

IBM 4690 SurePOS ACE V3
and
IBM 4689/4690 Supermarket Application
Comparison

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Introduction

IBM SurePOS ACE was introduced in 1998 into a marketplace dominated by grocery customers running an IBM 4690 POS solution with the 4680/4690 Supermarket Application (SA). These SA customers had installed multiple SA features from IBM and made numerous modifications to customize the 4690 SA solution for their environments.

ACE's was designed and developed to address not only existing POS requirements, but future demands as well. ACE builds on the proven functions of SA and includes new functions as well as new, improved designs for existing functions. ACE includes as part of its standard package, all of the features that are available for SA, along with many new functions that are not available for SA.

Existing SA customers recognize the value and importance of ACE, but from the start they have struggled with how their current solution compares to what is available with the ACE solution. Since their C-Basic user exit code does not port to ACE's C++ and Java coded Object Oriented design, they have spent time understanding which of their modifications are in ACE, what would have to be rewritten for ACE, and what current functions could be done in a better way with ACE's capabilities.

This document was put in place to compare, at a high level, the features and functions of ACE to the SA solution, including all its available, optional features. It is not intended to list all of the functions available in both products. The intent is to point out differences, and in the cases of common functions, how they differ. It is broken down into the following categories:

- New ACE Functions
- SA user modifications in ACE
- Functions in SA and ACE
- Functions in SA, and not ACE

An existing SA customer should be able to use this document to gain an initial understanding about what is in ACE and how it compares to the existing solution. Since this document assumes that SA includes all of the associated feature functions, there could be many more functions in ACE than what the SA customer has in their solution if the solution does not include all SA features.

New ACE Functions

Terminal Sales

99 categories of age verify w/ sales hours (V2 - increased to 99 from 9)

SA V2 has one restricted sales period to which items can be assigned. ACE has 99 sales period and each can also have a minimum purchase age assigned, and a quantity restriction. Age verification was a user exit addition to SA.

operator entry of purchaser age

The operator is prompted to enter the birthdate for the first restricted age item purchased. For subsequent items in the order, the birthdate entered applies. Thus, if the first item purchased has a minimum age of 16 and the customer birthdate indicates 17, a later item in the order with a minimum purchase age of 18 will be rejected.

dept discounts by time of day

Department discounts can be applied automatically by day and time. If applied in conjunction with a transaction discount, ACE will apply the best discount of the two to the customer.

scale displays on full screen

When a scale is attached and the option is selected, the weight will display on either the full screen or customer GUI display.

line item discounts

Line item discounts can be set up and applied to individual items in a transaction. Line item discounts followed by a transaction discount will result in a compound discount.

dual dept key use (wt & non-wt, 200-219)

Dept keys can be defined so that when they are pressed after the WEIGHT or TARE key, a secondary lookup key index is used. The secondary item must be a weight item.

case quantity override feature

A minimum case quantity can be established so that when the quantity not allowed flag is on for the item and the case quantity feature option is selected, the operator can enter a quantity equal to or greater than the minimum case quantity.

tiered overrides

Overrides can be established with ranges for no override required, operator override, manager override, and override not allowed. This gives a range of limits and also establishes a maximum manager override limit, which was not available in SA.

coupon tiered multiply limits

Optional linked feature that allows you to specify the max amount and count of each coupon multiple in a transaction. Range is from quadruple down to single. ie When quadruple limit is exceeded, the coupons are tripled to their limit, and when the triple limit is exceeded, they double, etc. Note that the limit for any of these could be zero.

pricing expert

Full screen option to display a customizable message for each pricing method to explain it to the customer. This text does not appear on the receipt. It does not work with the JAVA customer GUI, which displays a receipt image.

pricing method 2 text

ACE 1.3 added a special message on the receipt for pricing method 2 only which reads '1 @ *price* BUY 2/*price* SAVE *amount*. This message is fixed.

validate option for keyed price

Option in the lookup/dept key definition to require an override when a price is keyed with the specified key. Level of override is specified, but it is not tiered. The operator is prompted to verify the price is correct and perform the appropriate override to continue.

