



WHAT'S NEW WITH SOL TRACKER VERSION 4.0 ?

Standardized testing in Virginia changes frequently, and we at Successline do our best to stay on top of these changes in order to provide the most comprehensive data analysis tool available. Version 4.0 reflects many of these changes, as well as function improvements to the usability of the software. We have many features to comply with Federal and State reporting requirements, and have modified the software for much of the new information now contained within Harcourt testing files.

The following is a list of some of the major changes in Version 4.0:

New Graphics and Customizable User Interface	<p>The main screens throughout the software have had their graphics significantly modified. Buttons now appear to “push” when you click on them, removing user uncertainty. Also, the issue of the tip text on the screen “flashing” as the mouse moved has been resolved. Additionally, users can now specify one of three graphical modes to run the program in, which control the appearance of buttons, colors and text on screens. Users can also customize certain features such as the default filtering and sorting order when reviewing tests.</p>
No Child Left Behind/AYP Features Added	<p>Features designed specifically to assist you with the Federally required No Child Left Behind and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reporting have been added, including several reports. These reports break down your pass rates by the required student categories (LEP, SES, Gender, etc.). Other features in the software help you with locating students that fall under the various categories (like Free or Reduced Price Lunches).</p>
Guidance Counselor Features Added	<p>Features designed specifically for Guidance Counselors have been added to the software, including a reporting section (containing many new reports) dedicated specifically to them. In addition, there is now an <i>Advisor</i> field within each student record, and many screens and most reports can now be easily filtered to display only information related to a given advisor.</p>
Improved Reporting Functionality	<p>SOL Tracker contains over 240 base reports, and when combined with the sophisticated filtering mechanisms, the reporting possibilities are virtually endless. The new software has been enhanced to make locating the right report easier, by simplifying the report selection list. Also, many reports have now been modified to allow a user to print the report for all schools within a district, and have the schools printed separately. Plus, many reports now allow you to specify a specific testing period or select a range of years.</p>

<p>Newer Data Fields that are Now Imported</p>	<p>Several new fields have been added to test records, including: <i>AYP Adjustment Category, Tech Prep, Single Parent, Economically Disadvantaged, Displaced Homemaker, Non-Traditional Career, CTE Other 5, CTE Other 6, Core, Form, and Adjusted Test Number Correct</i>. Demographic records now contain additional fields, such as <i>Title 1 Homeless, Title1 Neglected/Delinquent, Title1 Science, Title1 History, Free/Reduced Lunch, Graduation Track, Transitional, and Advisor</i>. Most of these are imported from Harcourt data.</p>
<p>Importing of Harcourt Alternate Assessment data</p>	<p>Alternate Assessment tests are now tracked, and allows all the normal functionality within SOL Tracker. These tests are imported similar to other Harcourt data, and show up on various screens throughout the software. A separate button has been added to the <i>Printed Graphs, Charts & Reports</i> screen for reports dealing with these tests.</p>
<p>Importing of Supplemental Data Directly from SASIxp</p>	<p>Using ODBC you can set up links to the information contained within SASIxp and then, with the click of a button, update the information within SOL Tracker. This can be used for easier import of Course Grades, Re-Rostering, sorting students by Advisor, and importing other student-related information.</p>
<p>Significantly Improved Import Times</p>	<p>Importing Harcourt data is now significantly faster due to a major change to the underlying subsystems. Data is now quickly imported into a buffer table, then added to the normal tables during a “Posting” process. This new method has resulted in import jobs processing 25-100% faster than before.</p>
<p>Software Updates are Now Easier to Implement</p>	<p>Through the AutoUpdates feature, as updates to the software become available, SOL Tracker will check the web for these and automatically install them as needed. This will greatly simplify the administration required for multiple installations. In addition, many program settings are now saved in the Windows Registry and will be retained after an upgrade.</p>
<p>Filtering Allowed Now on the Student Demographics Information Screen</p>	<p>There are now <i>Filter By...</i> selectors on this screen. This allows users to easily limit the displayed records by a set of commonly used fields. These filters offer much of the same functionality as on the <i>Overview of Student Test Scores</i> screen, including combining multiple filters. In addition, you can choose to sort the display order of the student records on the screen by <i>Student ID</i> or <i>Name</i>.</p>
<p>Variable Graduation Tracks Now Included</p>	<p>Graduation Requirements are now calculated for each student based on their <i>Graduation Track</i> and <i>Transitional</i> fields, which determine the applicable diploma requirements. This will accommodate for students that transfer into the district at varying grade levels from out-of-state or private schools, as well as the Transitional (“2+4”) requirements.</p>
<p>Many Utilities Have Added Functionality and Features</p>	<p>For example, the <i>Load Test Formats</i> utility now displays on the screen which <i>Test Formats</i> are loaded, as well as the <i>Load State Pass Rates</i> utility. Other added features include a button to load “new” schools to your schools list from a disk provided by Successline, merged records are now recorded in their own log, you can import/export merge lists, plus more.</p>

Plus More...

There are too many new improvements to the software to list here.

If you have any questions or concerns about the changes made to Version 4.0, please contact Successline at (757) 539-6513, or send an email to SuccessLineMark@aol.com.

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