

TS.CENSUS 1.3 HELPS UNWITTING SOFTWARE LICENSE VIOLATORS

Submitted by: MCC International Ltd

Friday, 18 May 2001

Tally Systems Accurate Recognition Helps Keep Software Piracy Enforcers At Bay

Dublin, Ireland, May 18, 2001 – In a bid to help legitimate businesses fend off recent software piracy enforcement activity by Microsoft Corp. and organisations like the Business Software Alliance (BSA), Tally Systems today announced the release of TS.Census 1.3, the latest version of its software auditing and asset tracking software. Features in TS.Census 1.3, such as the new “suite” recognition, are designed to assist companies keeping better track of software installed on their network, and verify that software is legally licensed and legitimately purchased. Other new features include new capabilities for managing leased PCs, improving the process of managing data collection, and support for Microsoft SQL 2000.

The BSA's - a leading software trade association and anti-piracy advocate - recent campaigns against software theft has resulted in 8,126 leads in Europe, a rise of 39 per cent on previous figures of 5,863. As a consequence of these leads, BSA carried out 7,214 legal actions. The penalties for piracy in the UK are serious. For businesses in the UK the law currently provides penalties of unlimited fines and up to two years imprisonment for company directors who knowingly benefit from using illegal software.

“The aggressive enforcement action by the BSA is leaving companies vulnerable to prosecution not because of deliberate acts of software piracy, but because they don't have an accurate count of their installed software,” says John Mahon, Vice-President EMEA at Tally Systems. “Many companies don't realise the importance of proactively managing their software licenses, thus are often unwittingly violating anti-software-piracy laws.”

“Without effective desktop asset management practices in place, it's very easy for large enterprises to lose control of where software is installed, who is using it and whether the software is being used in compliance with existing software license agreements. Companies that aren't prepared to produce a complete, accurate and up-to-date software inventory on demand are vulnerable,” concluded Mahon.

New license compliance features of TS.Census 1.3 include:

Suite Recognition

Software recognition has been improved so that it can now recognise software suites in addition to individual applications. For example, if TS.Census detects an installation of Microsoft Word 9.0 SR-1 that is a component of Microsoft Office Professional 9.0 SR-1, it will also report the Office installation, matching the official nomenclature used by Microsoft to describe the packaged product. This technique, always using the official manufacturer's nomenclature, simplifies the process of reconciling purchasing and accounting records with an actual inventory of installed software.

Clients Can Run as a Service

TS.Census Clients can now be installed as an NT Service or as an application, or run without any client installed at all. This enables scanning to occur when users are not logged in, simplifying the process of auditing software licenses quickly and efficiently with a minimum impact on corporate productivity and network resources.

Automated PRU Retrieval

The process of downloading monthly Product Recognition Updates (PRUs) from the Tally Systems web site has been automated for ease of use. Users will now have the choice of letting TS.Census automatically download, expand and apply the PRU or doing those steps manually.

Recognition Enhancements

TS.Census 1.3 has improved the software recognition algorithm to capture more software products with even greater accuracy, as well as enhancing hardware recognition to include AMD Duron and Intel Pentium 4 chips.

Other new features include:

- New Leasing Fields and Report

- New leasing fields were added to the TS.Census workstation data to help users track their leased PCs. These fields track the lease expiration date and lease contract. A new lease report has been added that identifies workstations under lease contracts and their lease status.

- Collection Editor Timeout Capability

TS.Census 1.3 administrators now have the option of shutting down the Collection Editor after a set period of time if there is no user intervention or if the user is unavailable, allowing for more complete and accurate collection of demographic information when scans are run in 'interactive' mode.

SQL 2000 Support

TS.Census now supports using Microsoft SQL 2000 for the inventory database, in addition to existing support for Microsoft SQL 7.0.

Pricing and availability

TS.Census 1.3 is available immediately, and is priced based on the number of clients scanned. TS.Census is £17.25 per client in the 1,000 client range.

About Tally Systems

Tally Systems Corp. is the world's leading supplier of innovative technology investment and technology delivery products, aligning distributed technology with business goals. Tally Systems' products, including TS.Census and TS.Ready, are currently licensed on over nine million PCs at more than 12

thousand client sites worldwide. Creativity, entrepreneurship and proven expertise continue to keep Tally Systems at the forefront of developments in an industry where the only constant is change. Visit Tally Systems on the web at: <http://www.tallysystems.com/>

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