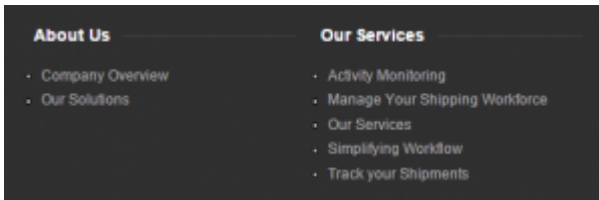


Customising Footer Blocks

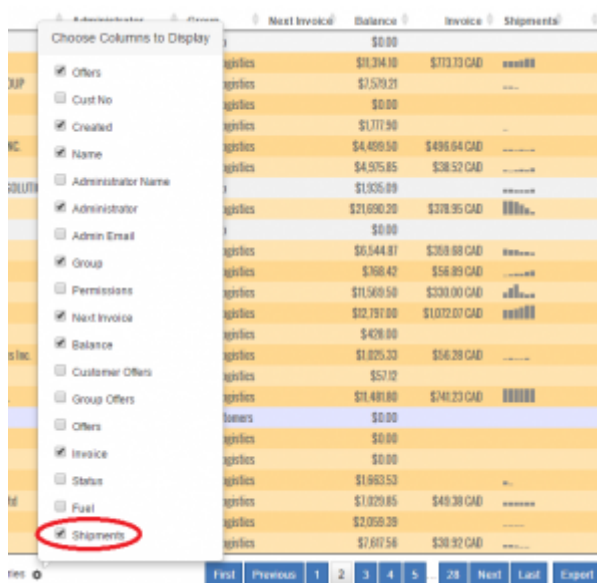
Today we implemented a means to customise the footer blocks that appear at the bottom of every page. Partners and resellers can now choose what appears in these blocks, whether they are links to the site or external links.



This is configured by partners only so resellers must submit the request to their partner administrator.

Usage Charts for Customers

Today a useful feature was added to the administrative interface that can be used to identify basic shipping patterns for customers.



The image shows a screenshot of an administrative interface. A table is displayed with columns for 'Next Invoice', 'Balance', 'Invoice', and 'Shipments'. A 'Choose Columns to Display' dropdown menu is open on the left, and the 'Shipments' option is circled in red. The table contains multiple rows of data for various customers, including their names, administrator names, and financial information.

	Next Invoice	Balance	Invoice	Shipments
agistics	\$0.00			
agistics	\$1,314.10	\$73.33 CAD		
agistics	\$7,579.21			
agistics	\$0.00			
agistics	\$1,777.90			
agistics	\$4,469.50	\$496.64 CAD		
agistics	\$4,975.85	\$38.52 CAD		
agistics	\$1,905.89			
agistics	\$21,690.20	\$378.95 CAD		
agistics	\$0.00			
agistics	\$0,544.87	\$208.88 CAD		
agistics	\$768.42	\$58.89 CAD		
agistics	\$11,569.50	\$330.00 CAD		
agistics	\$12,791.00	\$1,072.07 CAD		
agistics	\$428.00			
agistics	\$1,825.33	\$56.28 CAD		
agistics	\$57.12			
agistics	\$11,481.80	\$741.23 CAD		
agistics	\$0.00			
agistics	\$0.00			
agistics	\$0.00			
agistics	\$1,983.52			
agistics	\$1,829.85	\$48.38 CAD		
agistics	\$2,056.28			
agistics	\$7,677.56	\$38.92 CAD		

The advantage of this very simple approach is that you can very quickly get a sense of the customer's level of activity. This chart doesn't indicate how profitable they are but it does let you spot declining usage fairly easily.

Flagged Shipments and Invoicing

It is now impossible to post (or even preview) and invoice that contains a flagged shipment. This has several consequences and allows us to solve a persistent problem with voided shipments.

One or more shipments are flagged. Invoices cannot contain flagged shipments at posting.
Flagged shipment(s): 441531508



What this means is that if you have a shipment that requires future attention you can flag it to ensure it never gets accidentally invoiced before you are ready.

This addresses various needs but also a specific issue: if a shipment needs to be voided but the carrier no longer permits this, what do you do? The recommended method is to find the shipment and use the "Refund" command to credit the customer. For some carriers a shipment that is not handed to a driver doesn't get billed but for some carriers it does. Purolator, for example, cannot credit you for a shipment until the bill is submitted. Thus if you refund a shipment and later get billed for it a correction will be generated and the customer will get invoiced.

By flagging the shipment, when it is reconciled it will prevent the invoice with a message that lets the operator track it down and contact the carrier for a credit, then unflag the shipment and use the "Refund" command then.

Residential Option for Quick Quotes

Today a residential checkbox was added to the Quick Quotes feature allowing more accurate pricing without the need for a full quote.



The screenshot shows a 'Quote Shipment' form with several sections: 'SHIPPER' (with fields for 'CARRIER' and 'SHIPMENT'), 'CONSIGNEE' (with a field for 'CITY'), and 'PACKAGE' (with fields for 'Customer Packaging', 'Weight', and 'Insurance'). A red circle highlights a 'Residential' checkbox in the 'SHIPPER' section. A 'GET QUOTES' button is visible on the right side of the form.

Residential Checkbox now present.
City/Postalcode/Residential only appears after country selection

In addition after country selection the next field is automatically focused, starting with the consignee country. These adjustments make it possible to use nothing but the keyboard for a quote.

FedEx Zone Calculations

Over the last few days we have implemented FedEx Zone calculations for Canadian and US FedEx accounts. The system is now capable of identifying the pricing zone for any shipment, whether domestic or international.

Of particular interest was FedEx US Domestic zones which required over 150,000 records to be processed. Ultimately all the data was sourced from the FedEx 2015 Service Guides for US and Canada through the creation of custom text processing software. Data was copied out of the brochure and processed into in-memory data structures that will now form part of the FedEx module.

Default Rating for Countries

We have now implemented an important feature to aid quick shipment pricing: default rating locations for countries. For each country we define a location for pricing. When users quote international shipments it is now possible to specify only the country and retrieve a price. This is useful for quickly gauging the cost of an international shipment but additional fees such as remote area charges will not be presented.