verify price feature

Prompts the operator to accept or reject a price if the item record price is non-0 and the price required flag is on. The word 'Verify' is displayed to the operator along with the item record file price.

option to verify signature for tender

Option to specify if signature is required for a tender. If selected, operator is prompted to verify signature.

velocity code pop-up screen

This full screen pop-up can display produce codes to the operator, as well as other information that could be useful, such as key sequences, policies, or info messages. It can have multiple pages and is scrollable. This is not available with the customer JAVA GUI display.

coupon savings summary on receipt

There are options in Print to include a savings summary on receipt. Categories are kept and reported for Total Coupons, Mfr Coupons, Store Coupons, Bonus Coupons, Non-Coupon (discounts) Summary, and Total Savings.

automatic restart on severe error

Option to log error and restart after out of memory, hardware exception, or stack fault.

self-checkout support (1.5)

Function was added to support self checkout, and specifically the Productivity Solutions, Inc. (PSI) 750 system. In this solution, ACE is responsible for providing price and description, and the PSI equipment is responsible for the user interface and device control. Specific functions include suspend/retrieve processing, ability to designate terminals as self-checkout or payment terminal, and an Outstanding Transaction Report available at a payment terminal.

eat-in / take-out tax (1.5)

Gives the retailer the ability to add sales tax to any scanned item that is consumed in the store.

reason code for returned items (1.5)

Provides the option to prompt the operator to enter a reason code when an item return is initiated.

reason code for returned items (V2)

Adds the capability to prompt the cashier to enter a reason code when they modify the price of an item, using the price override key. This leads to increased security in that the cashier is forced to select a valid reason for overriding a price.

reason code for void (V3)

Adds the capability to prompt the cashier to enter a reason code for a void. This leads to increased security by allowing management to track voids and understand if there is a valid reason why they are being done.

option for pickup message (1.5)

Option added to choose whether the operator sees the "Pickup Needed Soon" message at the beginning of the transaction or at the end.

bar code print on suspended transaction receipt (1.5)

Option to print bar code on receipt that can be used to retrieve the transaction.

automatic discounts via customer record (1.5)

Preferred customers can be designated for automatic discounts or tax exemptions via their customer record.

alpha input from 50 key keyboard (V2)

required for entry of some drivers' licenses.

code 39 loyalty card support (V2)

Code 39 format added to label format table.

electronic article surveillance (EAS) tag support (V2)

Provides a reminder to the cashier that the item just sold has an EAS tag and it indicates that the operator needs to deactivate the EAS tag. This is intended to reduce the occurrence of shoppers leaving the store with items they have purchased, but whose EAS tags have not been reactivated.

14 digit GTIN/RSS Support (V3)

bar code length is 14 digits. Through the use of AIs (Application Identifiers), the code can become quite long. Examples of such AIs are: supplier, lot, date, sell by date. Basic support of the 14 digit RSS code is planned for V3. ACE should support weight and price fields (AI fields) in extended RSS labels and provide any additional AI information in a string for use by custom code.

ACE will also provide the option for customers to use a 14 digit item record instead of the current 12 digit and provides a utility and menu option for making the item file conversion.

print manager override index with check franking for hand keyed check (V3)

Additional option to identify when manager override was used for hand keyed check. Additional descriptor (#1295, "OVRKEYED") can print with franking under override condition.

Terminal Non-Sales

reprint tender receipt

Procedure 16 to reprint the last tender receipt (reg-e) for credit, debit, or EBT.

post transaction receipt print

Procedure 15 to reprint last receipt.

department totals report

Procedure #80 - can be performed by an authorized operator

sign-off when server unavailable (1.5)

During an extended outage, this function allows a cashier to sign-off and allow another operator to use the register.

gift card balance inquiry (V2)

Procedure 21 to request value card balance and print for customer. Works in conjunction with ACE EPS.

Data Maintenance

fuel items/coupons support (1.5)

ACE now provides for a fuel item type and a fuel coupon type. Unit price and volume can be specified with three decimal places. Sale price and volume are received from the fuel pump system and printed on the ACE receipt.

