

# Newsletter January 2020

# Catalyst to Exhibit at LAMMA 2020.

January 2020 will see the Catalyst team head to the Birmingham NEC for the annual LAMMA show.

The show is considered one of the only events in the UK that brings together the whole of the farming and agricultural community in one busy and thriving place to do business.

This will be Catalyst's second year at the show, and after an extremely busy year in 2019 we are excited to go back again this year!

Throughout the show Catalyst will be holding regular demonstrations, showing just what Catalyst's Dealer Management Software can do to help your machinery dealership succeed in 2020, including our mobile web application, guaranteed to help streamline your businesses processes in an increasingly mobile world.

The Catalyst exhibition team will be attending LAMMA on both the 7th and 8th of January, exhibiting on stand 19.116 answering your questions and showing you all of the new features released over the past year.

So why not shake off those January Blues and get the year off to a flying start for your dealership at the same time!

LAMMA is held on 7th and 8th January at the NEC, Birmingham.

## **Windows 7 - End Of Support**

For the past few months now we have been counting down the months until 14th January 2020, the day on which Microsoft officially ends all support for Windows 7 operating system as well as Windows Server 2008.

There are now less than 2 weeks remaining until this crucial deadline, after which Microsoft will no longer be releasing updates or patches for the Windows 7 operating system.

So what does this mean? If you are using a computer that is running Windows 7, Microsoft will no longer release updates and patches for any bugs or virus vulnerabilities for your system, leaving your important company and personal information vulnerable to attack or theft.

It is highly recommended therefore that businesses running Windows 7 operating system upgrade to Windows 10; not only will this decrease your system's vulnerability, it will also enhance your Platinum system with features such as Windows 10 built-in PDF printing, giving you the facility to send invoices and statements directly from Platinum via PDF (they can even be password protected!).

#### **How Can Catalyst Help?**

As a valued Catalyst customer, we want to help you decrease any possible vulnerabilities within your company data. We will provide you with a free no obligation consultation about how this change may affect you, and the options you have to avoid these vulnerabilities after the January 2020 deadline.

For newer PC's a system upgrade may be all that is necessary, however for older machines a complete replacement may be required.



For your free consultation please contact our sales team who will talk you through all of your options and answer any questions you may have about Windows 7 End of Support.

### A Word From Les

2019 was a busy but really good year for Platinum Software with lots of new features added to our desktop Platinum along with a successful new role out of our new Platinum Online web app.



#### **Platinum Online**

New features are being added to Platinum Online every month, it's free for one device to any of our clients with a current rental or maintenance contract for their Platinum. Adding more devices is quick and simple, just contact your account manager for further details. We've combined the offline ability of the old Android app along with the rich features of Platinum Online v1 into one package to make your mobile device experience from Catalyst even smoother. This has also allowed us to fulfil another goal by bringing

See https://www.catalyst-uk.com/platinum-online for more details.

the offline options to Apple mobile devices.

#### **Desktop Platinum**

We've spent lots of time on desktop Platinum as well, refining and creating new features such as Making Tax Digital, an overhaul of the Stock Enquires, lots of new bits for our Booking and Hire module, our order dispatch now links to third parties, you can password protect your PDF files, we have overhauled emailing media to allow for seamless emailing of multiple files for the current customer, unit, workshop job etc.

See https://www.catalyst-uk.com/updates for more details

We release updates as and when they are ready, so be sure to subscribe to our website or social media feeds to be kept up to date with developments. Your Platinum login screen (we have seen some cracking photos from clients this year, thank you, please keep them coming) has details of recent software releases.

#### 2020

Never wanting to stand still we have some very exciting features in the pipeline for Platinum in 2020 to help you organise your business further.

Jobs we already have in the pipeline being:

- A bulk invoicing option for the Booking and Hire to cope with regular long term rentals and hires.
- A fixed asset register.
- Fitted options for our Unit Sales module.
- Unit purchase overhaul.

Plus lots of other ideas and enhancements.

I wish you every success you deserve in 2020, you can count on Catalyst to work hard on providing the very best software and services in our ability because your success is our priority.

Have a great 2020!







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## Office Consumables with Catalyst

In addition to our award winning dealer management software, at Catalyst we also supply a wide range of high quality office consumables such as; labels, ribbons, till rolls, remanufactured ink jet cartridges, data back-up media and more.

We keep stock of consumables from the biggest brands, including; HP, Lexmark, Epson, Canon and Brother. Of course, if we don't have what you're looking for we'd be happy to try and source them for you.



Our online consumables shop can be found at www.catalyst-uk.com/shop



wwww.twitter.com/CatalystDMS



www.facebook.com/dealermanagement



www.youtube.com/CatalystDMS

## Stay in the Know

Ensure you remain completely up to date with all of the latest Catalyst and Platinum updates by subscribing to our RSS Feeds. You can use your Outlook email as an RSS Reader and get instant updates to your email inbox. You can subscribe to



- Catalyst News
- Platinum News
- Parts & Prices Updates

various RSS Feeds, including;

Developer News

Simply visit our website (www.catalyst-uk.com) to find all the information you need on how to subscribe.

### Catalyst integration with multi-brand parts supplier BEPCO

Dealers using Platinum in the agricultural trade can now upload their parts order directly into the BEPCO Parts ordering system.



BEPCO are one of the worlds leading independent suppliers of tractor parts and accessories, stocking over 130,000 line items covering all the major brands including; John Deere, Fiat, Massey Ferguson, Perkins, Case-IH, Ford, New Holland and so much more! We also provide an accompanying parts & price file with this integration, meaning anything purchased using this method is kept up-to-date with the latest price adjustments automatically in Platinum, ensuring you always remain profitable!

This integration with Platinum means all of these parts can be quickly and easily ordered directly from your DMS. This is just one of many ways we're helping dealers save time and streamline their business in inventive and revolutionary ways!

For more information on this integration please get in contact with our sales team, who will be happy to give you an in depth look at this new tool.

## Get Ahead in 2020 with Catalyst Training Courses!

As a new year begins, now is the perfect time to gain a little extra training in using your Platinum system. Whether it's training new staff ready to get up and running, or learning about all the latest features which will help your business grow even further in 2020, there's a Catalyst training course for you!

Our Platinum training courses cover a wide range of aspects within the Platinum system, from workshop management and vehicle sales, through to accounts, customer retention and so much more!

Here are just a few upcoming training courses we have in 2020. If you can't see a training course you're looking for feel free to contact our sales team, who will help find the right course for you.

Customer Retention Centre Tuesday 21st January

> The Joy of Accounts Tuesday 28th January

Unit Sales in a Day Tuesday 11th February A Guide To Workshop Control Tuesday 18th February

Report Generator - So Simple Tuesday 25th February

> Logistics in a Day Tuesday 3rd March

Stock Control in a Day Tuesday 17th March

The Joy of Accounts Tuesday 31st March

Unit Sales in a Day Tuesday 14th April





