



CAMletter

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Special Announcement

As the result of a recent reorganization, the management team of CAM Systems, Inc. has been expanded and moved to Washington, D.C. TCG Technologies, LLC will lead the management team, while product research and development will remain in Atlanta, Georgia.

This expansion of the management team of CAM Systems, Inc. (CSI), and consolidation of management in Washington, D.C., will provide stronger linkages between product development, marketing, distribution, and technical support operations. The expansion of the management team will also include the addition of staff to accelerate delivery of new technology and applications.

Founded in 1986 by Alex Miller, CSI is the developer of *CAM II, The Management System*, one of the leading property management applications in the U.S. TCG Technologies, LLC (TCGT), based in Washington, DC, was instrumental in the creation of CAM Systems, Inc., and is the largest worldwide distributor and service provider for *CAM II*.

This transaction, while maintaining the same programming and development operations, will strengthen both companies, since the new management structure will coordinate all areas of CSI, including software development and distribution, training and implementation, technical support and quality control.

Effective January 1, 2000, TCG Technologies LLC became the principal stockholder of CAM Systems, Inc. Jaime Bordenave is the new President of CSI, while Gustavo Sapiurka serves as Chief Executive Officer and Alex Miller assumes the newly created position of Vice President for New Technologies.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact:

Gustavo Sapiurka, CEO
CAM Systems, Inc.
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CAM II version 2.63 Release Notes

The much anticipated arrival of the first major TRACS release since 1995 is upon us. Effective August 1, 2000, all TRACS users must use the new 2.0.1.A format. Changes in this version include collection of tenant address data, linking of certification data previously submitted on an expired subsidy contract to the new one/s now in effect, and most importantly, all changes specified in the Multifamily Hous-

ing Occupancy Handbook 4350.3 Change 27 that was published in September, 1995.

CAM II version 2.63, released in May 2000, contains the new TRACS format. Users will notice a new MAT type, MAT15, which provides unit address information. In addition, there have been changes to the household composition status codes. Instead of 3 codes, there are now 4 codes – E for Elderly

Head, S for Full-time Student, H for Handicapped/Disabled, and J for Joint Custody. Other enhancements in CAM II version 2.63 include a unit lookup table which can be accessed while within some fields that ask for a unit number, improved compatibility with 56k modems, improved special claims processing, and new unit turnover and security deposit reports, to name a few. (continued on page 2)

CSI Handbook

In This Issue: MAT 15's

Welcome to CAMletter! We've experienced a lot of growth this year, and we have begun an added-value campaign as a thank you to our existing customers. We will be bringing all CAM II Users this quarterly newsletter. Future CAMletter issues will cover topics such as product updates, special events, technical information and news in the management industry. This is your newsletter—tell us what you would like to read!

What is a MAT 15 and why does TRACS need it?

HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) needs unit address data for two reasons:

1. to mail income discrepancy letters to tenants;
2. to mail tenant satisfaction surveys to tenants.

These requirements caused TRACS to define a new MAT record format, the MAT 15 Address Record. This new MAT record is part of TRACS release 201A, scheduled to be implemented August 1, 2000.

Who must send Unit Addresses to TRACS?

Owners and Agents which manage BMIR, Rent Supplement, RAP, Section 236, 202/162 PAC, 202 PRAC, 811 PRAC, and Section 8 projects must send unit addresses for all units (subsidized, vacant, and market).

When must Unit Addresses be submitted to TRACS?

Owners and Agents may begin


submitting Unit Addresses immediately.

What if a resident has a different mailing address?

The unit address is the default mailing address for the tenant. However, if a tenant has a different mailing address (e.g. P. O. Box number or family member's address used for mail), the Owner/Agent is to submit a tenant mailing address transaction to TRACS, in addition to the unit address transaction.

How do I create a MAT 15? (note: You MUST have CAM II version 2.63 installed)

1. From the CAM 2.63 Main Menu go to [A]ssisted Housing, [H]UD Tracs Management, [M]anage TRACS Adjustments.
2. Press [F1] to select "Certifications".
3. Press the INSERT key and a message box will be displayed which will give you a list of MAT record types to create.
4. Highlight "MAT 15 Address", press [F1] to SELECT, then enter the desired unit number.

5. The system will fill in as many fields it can based on the unit file data. However, you may need to change or input data as necessary. Note that the system defaults to *Address Type* "2 = Address Load" and *Address Transaction Type* "U = Unit Address". These codes define the MAT15 record as an Initial Unit Address Load transaction. (**note: To create an Initial Tenant Mailing Address Load record, simply change the Address Transaction Type from "U" to "M" – Mailing Address**)
6. Use the down arrow key to move to *Subsidy Type*. For Market Rent and Vacant Units, Press [F1] and select "0 - Market \Vacant", and then press <Enter>.
7. Verify unit and project information and press [F10] to save.
8. Transmit the record/s as you would any other MAT. You're done! 

CAM II version 2.63 Release Notes

(continued from Page 1)


Unfortunately, because of yet another TRACS format change this year, CAM II version 2.63 will not be the last DOS release. Processing of TRACS 2.0.1.B is currently slated to begin December 1, 2000, so we are planning what we believe to be the last (no, really) release of our CAM II product, version 2.64 shortly before then.

Fortunately, the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) does not

plan on making any major changes until they can receive transmissions on the internet. For more information on this, read the HUD TRACS and MTCS Update column.