Configuration

additional function key codes

- return items transaction (112)
- reprint partial receipt (115)
- reprint tender receipt (116)
- WIC transaction (120)
- department totals report (180)
- 4 tax key codes (191-194)
- display velocity screen (245)
- page up/down (247/246)
- scroll up/down (249/248)

support for TM6 printer (V2)

TM6 support allows users who do not need an insert station to save on their system cost.

SIF enablement functions (V3)

This includes AEF enablement for XML data flow to the SI GUI, and support for TLog trickle in conjunction with the DIF feature of SIF.

Personalization

electronic shelf label support

This provides options to control how ACE functions with an ESL application to insure that shelf labels are always accurate.

value add tax (VAT)

VAT is available and up to 8 codes can be defined in personalization. There is an option to activate VAT and it is mutually exclusive with regular tax plans and GST.

percentage tax plan generation

ACE will generate a straight percentage tax plan, up to 4 decimal places. Rounding options can be specified.

additional tender options

- expiration date required
- denomination test
- miscellaneous transaction account can be loaned
- can be picked up
- is refundable
- verify signature
- is foreign currency

up to 9 matrix keyboard layouts

9 matrix keyboards can be defined and different keyboard layouts can be assigned to different terminals in the store.

exception log archive

There is an option to archive up to 999 each of compressed and uncompressed exception logs.

menu support of optional item fields

All optional item information added to the 127 byte item record can be enabled and disabled from the database options menu. Using the SAPATH data dictionary, the user has the option of changing the offset if their item record layout is different.

add manager's initials to Log reports (V3)

Provides option to specify manager's initials in override personalization and add these to the transaction and exception log reports instead of the manager override index number.

include details of void transaction in TLog (V3)

This option will allow all transaction details to be written to the TLog when a void or suspend transaction occurs.

enter raincheck ID for WIC transaction (V3)

This option automatically enters the raincheck ID for WIC transactions, thus extending preferred customer status to every WIC customer. If customer enters their own customer ID during the transaction, it replaces the raincheck number. This function does not apply to regular transactions using WIC EBT as tender.

send CVV2/CID for hand keyed credit cards (V3)

Added to ACE to meet regulations and avoid charges to retailers from credit providers.

Accounting

account management view

On the main accounting screen, allows office personnel to view all terminals and/or operators and perform accounting functions from a single screen. Functions can be performed with hot keys and totals are immediately updated and displayed.

close progress control file

This contains checkpoint information for the database ledgers and tracks each stage and substage of completion during the close. In the event of failure, ACE can selectively complete necessary processing on a ledger by ledger basis.

coupon co-pay taxability (1.5)

This function provides the ability to track and tax the vendor sponsored portion of a coupon separately from the store sponsored portion.

force sign off at store close (V2)

Option to sign off terminals that are in terminal monitor or training mode.

Reporting

New reports:

Department Variance Report

This report compares department totals information on a period to period basis. It was enhanced with Rel. 5 to allow more than 20 subtotal groups.

Coupon Multiplication Limit Report

This contains totals for doubled, tripled, and quadrupled coupons if you have implemented multiple tiers for coupons.

Check/Misc Tender Store Recap

Summarizes the information in the tender listing file for each tender variety/type that was defined with the 'Keep Tender Listing' flag on.

Operator Sales by Terminal Report

Shows the sales for each operator who signed-on to a terminal during the period.

Negative Sales Report

This reports sales that had a negative balance due at tender time.

Item Sales Exception Report

Lists data on transactions that included refunds or item cancels. Can be modified to only report for a certain item price range, transaction total amount, sum in an accounting period, item count, and item count in an accounting period.

Void Report

This lists all voided items that are recorded in the exception log file.

Refund Report

This lists all refund items that are recorded in the exception log file.

Data Maintenance Report

This prints information from the item record, operator authorization, and tender verification files.

Terminal Department Totals Report

This is a terminal non-sales procedure (80) which allows the operator to print a totals report for a single or all departments.

