What's New in AiM 4.0

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Table of Contents
AIM 4.0 LOOK, FEEL AND NAVIGATION ............................................................. 3
WORKDESK NEW LOOK AND NEW CHANNELS ........................................... 6
MOTOR POOL MODULE .................................................................................. 9
KPI REPORTS AND ENHANCEMENTS ......................................................... 10
GREEN AND SUSTAINABILITY MODULE .................................................... 12
AIMPORT DATA TRANSFER TOOL ............................................................... 13
AUTHENTICATION AND LOGGING ENHANCEMENTS ............................ 14
HUMAN RESOURCES MODULE: TRAINING/CERTIFICATION TIED TO EQUIPMENT AND ASSET GROUPS ................................................................. 16
NEW LIMITED WORK ORDER .................................................................... 17
NEW INVENTORY KIT .................................................................................. 18
ASSET MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT PROFILE COPY FUNCTION .............. 19
AiM 4.0 Look, Feel and Navigation

AiM has a new look and feel, beginning with the Login splash page and menus coupled with the WorkDesk being available, not only on the main screen, but individually configurable for every module. Menu items are relocated from across the top of the menu bar (left to right) to a WorkDesk channel at the left edge of the screen. The user can choose a two or a three column configuration. A sample main AiM menu is shown below.

Users should notice that "hover" menus are no longer supported, such that locating the cursor over a menu item sometimes blanked out the screen underneath, causing the user to relocate the cursor in a distracting way.

Easy sizing of what is seen on the WorkDesk is controlled by ...., ^ and more/less options that the user clicks to reveal just the records needed. The ... means the channel contains more records, the upper caret clicked rolls up the channel to its smallest size, and the More >>/Less>> allows the user to expand the channel to show more/less records available.
Navigation from the main menu to a module and to screens in the module is illustrated below.

AiM 4.0 requires fewer clicks overall – in particular, screens that have been available only by first clicking a header record, then clicking the detail at the bottom, such as locations within a property, are now available by one-click navigation directly from the module menu.
The Work Management module main screen is shown below, with the menu on the left and the WorkDesk configured on the right.

A search icon is located next to the menu/setup item. Clicking this opens the search screen, ready for a query to retrieve records quickly.

Clicking the new button opens a new record in edit mode, ready for data entry.

New Icons (specific to each module) can be clicked on any screen to return the user to the main menu of the module.

WorkDesks by module are set up in the System Administration Module and can be specific to a role in the system.

The Search screen is easier to view and navigate, grouping fields to save screen real estate. When a personal query is processed, the Search screen automatically finds the fields included in the query and will open the groupings where these fields reside, leaving all other groups closed.
WorkDesk New Look and New Channels

The WorkDesk can be configured to contain 1, 2 or 3 columns, with the left-most always containing the menu (either main or a module). There is one wide and one narrow column to which various channels can be added. Channels can also be sized up and down to populate content up to a certain size length-wise.

A possible resulting WorkDesk is shown below.
Along with the new menu channel at both the main and module levels within AiM, there are three new channels:

**Quick Search Channel:** This channel allows the user to aggregate one or more quick search query fields the user runs often during the day. It has the same function as the query field at the bottom of the search screen.

**Personal Query Count:** The user can set up queries to run periodically on the WorkDesk and AiM will total the number of records retrieved to satisfy the query. The user may also color code the total to alert the user that the number of records has reached a particular threshold.
mDesk Channel: Work and other events performed by users in the field can be placed on the supervisor’s WorkDesk periodically throughout the day.

Additional WorkDesk Functionality

**Reports** can be listed in a channel on the WorkDesk of the individual user, instead of hanging them from a menu.

**Groups:** Similar to defining roles and associating users to them, groups can be set up to share Queries, Templates, Administrator Messages and Reports. Shared data is then available to the channels on the WorkDesks of the users in the group.
Motor Pool Module

This new AiM module is optional, providing the ability to create a motor pool shop that manages rental and lease activities for vehicles specifically, although any other asset that can be rented or leased can be managed in this module as well. Motor Pool assets set up here can be viewed in the Asset Management module and are thus available for association to work orders, such as for preventive maintenance.

Motor Pool Assets are set up in the Vehicle Asset Profile screen, which is patterned after the Asset Profile screen in the Asset Management module, with added fields for collection of data specific to vehicles and other assets that will be rented or leased.