Starting with CAM II version 2.62, we have gone to CD-ROM media exclusively for new releases. Because CD-ROM drives have been standard equipment on computers for so long, and also the ease and quickness of installing from CD-ROM, we felt it

was necessary to make this change. For those users who still require floppy disks, don't worry, we can provide CAM II on 3 1/2 floppy disks on an as-needed basis, or you can download them from our website.

If you are not currently using CAM II version 2.63 and need to be in compliance with HUD and TRACS or would simply like the enhancements we've added, please call us at (800) CAM-9999 to get your system upgrade. 

Advanced Training Course

MIS professionals and computer network administrators from around the country who oversee CAM II operations for their companies have the opportunity to enhance their knowledge by attending CAM Software & Support's Certified CAM II Technician training. Courses are held in CSS' corporate headquarters in downtown Washington, DC and are taught by our most experienced trainers. Participants who successfully complete the four day event and pass an exam are recognized as

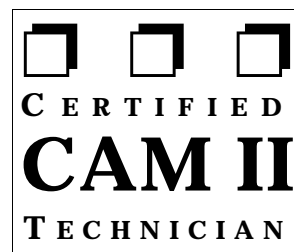
Certified CAM II Technicians—CCT's, for short.

CCT education is conducted to train Management Information System professionals in a variety of advanced operations with CAM II. Course curriculum covers network types, password functions, special telecomm module functions, troubleshooting, and other advanced skills. It is held for managers who are the primary support for multiple CAM II users in their organization. Attendees completing the course will leave equipped with knowl-

edge that will help them run their CAM II operations with greater efficiency.

Registration can be conducted via CAM Software & Support's website or by phone. Class sizes are limited to between 8 and 12 people in order to provide the most effective training. Tentatively, the next CCT training will be held in mid September.

If you'd like further information about our Certified CAM II Technician training, visit our website or call us at (800) CAM-9999. ☞



HUD TRACS and MTCS Update

HUD recently conducted several industry meetings with software vendors, MIS professionals, contract administrators, and housing authorities to discuss upcoming changes in HUD's computer systems and software.

There are several important changes that will impact CAM II users this year.

Effective August 1, 2000, property managers must submit MAT records in the

2.0.1.A format to TRACS. This version of TRACS adds the MAT 15 record, which is used to provide physical unit information to HUD for the REAC program, and implements the last of the changes made to the HUD handbook in 1995 as well as CAM II version 2.63 is necessary to comply with this requirement.

Tentatively scheduled for December 1, 2000, TRACS version 2.0.1.B submissions

will facilitate the move from HUD to Contract Administrators. CAM II version 2.64 will be released to accommodate this when dates are finalized.

Finally, starting September 1, 2000, HUD will require that all PHA properties submit to their new MTCS 2000 system. We will be releasing new software to meet this need.

For more information, please visit the web pages listed to the right. ☞

*HUD TRACS
information:*

<http://www.hud.gov/fha/mfh/trx/html/trx500.html>

*HUD MTCS
information:*

<http://www.hud.gov/pih/systems/pic/mtcs2000>

We Want to Hear From You!

All of us at CAM Systems, Inc. are committed to customer service. We deeply believe that the work of providing people with quality software and technical support is important, and we want to do just that. If you think we can help, just ask!

Your comments and suggestions help us serve you, and we truly value them. Here are some ways to get in touch. We hope we will hear from you soon! ☞

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Introducing your newsletter!

 **CAMletter**

A quarterly publication for our valued users of CAM II: The Management System

Inside:

A Very Special Announcement
CAM II, version 2.63 Release Notes
CCT Training offered in Washington, DC
CSI Handbook: MAT 15's
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New Faces

*Please Welcome our
Newest Employees:*

*Hsuan Chang
Sharon Jackman (formerly
known as Sharon Bourne)
Anne O'Dell*

NAHMA Website

<http://www.nahma.org>



CAM SYSTEMS, INC.
A DIVISION OF TCG TECHNOLOGIES, LLC

CAMtastic Voyage 2000

First Annual CAM Users Conference Notes and "Next Location" Survey

In April, CSS held its first ever Annual CAM Users Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC. The event was an astounding success.

Over 125 people from around the U.S. and Puerto Rico attended the 3 day conference to learn more about the software, upcoming changes initiated by HUD, and to interact with each other and CSS/CSI staff. In addition, those who attended the first evening's dinner were greeted by keynote speaker and NAHMA President, George Caruso and given a sneak preview of CSI's upcoming windows product, I-CAM.

With a dozen unique learning tracks and two roundtable style sessions to choose from,

conference attendees had more than enough to fill their schedule. Of course, they had plenty of time to visit the local restaurants, shops, golf courses, and entertainment venues while they were there. In fact, many decided to stay for the weekend.

The conference wasn't all fun and games though. Learning track participants were provided with intensive training courses on such subjects as TRACS, telecommunications, general ledger, and custom reports, to name a few.

During the roundtable sessions, users were given the opportunity to actively discourse with our programmers and management staff on such issues as upcoming software changes, technical issues, and

even suggestions for future releases.

Because of the overwhelmingly positive results and responses from our inaugural event, we plan on holding our Second Annual CAM Users Conference in May, 2001. However, we would like to put out a survey on WHERE we should hold it before making final plans. We respectfully request that only users who are likely to attend next year's event vote on ONE of the following locations:

- ◆ Chicago
- ◆ Orlando
- ◆ San Francisco

Place your vote by fax or e-mail (see page 3) noting your name, company name, and preferred location. Please respond by 9/1/00. ☞