u>**: Generate & deliver bar, pie, line, and comparative performance charts either on a schedule or when business conditions warrant it.

#### (A&W also integrates with Sage Intelligence & Sage Enterprise Intelligence)



## Sage Alerts & Workflow



**Real-Time Alerts** 



Email Text IM Fax Web FTP





# **The Workflow Actions Module**

#### Alerts & Workflow can auto-update your applications, such as . . .

- ✓ Schedule a follow-up call after an order is placed
- ✓ Copy order details from ERP to CRM
- ✓ Approve a PO
- ✓ Re-assigning an overdue task
- $\checkmark$  Update an account with incoming mail details
- $\checkmark$  Auto-place an overdue client on Hold



### So . . . with Sage Alerts & Workflow:

"... When a customer is overdue ... A&W re-sends them their invoices."

"... When a client has decreased their purchases ... A&W notifies their salesrep."

"... When there's an excessive discount ... A&W puts the order on hold."

"... When a lease is about to expire ... A&W notifies the vendor."

"... When a PO is un-approved ... A&W alerts our CTO."

"... When a supplier raises their prices ... A&W sends a price chart to our PO manager."

"... When a shipment can fulfill backorders .. A&W alerts shipping about those orders."

"... When a potential sale is for an overdue client ... A&W notifies the salesrep."

"... When we have a new price list ... A&W distributes it to all staff."

## **DSO: The Health of Your Business**

**Days Sales Outstanding:** DSO measures how much of a company's credit sales are tied up unproductively as accounts receivable.

The lower the DSO number, the more efficient the company. E.g., a company with an average A/R balance of \$640,000 over 30 days and total credit sales of \$742,000 for the same period has a DSO of 25.9 days.

DSO measures the efficiency of a company's A/R management. Revenue tied up in receivables cannot be used to fund operations or grow the business.



## **Lowering Your DSO:**

#### DSO is higher when . . .

- □ Invoicing & collections are manual
- □ Salesreps are unaware of overdue receivables
- □ You take orders for past-due customers
- □ You have to review reports to see who's past due
- □ Days (or weeks) pass before delinquent clients are notified

#### DSO is lower when . . .

- ✓ Invoices, statements & collections notices are delivered automatically
- $\checkmark$  Sales staff are alerted about overdue receivables
- ✓ Past-due customers auto-placed on hold
- $\checkmark\,$  No human intervention is required
- $\checkmark$  Delinquent customers are addressed <u>at the moment they become past due</u>

#### Sage Alerts & Workflow <u>reduces your DSO</u>.

### Case Study: Toyo Ink

#### Multi-national manufacturer of ink for printing presses

- **<u>Problem</u>**: Staff had to go to too many sources to learn about account activities, payment & order status, etc. Exception management done manually.
- **<u>Results</u>**: In 6 months, over 20,000 alerts to staff, clients, partners
- <u>Benefits</u>: Better insight into who has been sold what, their financial status, and current stock, order, & delivery status
- **<u>ROI</u>**: Saves 100 work hours monthly
- **ROI**: A/R collections raised by \$11k monthly

### **Licensing & Pricing**



Sage Alerts & Workflow:

**Product Demonstration** 

So . . .

### what people can benefit from

Sage Alerts & Workflow?



**Purchasing:** "Can someone check with the supplier to see if our

"I can't wait til tomorrow to know what's happening today."

But Sage Alerts & Workflow benefits <u>more</u> than just your Sage ERP solution . . .



# Visit Our Website . . .





Auto-deliver relevant forms, documents, and reports to the people who need them. Automate the generation and delivery of invoices to customers, purchase orders to suppliers, and analytical reports to managers. Schedule reports to auto-distribute based on any recurring schedule and in the requested format, Streamline processes by automating best practices. When a client becomes overdue, automatically put them on credit hold; when stock runs low, auto-create a purchase order. And if a support request is received via email, turn that message into a support ticket. Move data



(U.S.) 508-696-6495, www.alertsandworkflow.com

- -- Free download of Alerts & Workflow; 30 day trial software
  - -- Free access to tech support
  - -- Free access to documentation & video training library
- -- Technical Support: All Alerts & Workflow customers contact Vineyardsoft and are covered by annual M&S
- -- Ordering coordinated thru your Sage Business Partner
- -- Professional services for implementation, customization, etc. for you provided by your <u>authorized</u> & <u>certified</u> Sage Partner



# Sage Alerts & Workflow for Sage ERP:

# Enabling the Data-Driven Organization

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