The following functions are available in conjunction with EPS - ACE's integrated payment system option:

phone and gift card purchase and activation (1.4)

- purchase in inactive form
- activated or reloaded in conjunction with a host request / confirmation
- card is sold only after activation confirmed

gift card accepted as form of tender (1.4)

- card balance is maintained at host
- handled similar to a debit card process

gift card balance inquiry (V2)

- non-sales procedure 21
- printed only, not displayed

DUKPT (1.4)

Derived Unique Key per Transaction (DUKPT) is available as an enhanced encryption method.

signature capture (1.5)

Signature capture is available in conjunction with the IVI Checkmate eN-Touch 1000 for support of the capture, storage, retrieval, and printing of electronic signatures.

tiered overrides for host offline (1.5)

Adds support for tiered override limits, by tender and variety, during host offline conditions.

separate SAF and TOR timeouts (1.5)

Adds support for separate timeout values for SAF (store and forward) and TOR (timeout reversal) by tender type.

separate host support for SAFs (V2)

Adds support for separate TCP/IP connection from online traffic so the SAFs can be stopped during high traffic times.

Texas WIC support (V3)

EBT support, including smart cards.

provider support

ACE V3 includes support for: Buypass (BPS host)
Kincaid Technology (KT1 host)
Fifth Third Processing Solutions (MPS and UPP)

device support

ACE V3 includes support for: Verifone Omni 490
Verifone Omni 7000
Verifone Everest
Verifone Everest Plus
Ingenico eN-Touch 1000
IVI 2100

Technical

object oriented architecture

Facilitates reuse of code. Allows data and behavior to be encapsulated in objects and allows the behavior of these objects to be more easily extended. Extensions don't require source code modifications allowing for easier migration.

C++ and Java coding

ACE is written using state of the art coding languages that are designed for the 'OO' environment.

written to published standards

ACE is written using standard design patterns as published in "Design Patterns – Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software" written by Gamma, Helm, Johnson, and Vlissides. Using these industry standard design patterns means that the program can be used to interact with other state of the art applications and perform most current and future functions. It also means that ACE can be understood and modified by resources familiar with these standards.

open operating system design

Runs 4690 today, but architected and designed to run under other operating systems in the future.

mouse support

Mouse support on the controller allows the user to immediately access menu fields, thus avoiding multiple tab key strokes.

BOB report creation/modification

ACE reports are written with a code language called "BOB", an object oriented, interpretive, C++ like language. It can be edited with a simple text editor. Reports written in BOB use the SQL data access (see SQL below). BOB is also used in ACE EPS for the unique host interface programming.

remote options update capability

Using INI files, unique personalization options can be sent to the store and updated using a provided application, ACEPERSL. Personalization changes can be made by sending an INI

overlay file to any number of stores and starting ACEPERSL in the stores, enabling remote update of individual options..

tiered INI overlay structure

Using INI files, ACE provides for 9 levels of tiered overrides. The INI file structure is used for defining all ACE processing parameter values, including all menu displays, personalization options, descriptors, and resource files. ACE provided parameters and data can be overlaid in areas such as help file text, to allow user changes to be made without the need for program changes.

SQL data file access

Through the BOB reporting capability, ACE can perform SQL searches, updates, and data mapping of the existing keyed, sequential, and direct data structures using a data dictionary (see below). This capability eliminates the need for the user to port the data into a relational database solely for reporting and update purposes.

data dictionary for item file access and reporting (1.4)

The data dictionary is used by ACE to access fields in the item record file and other data files. It contains table definitions, which describe the data format and offset of the fields and what data files they are in. Using the data dictionary to describe the data fields allows for changes to be made to data files while not impacting the program access to the data fields.

Windows NT, 2000, and XP development environments

ACE development takes place in one of these three, commonly used environments.

32 bit support (V3)

32 bit support improves code and data space utilization. It allows for the use of improved serviceability tools to aid in problem determination, and function implementation is improved with more progressive tools.

heap enhancements for debugging

ACE is enhanced to more easily and quickly detect memory leaks and/or corruption in heap memory. The heap debugger is included in the ACE code and works under 4690 and the Windows development environment.

