

'PC-T-Card'

A Wall-planner on your Desktop

OptionExist has developed a multi-user software application to succeed the T-card wall planner.

The availability and data processing abilities of desktop computers would seem to make them ideal for organisational planning. However, there are still situations where the wall planner is a superior management tool, providing visual representation of the current state of projects/processes and being very simple to operate. It does have some inadequacies however. A physical wall planner can only be in one place at a time, usually screwed to a wall, precluding use from another room or building. The size of each card limits the amount of information that can be stored. On a large planner, finding an individual card can be time consuming, especially if it is not where it's expected to be. Shuffling a tall column of cards to insert one at the top can also be time consuming, and there is no automatic record of who moved a card and when.

OptionExist has solved these problems with the introduction of 'PC-T-Card', a PC application which combines the benefits of a T-card wall planner with the extra functionality computer applications can provide. The size of the planner rack is virtually unlimited. Each card can contain up to 10,000 characters of text, formatted to user defined templates, which can be searched using the find feature to highlight an individual card in a busy rack. The user views the entire planner or zooms into sections as required. Each card can be freely dragged to a different location, with the Auto-Shuffle feature



PC-T-Card being used to track jobs from orders through to invoicing. The text of the highlighted card is displayed in the bottom left of the screen and a tool-tips window shows the text of the card the cursor is over.

moving other cards down the rack to make room. Double clicking a card allows the user to read or edit its text. New cards are created by double clicking in an empty slot, copying or using the menu system. Adding, editing and moving are all recorded in the individual card histories.

Multi-user versions of 'PC-T-Card' allow the same planner to be simultaneously used in many locations, extending the benefits of a T-card system beyond a single wall. The planner

can be accessed and modified from anywhere on the network. Changes to user-specified columns are highlighted with a pop-up message or an icon in the Windows Tool Tray whilst the application runs hidden in the background. The complete planner is updated every 500mS.

Following a successful international beta trial, OptionExist has now released version 3 of 'PC-T-Card'. A free evaluation version, time limited to 30 days, can be orderd from the OptionExist website.



Double clicking a card allows the user to read or edit its text. The card will be automatically highlighted when the deadline is reached unless the completed box is checked.



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