

A WHOLE NEW ADVANTAGE FOR YOUR BUSINESS



The Fully Integrated, Next-Generation
Business System Software for lumber
yards, home centers, hardlines & more

ECI Advantage

INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC BUSINESS SOFTWARE
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ONE SYSTEM, LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES

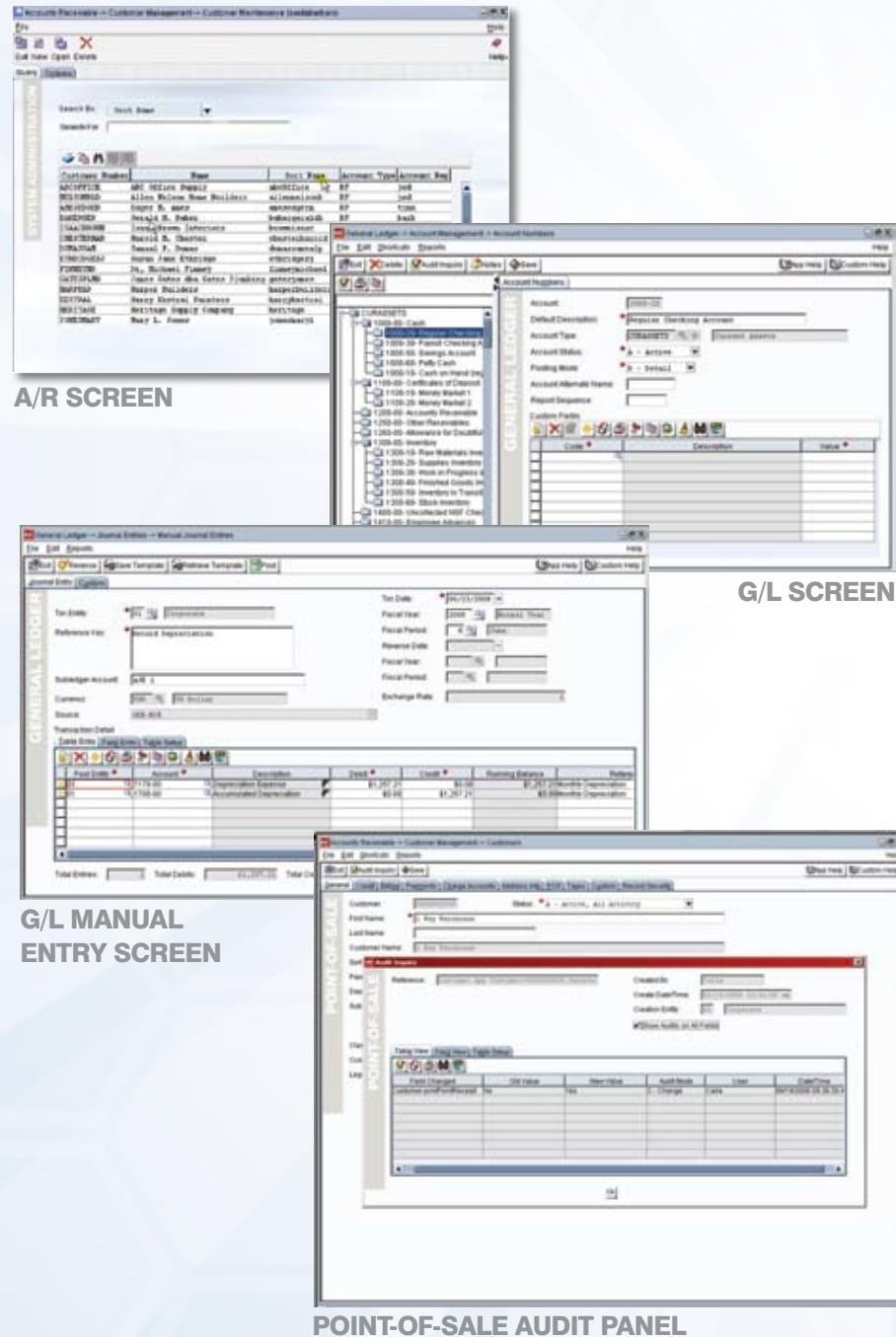
ECi Advantage is a next generation business system for LBM, hardlines and more. It's designed to help dealers deliver the kind of quality customer service and prices that guarantee repeat business – all with less work and a healthy margin.

