

Vetech View

Start Year Off Fresh

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Advantage Version 25.230 Released

A new Advantage update has been released and is being sent to all users on software maintenance. Version 25.230 offers many new features that have been requested by users. Thank you to all users that have been helping with the beta testing of this version over the past several months.

A complete new feature list is included in your upgrade package. Some of the highlights include.

- New Close estimate feature
- Fingerprint security option for password entry
- Held items window now shows invoice total amount
- New options for report prompts on appointment check in
- New attachment menu in medical records to attach any document to a record
- New medical record exam pick lists and templates
- New provider payments report
- New option for circle sheet report to suppress item prices
- New print preview option to allow you to print any page range for long report

The next major project for Advantage is to upgrade the database to the new version of Microsoft SQL server. This will happen in the first quarter of 2007 and then we will begin the next Advantage upgrade due out in the summer.

Maintenance Issues

By Joe Giardina

As you begin the new year you may have an urge to start organizing. This is a great time to get your computer in tip-top shape, too. Here are a few things you can do to keep you system running smoothly.

Clean your Computer!

Veterinary clinics are very hard on computers. Believe it or not, your clinic is filthy. If you don't believe me just open up your computer. Computers are designed with a fan on the back that actually draws air through the computer in order to keep the CPU chip cool. As it's drawing air it's also sucking in hair and dust and anything else that will fit through the cracks and crevasses. You should try to clean your computer every three months or so.

Prior to cleaning your computer, UNPLUG IT. This will not only prevent electric shock but more importantly will prevent you from causing a short and frying your motherboard. Also, touch something metal to discharge any static electricity that you may have built up while shuffling your tennis shoes along the carpet. You will then need to remove the cover. There are so many different kinds of computer boxes that it's impossible for me to

Thought for the month: [Know how to listen, and you will profit even from those who talk badly.](#)
- [Plutarch](#) (46 AD - 120 AD)



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explain how. Some of them have screws in the back that must be removed, some just have to remove the face plate first and some will be a combination. You'll have to figure this out on your own. Once you've figured out how to remove the cover, blow out the dust and hair with some canned air. You can purchase canned air at your local office supply store. You may have to physically remove hair balls from deep within your computer. After you have cleaned it as much as possible, press down on all of the boards in the computer and make sure that all the ribbon cables are well seated.

If the thought of all this makes you a little uneasy you can either: 1) think of your computer as an animal and pretend you're performing surgery on it or 2) call your local computer company and hire someone to do it for you.

AAEP Convention Follow Up & Upcoming meetings

Thanks again to all users that stopped by to say hello at the AAEP conference last month. This was a very busy exhibit hall and our Advantage products were very popular.

VETECH will also be exhibiting at these upcoming conferences. On display will be our latest Advantage software versions along with tablet computers and some of our new hardware integration products like credit card processing and fingerprint scanners.

**North American Veterinary Conference,
January 14-17 - Orlando, FL
Booth # 2206**

**Western Veterinary Conference,
February 19-21 - Las Vegas, NV
Booth # 817**

Please stop by and introduce yourself to the VETECH staff. It is great to have users in the booth, while others are shopping around. Keep in mind that a busy exhibit hall floor is not the correct place for software training and support.

The holidays are over. Time to get back in shape.