New SA Modifications in ACE

These are actually new ACE functions, but they are listed separately to highlight the fact that customers have made these modifications to SA, and they are now included in the ACE package. This is based on our best knowledge of customer modifications, and does not note how pervasive the modifications have been.

Terminal Sales

additional information on receipt

ACE provides 52 variables for inclusion in the various header and trailer messages. In addition, you can specify how you want the line to print if the variable is zero or blank - print a blank line, leave out the variable, or print the line with the value.

roundup donation feature

ACE allows the customer to optionally donate their change, up to the next whole dollar, to a default charity or one of nine others. The customer can also specify an additional amount to add to the donation.

age verification for specified items

If specified, ACE compares this age to birthdate entry. If not specified in a restricted time period definition, no age verification is done.

option to bypass B024 - "price required" prompt

The operator receives the Enter Price prompt without having to receive and clear the B024 message first.

UPC-2 half price feature

With this option set on, UPC2 items with '2' in the Deal Quantity field and an embedded price on the label will sell at half the embedded price.

tender cashing in a transaction option

If no items have been entered, entering a tender will result in a tender cashing operation.

4610 logo print

Up to 5 logos can be printed in the receipt header and loyalty trailer messages. The logo file names are specified in personalization and as a variable in the receipt message. In ACE 1.3, only one logo could be printed.

prompt for user data (V3)

Up to 5 data entry prompts can be defined for the operator at total time. Each requests a different type of numeric entry from 0 to 16 digits, and each entry is logged in the TLog '11' string. These are in addition to the standard data entry capability that exists today.

print bar code on receipt (V3)

Option to print unique barcode on receipt using ITF or 128 symbology. The barcode includes a unique 2 digit code, terminal number, transaction number, date, and time. This is provided for customer use to identify previous transactions for processing.

gift receipt (V3)

This function allows the operator to request a gift receipt, which includes the items purchased, but without prices. The header and trailer formats are defined in personalization, and the receipt can include a unique barcode.

display operator ID in secured mode (V3)

When operator is signed on and in terminal secure mode, display signed-on id.

eliminate B029 'Quantity Required' message (V3)

Option to display 'Enter Quantity' instead.

force scan of manager override (V3)

This option forces a manager override number to be scanned in rather than keyed. Override number scan format is still 8 digits.

Terminal Non-Sales

password for cash drawer no-sale enter (V3)

This option forces an operator to enter their password when they use the 'no-sale enter' key sequence to open the cash drawer between transactions.

Personalization

Catalina Marketing support

Puts additional data out on the terminal controller connection (loop or LAN) that is used by Catalina, although not by ACE. i.e. quantity. In addition, ACE V3 can also send BIN numbers for credit tenders for use by the Catalina host.

user program at close

User Programs can be defined that will start at store close.

user files rename at close

User files can be defined to rename at close. They can be assigned to one of two groups which can then be selected in the close options. ie a current user file USERCURR can be renamed to USERWEEK during the weekly close.

user program at carry forward tender (V3)

User Programs can be defined that will start at the carry forward of the office account.

Functions in ACE and SA

Terminal Sales

operator touch GUI and customer GUI (V2)

SA uses SureVision to add a touch GUI for use by the operator, providing appropriate screens for all the ACE terminal functions. It also includes a customer GUI display with the same look and feel as the customer GUI from ACE R3.

Provides a means to modify the supplied screens and the ability to create new and / or replacement screens to fit an individual retailer's needs using XML. This is a separately priced PRPQ for SA. The same functionality is available for ACE with the SI GUI (see below). The customer Java GUI function from ACE V1R3 is still part of ACE and still supported, however it will go away when support for Java 1 is dropped by 4690 OS – currently projected for January, 2006.

