

Boats and Trailers

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So, lets say you want to sell a boat and trailer. You could generate two lot numbers, with the boat as one lot number and the trailer as the other, and sell each one for some fake price with the total being the price you want to get.

However, we have provide a maybe slightly better way for now, and will provide a way better way in the next release.

The problem comes down to licensing. Both boats and trailers have VINs, plate numbers, and need registration. If you do the two stock number thing, you will get most of it done, but you would really prefer it to be on one stock number, and generate one purchase order, and from that generate two sets of registration documents.

We have provided a way right now that is admittedly rather a kluge, but it works. We will provide a more professional way with the next release of the software.

For now, you have to enter all the information that I have no database space for, in the Comments field. In the Inventory program, there is a big box on the car cost screen (2nd tab) that you can put comments into. In the Deal program, these same comments can be seen or changed by clicking on the red or green Exclamation point at the top of the deal screen.

You would first fill in the Inventory screen as if you were putting a boat only into inventory. That is, make, model, color, cost information, etc.

Then you would put in some coded lines in the comment section that allows the program to collect the information that we currently do not have a place for.

There are three codes defined: BT:, BM1: and BM2:. (The colon is part of the code.) Each of these codes have some modifiers. BT: stands for the Boat Trailer. Boats are kind of funny, because the licensing guys want to know a lot about the boat engine(s), so BM1: and BM2: describe the engines. (If you have three engines, then find some better software.)

Following is an example of the comment field for a boat trailer and a boat with one engine:

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BT: -s xx444455 -m ez loader -pWA333zzz -y1995 -X  
BM1: -s mm334455 -m chrysler -h 175 -X
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the “-s” modifier is the serial number, or vin of the trailer or engine.

“-m” is the make

“-y” is the year

“-p” is the plate for the trailer, or boat registration number for the boat

“-h” for the boat is the horsepower

“-X” ends the line

Thus, the example above says that the boat engine has a vin of mm334455, is made by Chrysler, and is 175 hp.

The boat trailer has a vin ov xx444455, made by EZ Loader, has a license plate of WA333zzz, and was manufactured in 1995.

At the moment, I only do paperwork for Washington dealers, because that is all I have using this information, but I could provide the proper paperwork for Idaho dealers if asked.

Form 60067 is the Washington Certificate of Ownership (eg title app) for the trailer (scanned).

Form 60055 will print a hard copy Washington Dealer Temp for the trailer.

I do not fill in the SecureAccess stuff for trailers, yet.

Form 60102 is the Washington Vessel Title Application (scanned).

There is also one gap form and one warranty form that uses this information.

Since there are a huge number of different purchase orders, I will have to modify the particular purchase order that you use in your dealership to handle the trailer.

Note that this system works ONLY when you are selling a boat and trailer as a package.

Generally, if you are a used car dealer selling a boat that was maybe traded in, that is the case. If you are a new boat dealer, this will probably not work, since you would match the trailer and boat at the time of sale.

This was provided at the request of a client that was originally a boat dealer and wanted to use my software. I kept telling him that my stuff does not do boats, but he kept insisting that it would not be that big of a deal, and he has been using my stuff now for about four years. I kept thinking that all this was documented somewhere, but the only references I can find are in the FAQ document, and it is rather cryptic. So I decided to flesh things out a bit.

In the future, I will add real database tables to the schema, and then we can do all this more correctly that we currently are doing.