

Transitioning

POS GUI

# What Learning Curve?

- Seamless Transition
- Integrates with NRx
- Easy Navigation
- Bold Button Graphics



by Richard Edmund, Staff Writer, QS/1

In his 19 years working at Cash & Henderson Drugs in Chesnee, South Carolina, Michael Parris has seen a lot of change. The most recent was the move from QS/1's Point-of-Sale character based system to the Graphical User Interface (GUI) version.

In the Spring of 2008, the independent pharmacy made the transition to the new application. It was a transition Parris calls seamless.

"We wanted to move to a platform that would be easy to use and would integrate with the NRx system," Parris said recently while taking a break from filling prescriptions.

There were several issues facing Parris and his staff. On an average day, Cash & Henderson Drugs fills more than 250 prescriptions for customers. They wanted to find an efficient way to handle the growing number of customers coming into the store.

Also, not all customers pay with cash. Some are set up as accounts receivable. Parris says the staff kept up with Accounts Receivable using paper ledgers, which was becoming time-consuming and tedious to track. That's when he decided to look for an alternative. Point-of-Sale GUI offered him solutions for both issues.

"We needed to find a way to make accounts receivable easier. Point-of-Sale GUI offered us a solution to make the front end of the store more efficient, as well as automate and bill for our accounts receivable," Parris said.

Parris was concerned at first about how he would be able to make sure his staff was properly trained before putting the new POS GUI online. He says those concerns were unfounded, and he enjoyed the experience of the training process.

"It was a breeze, I don't think things could have gone any smoother," Parris says.

"We started by viewing a demonstration of Point-of-Sale GUI online that gave us a good overview of how it worked," Parris added.

He says watching the demo built a good foundation for everything else that would follow.

“Learning the management side of it takes a little longer. I think I spent three or four days of training to learn how to use the management and operation functions of POS GUI,” Parris said.

Not everyone in the store uses those management functions. Those are reserved for only a few employees who need access to make security changes within the system. Still, Parris was impressed by getting all of the information he would need in less than a week.

Training employees on checkout functions is faster, especially for pharmacy staff who are already familiar with computers.

“The younger pharmacy staff seemed to pick it up quicker than anyone; they jumped in and got it immediately. They were ready to go in less than a day,” Parris said.

Parris says that no matter what your age, it won't take long to learn Point-of-Sale GUI. He says the big on screen buttons make it easy to see what is required for each screen. Navigation between the various screens is very intuitive.

As QS/1 customers have come to expect, all GUI products come with QS/1's interactive training CD, the i-trainer. This interactive training CD gives you hands-on experience with the product, giving you the confidence to operate POS on your very first transaction. The QS/1 Point-of-Sale GUI i-trainer will allow pharmacy staff to interact with the software and walk through the process of ringing up sales. The i-trainer allows you and your staff to train at a time that is convenient for you. Train as often as you like, day or night.

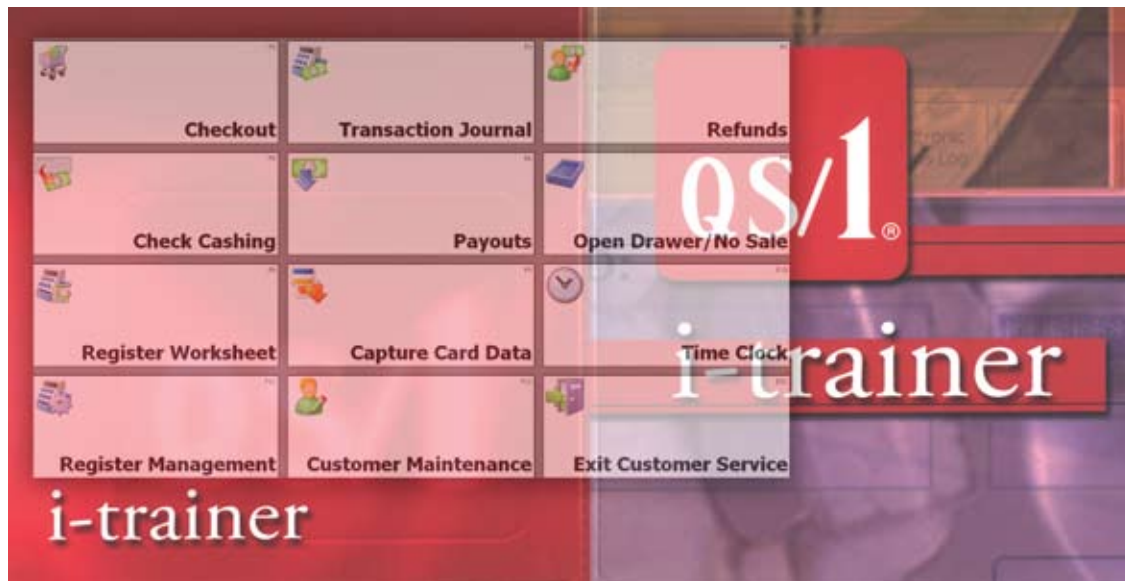
One of the benefits at Cash & Henderson Drugs is how quickly they can now check out customers and ring up charges to accounts receivable. Also, the staff no longer has to track those accounts receivable on paper ledgers. With the Accounts Receivable module and POS, it's all done automatically.

“We are filling hundreds of prescriptions each day,” Parris said. “Being able to process the transactions this quickly gives us more time to spend with our patients, and that one-on-one interaction is extremely critical.”

The other big benefit is the ability to automate all of the reports that are required to run each night. Now, Parris and his staff leave at the end of the day. Through Report Scheduler, the required reports are done every evening.

“We don't have to stand around at night and wait for reports,” Parris added.

Parris also enjoys the automated Price Updates feature. Each week, new Price Updates are downloaded into the POS system. The staff does nothing, it's all automatic. This feature allows your operation to take advantage of price changes without manually entering all of the new information each



week. What used to take several hours to accomplish is done in a few minutes. It means instant updates to ensure you are charging the correct and updated price for all over-the-counter merchandise.

If you're considering upgrading or installing Point-of-Sale GUI, Parris has some advice . . .

*“I would strongly recommend the system to anyone. Installation and training are easy and it is beneficial for any operation.”*