Store Integrator GUI (V3)

The new SI GUI is available as a feature for ACE. The GUIs feature improved looks for both the customer and operator GUI screens. Portability for customer XML changes made to SureVision vary and will need to be examined.

restrictive sales periods

SA allows for the definition of one restrictive sales type with one range of hours for each day of the week. ACE allows for the definition of 99 types, with up to 10 restricted time periods in each, plus an age restriction, and a quantity restriction. The time periods can be daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly.

foreign currency support

One with ACE vs multiple for SA with the Multiple Currency feature

EAN 99 support

ACE gives the option to allow multiplying or only multiply for preferred customers

electronic tender processing

EFT feature with SA vs optional EPS with ACE. EPS is integrated with ACE and includes EBT support, TCP/IP connectivity, multiple provider access by tender, phone and gift card support (1.4), and combined POS and provider communication support. The EPS provider communication layer is isolated and designed to be customized for communication to one or more servers. EPS utilizes a thin PINPad architecture that writes to the same PINPad interface used with the EFT feature, thus allowing the same PINPads and code to be used with either SA and EFT or ACE and EPS.

suspend / retrieve

ACE V2 added the ability to print a barcode on the suspend receipt that can be used to retrieve the transaction.

comparison pricing functions

ACE has a flexible system of comparison that can be used as the customer desires. SA Value Pack offers the following fixed categories:

- Bonus Buy compare
- Competitor compare
- Private Label compare
- Match or Beat Competitor

defined tare weights

ACE V3 has the capability to define 99 tares vs 10 in SA.

check image capture

SA and ACE have the capability to use the new 4610 T18 printer to capture check images for designated tenders, store the images in special files with tag information on a controller file, and make these available for user retrieval.

clean receipt

SA has clean receipt in conjunction with the 4610 support and ACE had this in the base code from the start. ACE V3 added additional capabilities to:

- sort items on the receipt by department subtotals groups (or department group)
- secondary sort by promo code within a department or department subtotals group
- create a new clean receipt section for miscellaneous items
- maintain clean receipt for retrieved transactions
- remove more voided items
- group electronic coupons with the items they discount on the cleaned receipt

Terminal Non-Sales

price verification procedure

ACE does not allow for addition of an item not on file in conjunction with this procedure -SA does. Both SA and ACE allow price changes with this procedure.

terminal monitor

ACE can controller monitor a terminal attached to another LAN attached store controller in addition to its own terminals.

Personalization

controller functions

text based menu screens for SA vs "Windows-like" look for ACE

input field access

both have key access to menu fields, but ACE adds mouse point and click capability

help screens

ACE screens have access to more specific information than SA. They are also designed for extendibility with release 1.4.

tender types and varieties

8 types and 6 varieties for ACE vs 6 types and varieties for SA. The two additional types for SA are for manufacturer and store coupons.

account number masking options

ACE allows you to specify the masking character, how many digits are unmasked, and whether unmasked digits are at the start or end of the account number. With SA, it is always four digits at the end if the masking option is set on in hidden options.

multiple check fees

10 levels vs 4 for SA

automatic reconcile tender limit

ACE has unique limit per tender - SA is same for all.

printer fonts

ACE allows you to specify 8 different fonts and up to 20 line feeds for all print lines. Note that these can be specified by line. SA allows for 4 fonts on the header and trailer messages with each line being the same font.

store and terminal options

SA has separate store and terminal options. ACE has combined options that are sent to every terminal. Terminal unique options overlay those in the combined options package. This reduces support costs when changing common options since only one file has to be changed.

tiered INI overlay structure

Using INI files, ACE provides for 9 levels of tiered overrides. The INI file structure is used for defining all ACE processing parameter values, including all menu displays, personalization options, descriptors, and resource files. ACE provided parameters and data can be overlaid in areas such as help file text, to allow user changes to be made without the need for program changes. Personalization changes can be made by sending an INI overlay file to any number of stores and starting the personalization update program, thus enabling remote update of individual options. SA Value Pack allows you to have two levels of tiered option overrides via user exits.

electronic marketing

EM is built into ACE menus and more accessible and useable than SA report structure. In addition, EM is designed into item record format, so fields are more visible and organized. 51 of the SA EM services enhancements have been added to ACE EM along with usability options, including the ability to manage loyalty messages from a menu screen specifying reuseability, flash / tone enablement, chained messages, and imbedded logos.

manager overrides

ACE allows you to specify up to 99 manager overrides vs 20 with SA. ACE also provides the ability to specify the manager's initials along with the override number.

