

PineSoft Professional Training Database 1989 –

As part of an ongoing development programme and in response to requests from Users the PineSoft application is updated regularly. The PineSoft License/Maintenance agreement ensures that users enjoy the benefits of new developments and make it easier to provide quality support for the application. The first PineSoft product was launched in January 1989 using Psion's Archive database, and versions based on Borland's Paradox database were marketed from 1990. These products are no longer available.

In 1995 the first PineSoft version based on Microsoft's Access database was launched in recognition of the widespread use of Microsoft Office within the education sector.

Microsoft Access Version Updates 1995 –

- May 09 : V12.0e & V11.4h Updated selection form for Job reports including applications closed and date criteria.
- Jan 09 : V12.0d & V11.4g Launch of FinDonIT with updated software and new website www.FinDonIT.com New choice of single or multiple placements as default. New company, student and placement "Task" reports have been added with additional more comprehensive selection criteria including the actual task, whether made, and date between options. Updated help files.
- Apr 08 : V12.0c & V11.4f New counters inserted for number of company contacts and task pop-up's
- Feb 08 : V12.0b Minor fixes
- Jan 08 : V12.0a Major new version using Access 2007. Incorporates new attach fields in company & student records, revised layout, icons, help and user manuals. Address fields added to student placement records.

V11.4e Re-insert Applications - totals report. Add new Placement summary report (with full company address). Add counter to two Application reports.
- Aug 07 : V11.4d Modified setup files, compatible with windows VISTA.
- Jul 07 : V11.4c New Placement Summary Report with Student Ref.
- Nov 06 : V11.4b Report and Mail Output selection forms now incorporate a tabbed structure for easier selection and the Setup form has an improved layout.
- Sep 06 : V11.4a Company Website field changed to hyperlink.
- Aug 06 : V11.3d Application reports query modified to allow selection of placed/unplaced students. Application : Ordered by Student (compact) report has extra totals. New summary application totals report gives a very compact summary of student applications. Extra fields added to (all placements) Training Duration report.
- Jul 06 : V11.3c Application reports modified to display time of interviews and whether students are placed.
- Feb 06 : V11.3b All PineSoft printed output now uses Arial fonts in line with current good practice.
- Jan 06 : V11.3a Data update - Posted Date, Online flag, Summary field and two user definable look-up's added to Jobs Table. One new compact Jobs report added.
- Nov 05 : V11.2b Bug fix for Compflag6 Selection queries and Jobs Full Report. Choice of Text or Excel format for Export data files to resolve UK date format problem in Word mail merge docs. PineSoft Online help also updated.

- Sep 05 : V11.2a Data update - Compflag6 defined. Auto display of number of Jobs, Applications & Placements in Main Company & Student database forms added.
- V11.1a Student Home address, tel, email, mobile & tutor details added to Full One Page Placement Reports.
- V11.0c Comment field added to Student Applications Table - relevant forms & reports updated.
- Jul 05 : V11.0b Minor update to Network read-only and tutor files - modified breakdown report queries.
- Mar 05 : V11.0a Significant upgrade with new Jobs Module, hyperlink fields and auto scaling forms.
- free upgrade for existing customers - requires return of data file for updating to new format - data update required for existing customers.
- Jan 04 : V10.0a Significant upgrade from Access 97 to Access 2002 database engine.
- Jan 03 : V3.1c. CourseTitle field added to Word Export List & Cancel code modified.
- Apr 02 : V3.1b. Letter update queries modified to work correctly with flag "toggle" fields.
- Jan 02 : V3.1a. Changes to Form colours following testing on Windows XP Professional. PineSoft Help files also updated to XP format.
- Feb 01 : V3.0c Outlook Appointment & E-mail options added to student forms. Access Filter by Form updated, for users using PineSoft via a full copy of Access 97.
- V3.0b Attachment permissions update to pineread & pinetut Network files. Jet 3.5 update info added to Export to Word details.
- Jan 01 : V3.0 Major revision with the addition of many new fields, increased size of some existing fields and re-designed forms suitable for a minimum SVGA screen resolution. See the January 2001 Newsletter, available on the PineSoft website, for full details.
- Aug 00 : V2.3c Launch of new WEB page & contact details : E-mail : s.donald@pinesoft.net or helpdesk@pinesoft.net Internet : www.pinesoft.net
Some Minor revisions with two new compact reports listing Student, Company, Location, Vis Tutor, Course, Session, Year Placement, Supervisor, Start and Finish dates. They are :
Placement : Summary (All Courses)
Placement : Summary Ordered by Start Date (All Courses)
"Export Placement Data for Word Merge" updated to include all placement, company and student fields to give users greater flexibility when creating Customised Mail Merge reports.
- Jul 99 : V2.3b Training duration calculated from Start and Finish fields in Student Placement Forms. Use PineSoft Filter by Form option in Main Placement form to easily check for any horticfalls. Microsoft update patches applied to 16 bit and 32 bit versions - all versions now interpret 2 digit years from 00 to 29 as 2000 to 2029. 30 to 99 interpreted as 1930 to 1999.
- Mar 99 : Launch of Millennium Edition in 16 bit & 32 bit versions. Revised "Classic Grey" screen displays, centred window or full screen view options and updated pinedat data file. Requires 16 bit (64,000) colour palette for intended display. Three new "Task" Pop-up's for Company, Student and Placement records. Users may define their own tasks and keep track of items such as the return of Student and Company reports, Student Projects, Consultancy's held at company's etc. New Student Pop-up form available when browsing company records.