Crafted by the same hands that built the original, the all-new ECi Advantage equips you with the same time-saving tools that made us a mainstay of the industry for over 30 years, but enhanced with the latest technology and more powerful features to make this the best Advantage yet.

AUTOMATION

ECi Advantage equips you with all the tools you need for:

- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Bank Account Manager
- Cash Drawer Manager
- Email
- Faxing
- General Ledger
- Inventory
- Invoicing
- Payroll
- Point of Sale
- Purchasing
- User Administration
- Vendor Communication
- Worker Time Tracking
- Financial & Management Reporting
- Custom Report Generation



NEW SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

ECi Advantage isn't just about providing you with the latest technology — it's about using that technology to provide real solutions for your business: helping you sell more products, reduce operating costs, retain customers and acquire new ones. Here are just a few of the ways the new ECi Advantage makes it easier to profitably manage your business.

■ = A feature not offered by any other system, unique to ECi Advantage

■ FREEDOM TO CHOOSE ANY O/S

Java-based coding lets ECi Advantage run on Microsoft Windows®, Mac®, Linux®, giving you the freedom to choose the computers that best suit your business.

■ MULTIPLE SQL DATABASES

ECi Advantage works with multiple SQL databases, including Microsoft SQL Server 2005, My SQL processing, and more.

■ REAL-TIME TRANSACTIONS

With ECi Advantage, every transaction is processed when it happens. That means no end-of-day or end-of-month processes are required — not only saving you the trouble of tedious month-end tasks, but also providing fail-safe updates.

■ UNIVERSAL GRAPHICAL

With the industry's most advanced and user-friendly graphical interface, it's easier than ever to use the tools that made ECi Advantage one of the most successful systems in the industry.

■ ROBUST MULTI-LOCATION MANAGEMENT

Even if your business has only one location, your software should support every step of your future growth. With role-based permissions for system access and powerful tools for multi-location inventory, GL and more, ECi Advantage has you covered.

■ UNLIMITED SCALABILITY

From 1 store to 100, from 5 terminals to 5000

■ ULTRA-FLEXIBLE SERVERS FOR TOP PERFORMANCE

From server clustering for load balancing, to server grouping for high volume request processing, nothing is beyond your reach with ECi Advantage's unique n-tier technology.

This new technology makes a dramatic impact on overall productivity — and higher productivity is higher profits in the making.

■ MULTI-LINGUAL, MULTI-MONETARY COMPATIBILITY

No other system offers the international versatility of ECi Advantage. Compatible with multiple languages, currencies, exchange rates and time zones — ECi Advantage is the system of choice for globalized business.

■ PERFECT VISIBILITY THROUGH DRILL DOWNS

With inquiries and source documents all on one screen, it's easier than ever to perform account audits, execute balancing processes, and make informed decisions.

■ ADVANCED SECURITY FEATURES

In a country where fraud and theft cost employers over \$70bn annually, security is critical to overall success.

With unique features like enhanced login protection, centralized security management, [role-based security permissions](#) and [record-level database encryption](#), your business will never be at risk again with ECi Advantage.

■ CUSTOMIZABLE USER INTERFACE

ECi Advantage lets you customize system colors, shortcuts, icons, fonts, menus and more. Change ECi Advantage to fit your company's brand for a professional look that will make a definite impact on your customers, or to suit individual preference.

And beyond appearance, the fully graphical interface gives you complete control over layout: fluid-movable columns, custom menus, notes and custom fields even in reports — all for your ease-of-use. The result is an efficient workflow that can save your staff hundreds of man hours in the long run.

■ INTEGRATED BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

ECi Advantage mines your data for insights you can take to the bank — and presents it all on a business dashboard with at-a-glance reporting on vital areas of your operation. The result: you make management decisions with all the facts at your fingertips.

■ MINIMAL INVESTMENT

ECi Advantage's broad compatibility means you can probably continue using hardware and database from your current business system — a savings of thousands that can make your ECi Advantage ROI even more dramatic.