A user may rent a motor pool asset for a one-time price and time span, or the asset may also be leased for multiple time spans that require more than one invoice. AiM will automatically generate lease invoices over the life of the lease. AiM also supports the linking of lease agreements to the motor pool records in the system.
KPI Reports and Enhancements

The KPI module provides a set of analysis tools that are highly customizable using a combination of parameters. Each report can be run as needed or loaded as content on the desktop. This module is optional. AiM version 3.1 has ten reports available. AiM version 4 adds eight new reports to the menu.

Some sample reports are shown below and on the next page.
Green and Sustainability Module

AiM's new optional module now supports organizational initiatives to keep assets working efficiently and effectively through the ages in an environmentally conscious way.

A new View window on the Work Order screen shows all work order phases associated to a green initiative. Planned work order phases and PM template phases also provide a View window to show links to green initiatives, as does the Property screen where work order phases for the property are linked to a green initiative.
AiMport Data Transfer Tool

The AiMport import tool is an optional feature that supports a user’s need to populate data from an external database into the AiM system. Data is fed into interim tables where the information can be reviewed prior to populating the system. AiM’s location hierarchy – Region, Facility, Property, Location – is fully supported. Data may also include asset records, transactions, and static data typically residing in legacy systems.

For example, appraisers in the field using mobile units can capture and easily import asset inventory information to support the AssetMAXX functions for risk assessment, proof of loss, compliance, asset value and maintenance data for financial asset reporting.

Another example, AiMport also imports COBIE2 (Construction Operations Building Information Exchange) data from an EXCEL 2003 xml file into AiM. (For more information, on this data collection standard, see http://www.wbdg.org/resources/cobie.php.)

In all cases, the data is loaded for review and criteria can be specified prior to populating the fields in AiM.
Authentication and Logging Enhancements

**Authentication** has been taken inside the AiM System Administration module, no longer depending on external application server setup to manage user authentication. The process is menu driven and provides three choices:

![Method](image)

![Authentication](image)
Login policies, such as maximum login attempts and other internal user policies can be managed in AiM. AiM supports single sign-on, already built into the system.

System Logging Screen has been added to support a view of current state of activities at run time. A sample log is shown below.

AiM provides intelligent messages for IT to help in debugging problems. This is in addition to user logs that record user activities.
Human Resources Module: Training/Certification Tied to Equipment and Asset Groups

When specific equipment or asset items require specialized training or certification in order to work with them, such as a licensed driver for a vehicle asset, AiM can provide either a simple notification that training/certification is indicated or can require these kinds of credentials. This is set up in the HR module. This functionality is an expansion of the work code/equipment alert to include Asset Groups.
New Limited Work Order

AiM Work Management module includes a Limited Work Order. Authorized users may retrieve existing work orders only and are limited to editing existing phases that are in an open status.

Typical use would be to update the status of the phase. Other fields that are editable in an open status are:

- Estimated Start and Estimated End dates
- Phase Description and Extra Description (In the View Menu)
- Notes Log
- Priority
- Work Code and Work Code Group
- Equipment or Asset ID
- PM Basic
- Request Method
- Shop Person (In the View Menu)

The View menu allows access to the Extra Description and Shop Person Assignment screens only.
New Inventory Kit

In the AiM Inventory module, a new screen allows for the definition of kits made up of non-serialized parts located in a warehouse. Kits are not stocked, only the underlying parts are warehoused. Each kit record is specific to one warehouse. If the same kit needs to be set up in more than one warehouse, multiple kit records must be created manually. The kit record supports the entry of an extra description and the linking of related documents.

Kits are available for selection on a Pick Ticket, a Material Request and the View screen Material Detail on the PM Template Asset record. AiM bursts the kit into its parts to create the financial transactions to reduce inventory and increase the work order material costs properly.
Asset Management Equipment Profile Copy Function

It is now possible to copy existing equipment records to assist in creating new records that are similar.

Clicking the copy button initiates a wizard to assist the user in creating the new record.

The user may include existing extra description notes, related documents and UDFs for the new record. Clicking the blue arrow completes the new record, which appears in update mode on the screen. AiM defaults a unique equipment id, which can be edited.