Sep 98 : V2.2b Visiting Tutor field added to the two "Placement: Visits" reports, plus a new report ordered by Visiting Tutor.

V2.2a Significant upgrade with new and revised fields in pinedat database. Health & Safety requirements added to relevant databases. All Yes/No fields replaced by one click toggle check boxes. Student applications pop-up, now has "offer", "placed" and "info" fields. These will make it easy to determine which company's have offered a placement and how many have been accepted. The "info" field may be used for a job reference or other required details. Two new placement "required" and "placed" fields in student records - these make it easy to filter those students currently requiring a placement and those placed or still unplaced. A "past employer" flag and last date field added to company records. Nine new Mail reports which refer to the latest student placement details. Users given direct access to the course codes and titles table - these may be changed, or new courses added at any time. Such changes are best left to a designated Placement Manager. See the on-line help for a discussion of Year 2000 compliance and recommendations for displaying all windows year fields with four digits, using the format dd/MM/yyyy for short dates.

Jan 98 : V2.1c Modified Student Application Reports - list details after specified date - list interview details for all courses, most recent first. NOTE : Do not use quotes (") in any text entered in database fields if you intend using the Export Options, as such quotes are interpreted as delimiters and not as plain text.

Aug 97 : V2.1b Mail-merge Export file format changed to TAB Delimited to correct display of short format date fields. NOTE : To refresh existing Merge documents, created with the previous Comma Delimited data file, open the document in Word - click on the Edit Data Source button, then click O.K. to update the data source. Visits Pop-up code updated to ensure auto link to main tables.

Jul 97 : Launch of PineSoft 2000, year 2000 compliant with new pop-up calendar for entering dates. Powerful new "Filter by Form" option for easy selection of sub-groups of records. Many other minor improvements plus the new "Pinetut" option to enable Visiting Tutors to enter details of placement visits.

Apr 97 : V2.0e Export records code modified to free extra memory, when exporting student records with .jpg compressed photographs.

V2.0d Six new Company reports listing companies with custom & option fields. One new Company report listing contact, telephone number and company address 16 per page. Two new Student Class List reports with custom and option fields. Four new reports to print student photographs 16 per page {Framed option stretches photo to fit frame the other option prints the original photo image - use the option which gives you the best results.}

Dec 96 : V2.0c New high speed entry of student name details in student records. Enter a student code using the format SURNAME_FORENAME to automatically complete the entries for the surname, fname mailname and title fields. The code to accomplish this is activated by the "under-score" character between the surname and firstname.

Oct 96 : V2.0b PineSoft Copy Record Button modified to automatically append a * character to the copied code field. Code modifications to enable users to immediately enter company contact details via the Pop-up form in a new main record. {previously a new main record had to be saved first, before using the Pop-up forms.}

Aug 96 : V2.0a New user interface with centred forms more suitable for SVGA screen resolutions of 800 x 600 or above. The default VGA 640 x 480 resolution is still suitable for the application, however, higher resolutions give more room for the display of the Main database tables, especially in datasheet view. Significant speed improvements, including faster display of user definable prompts and linked company details in the placement student Pop-up and the Main Menu Placement option where the records are now listed in alphabetical student order.

- May 96 : V1.0j Three new reports : "Latest" Placements and Visit Details - ordered by student or company in landscape format.
- Mar 96 : V1.0i Printing of title field in letters modified + four new compact reports for placement summary and applications added.
- Jan 96 : V1.0h NETWORK VERSION LAUNCHED Counter field added to 26 reports + new Large Point Memo option.
- Dec 95 : V1.0g Pie + Bar charts reports added - auto log of letters sent in Memo field.
V1.0f Delete interview details query updated.
- Nov 95 : V1.0e address fields in company records increased to 40 characters.
V1.0d Extra database fields added to Word Export option.
- Sep 95 : V1.0c Report dates changed to short format.
V1.0b Changes to Word Export option.
- Aug 95 : V1.0a INITIAL SINGLE-USER WINDOWS VERSION LAUNCHED.