■ ADVANCED REPORTING

Zoom in, drill down, create charts, make notes, link to maintenance records or transaction history, design custom reports — then print in your choice of currency or export to PDF, HTML, or CSV.

With the industry's most advanced reporting, ECi Advantage can be the silver bullet for so many business goals: saving at-risk accounts, selling more to each customer, getting the most out of your inventory, etc. ECi Advantage even lets you save and retrieve report parameters – access your most important data without all the manual setup.

MORE UNIQUE-TO-ECI ADVANTAGE FEATURES

- Suggested items at point-of-sale remind employees to cross-sell accessories and other related items.
- Automatically add pre-defined charges (eg. freight) to orders, saving time at point-of-sale.
- Check gross profit and margin – for one item or an entire ticket – without leaving the customer's order.
- Track special items (damaged, discounted, discontinued, etc.) with separate pricing and inventory quantities.
- Refer to item usage statistics while building your P/Os.
- Simplified A/R invoice adjustments
- Automatic expense allocation
- Track credit card purchases back to the vendors for matching with A/P invoices.
- Job Scheduler sets processes or reports to run automatically, with results auto-emailed or faxed to your preferred contacts.
- Set security restrictions and program configuration by job role (eg. order entry clerk, purchasing specialist) for simplified system administration.
- Pre-built forms for financial processes — budget forecasting, batch journal entries, etc.

IMPLEMENTATION

With an implementation method that has been perfected over decades of experience, ECI helps you get the maximum benefit from your technology investment.

ON-SITE IMPLEMENTATION

ECi Advantage technicians work discretely on-site to install all necessary hardware and software, and to provide thorough training for your employees.

Where ECI Advantage's system capabilities exceed your previous software, our technicians enhance your business data for compatibility with new technology and features.

While on location, technicians will also help you configure the system to match your preferences, scaling it to suit your business flow (eg. an option for network bridges between sites).

FASTER ROI

ECi Advantage offers the shortest implementation time in the industry — an average of just 8 days for a single location. The sooner you can begin using your new software, the sooner you see a return on your investment.

Initial training is conducted using your own business data as an illustrative tool, and is designed to help your staff become immediately productive with the software.

TRAINING

ECi offers a variety of training services to help customers use their software for a continuing market advantage.

ECi ADVANTAGE ACADEMY

Organized classes at our Texas training facility offer hands-on instruction in a focused environment.

ON-SITE TRAINING

ECi Advantage specialists are available for on-site training sessions, with a curriculum personalized to your specific objectives:

- Assist with software implementation
- Configure applications to your needs
- Master new applications

ONE-ON-ONE

One-on-one sessions at our training facility, with personal attention and an open format that promote rapid gains in system skills.

VIDEO TRAINING

Instructional videos will be available through the ECI website, allowing you to train without ever leaving your desk.

WEBINARS

A timesaving alternative to traditional classroom training – and a perfect opportunity to train a large number of employees cost effectively.

- No travel time or costs
- Watch live software demonstrations while interacting with the trainer
- Questions answered in real time
- Interact with other students

SUPPORT

Our industry-leading support is available around the clock, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; ECI support technicians are always on-call, ready to offer you assistance for any emergency. With ECI Advantage, you will never be at the mercy of an electronic inbox, waiting hours or even days for a callback.

And since we don't charge additional fees for the fastest response time, you can rely on top quality support, every time.

IN-SYSTEM HELP

The new ECI Advantage comes with many in-system help features, including a quick-reference assistant embedded in the main status bar as well as a searchable helpdesk for in-depth assistance. This interactive database offers information on every field, subject and procedure in the system (including special help sections for each OS and database we support).

Once you've found the help you need, you can use our Help Frame to see step-by-step checklist solutions along side your operating window.

NEW CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For the first 90 days after implementation, you will receive dedicated personal attention to help you gain confidence with system.

During this period, you can count on daily follow-up calls to check on your progress with the software and answer any questions you might have.



No other technology provider knows the industry better than ECI. In fact, together, ECI employees have over 260 years of hands-on experience in LBM & hardware stores across the nation. It is our experience that enabled us to build the new ECI Advantage, the perfect software for helping dealers deliver quality customer service, cut costs, retain customers, and maintain healthy margins.