Accounting

automatic pickup

With ACE, if 'Can be Picked Up' option is not set on, automatic pickup is done on the tender, and there is an additional option to deposit the tender into a miscellaneous account. With SA EM, only store, manufacturer, and doubled coupons could be automatically deposited into misc accounts.

Reporting

user reports & procedures

8 for SA vs unlimited for ACE

terminal productivity intervals

These can be reported down to user definable intervals of 15 minutes or more with ACE vs a minimum of hourly with SA. Terminal Productivity Interval is set up in Options-Database.

SIR report

ACE has many additional fields in the item record, and supports these in SIR. ACE also includes additional screens for creating coupon maintenance batches.

Tlog and item movement archive

SA will store up to 99 each of compressed and uncompressed Tlogs. ACE increases the capability to 999 each. The number of comp/uncomp Short Item Movement files is 104 for SA and 91 for ACE. The number of comp/uncomp Long Item Movement files is 104 for SA and ACE.

Configuration

modifiable / customizable

SA can be modified with user exits while ACE is extendible using object oriented techniques that eliminate the need for source code modifications.

Functions in SA, and not ACE

A fair comparison of ACE and SA has to include a section showing functions of SA that are not included in ACE. In some cases, notably TOF, functions are being considered for future ACE versions. But many of the functions listed were omitted from ACE intentionally because they were no longer required or utilized by customers.

Terminal Sales

terminal offline (TOF)

standalone processing

SA has a standalone processing mode that can be entered into when the terminal is unable to access the transaction log. In this mode, SA allows manual item entry using department keys and maintains tender and department totals that are used to update the terminal/operator records when the terminal comes back online. ACE will allow manual entry of prices in the same fashion, but a manager override is required at the end of each transaction to essentially discard the transaction record.

offline EJ using 4610 memory

trading stamp processing

alternate keying sequences

Terminal Non-Sales

terminal program load

This is the function that allows a designated terminal to load another terminal across the loop.

EM kiosk support

Configuration

single controller file backup

PSS and host file translation

console security (MGV)

This is included with SA Value Pack, but not with ACE except for the screen saver function, which was added in Release 5.

auto tape backup procedure

This was added to SA with 9901 but was not included in ACE. It is not widely used in SA.

Personalization

miscellaneous account description

The miscellaneous account description field is 30 characters for SA, but only 18 in ACE.

shelf label printing

extendable operator authorization file

managers' message function

EM option to manually double coupons

Accounting

long totals option

Long totals are standard in ACE; an option in SA.

separate long and short item movement file size

Both SA and ACE have short and long IM totals. SA Value Pack 2001 allows SA users to specify a separate long and short item movement file size based on percentage of item record file size.

store office record option

Store office record is standard in ACE; an option in SA.

track misc sale items as tenders

SA Value Pack 2001 allows miscellaneous sales items (i.e. postage stamps, lottery tickets) to be tracked as tenders for loan and pickup while still being sold as misc items.

misc transactions in customer counts

Value Pack 2001 provides for keeping track of transactions that ONLY contain Miscellaneous Sales/Refunds. The Accounting, Operator Performance, Department Totals, and Hourly Department Totals files may be individually selected to maintain this count in separate records of the files. In addition, the reports associated with these files, the Cash, Store Totals Recap, and Operator Sales Reports, can be individually selected to remove the count of these transactions from the individual reports.

Reporting

key vs scan % in operator performance report

The Dept totals section of the Operator Performance report in SA with Value Pack shows key vs scan percentages for the first 20 department subtotal groups. The standard ACE Operator Performance report does not.

miscellaneous items by operator/terminal

SA Value Pack reports details in the cash report, by operator, for each miscellaneous account. ACE does not have this level of detail.