ECS Monthly Newsletter

The latest in ECS news, technology, and industry updates.

January 2024

American Data Hosting

Upcoming Webinar:

Physician Orders and MAR/TAR Review
Wednesday, January 24th
(1:00pm-02:00 pm CST)

ECS Updates/ Industry News:

A Message From American Data President

New Year - New Rates

ECS User Forum Discussions
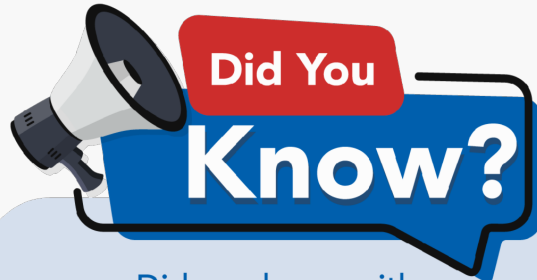
Issues & Solutions Client Access Report

Paid Advertisements

ECS Tip of the Month: MAR/TAR Header

Share your success!
Deficiency-Free Surveys

Quick Links:
Client Sign On

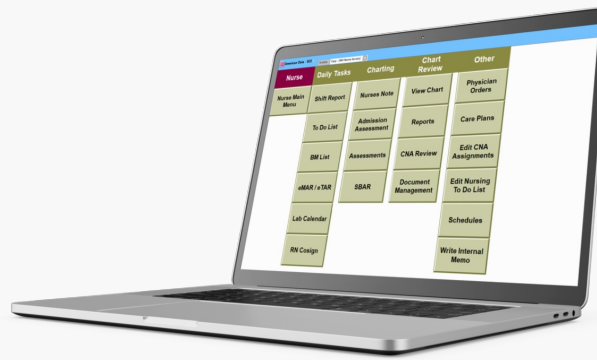*"Like" us on* **Facebook**

Did You Know?

Did you know with **American Data Hosting** you can access your ECS medical and financial data securely through a laptop from anywhere with a browser?

Administrators, DONs, ADONs, Supervisors, Pharmacists, Physicians, Business Office Managers, and others can benefit from the ECS browser access.

Contact us now at
info@american-data.com
to learn more!

LEARN MORE

welcome
2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR

AMERICAN DATA

Upcoming Webinars

CaReS
WEBINAR
PHYSICIAN ORDERS AND
MAR/TAR REVIEW

Physician Orders and MAR/TAR Review

Session Date:
Wednesday, January 24th
(01:00 - 02:00 pm CST)

SIGN UP TODAY

ECS Updates and Industry News

A Message from American Data President

Most EMR software for Nursing Homes and Assisted Living in the market today are cloud-based multi-tenant systems. The problem is not that the software is cloud-based but that they are multi-tenant. They have unrelated facilities using the same instance (the engine) and maybe the same database (record storage). Why are they built this way? It is less expensive to maintain, saving the vendor huge dollars. But the downside of such a design is tragic and tricky.

Tragic, because to satisfy the needs and wants of two or more unrelated facilities, the

system becomes a cookie-cutter, one-size-fits-all system. The only thing that two unrelated facilities have in common is regulation and the minimal standard of care. Tricky, because of the regulation of preserving medical and financial records for 7 to 10 years, the vendor controls the access to historical records, thus locking the facility in multiple-year contracts. Yes, they may say that one could request extraction of the historical records but such may be unreadable unless the file is converted to an SQL format. But would such a format make any sense to anyone besides a programmer?

With ECS' flexibility, our system can be tailored/customized to fit whatever care setting it is used, be it Skilled Care, Assisted Living, or Independent Living. This allows the care recipient to flow through the system seamlessly through the continuum of care. But more importantly, the facility bends the system to the facility's standards, goals, and philosophy, not just regulatory mandates.

But what if the facility wants to have its own ECS instance and database and access to its historical records and still be able to have the system hosted in the cloud with browser access anywhere? American Data now has the answer. Host your system through American Data in partnership with our data center in Minneapolis and backup in Texas. Plus, our tech staff takes care of all updates and maintenance of the servers.

Such were our ambitions for 2023, plus adding robust and total system integration (not interfacing) of General Ledger and Accounts Payable. We are looking forward to 2024 with some new features and enhancements planned, with programming to begin January 1st.

These include:
- Pharmacy Centric Medication Entry that will save nursing time
- Real-time Dashboards
- Facility Controlled Family Portal
- Interfacing devices to ECS to reduce data entry time
- Finally, we are considering going to an all-inclusive maintenance rate sometime in 2024, where all ECS support is included, everything in clinical and financial support is covered. It will encourage facilities to use American Data staff as their System Supervisor for setups within the system.

Wishing all of you a safe, healthy, and successful New Year
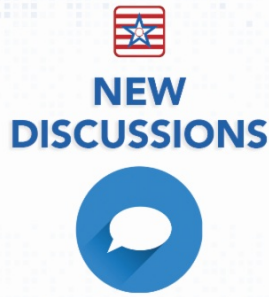
John Ederer
President - American Data

For those using the Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable/General Ledger modules in ECS, remember to open your future periods in the General Ledger, and enter in any new rates you may have for January 2024, prior to doing your January 2024 billing.

If you were not able to attend December's webinar covering year-end and rate changes, you can log into the **Client Sign-On** portion of our website to watch the recording and download the handouts.

CONTACT US

American Data News

NEW DISCUSSIONS

ECS User Forum Discussion Threads:

Current Issues & Solutions

If you have ever wondered, "Is American Data aware?" when running into an issue with the latest version of ECS, now you can confirm for yourself! Join our new "Current Issues & Solutions" discussion thread on our ECS User Forum. Follow the Smartsheet in the comments to view the real-time progress of known issues in ECS, discover temporary solutions, and be aware of estimated repair dates. Stay as informed about these issues as our own staff!

What's New & Upcoming

If you are ever curious about upcoming enhancements in the next update, you can now be one of the first to know! Join our new "What's New and Upcoming in ECS?" discussion thread on our ECS User Forum. Follow the Smartsheet in the comments to view a list of enhancements ready to roll out in the Fall of 2023 with version 10.2.0.0. Additionally, you can find a link to our ECS Wish List. We want to hear your software suggestions!

How do I find the discussion threads?

1. Log into the **Client Sign On**.
2. Locate the *ECS User Forum* under the *User* tab.
3. Click on *Sign In with American Data User in the right-hand corner* .

LOG IN

Issues & Solutions Client Access Report

View the **smartsheet** for the latest information on known issues, including planned dates of repair, and how you can work around them until then.

VIEW SMARTSHEET

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ECS Tip of the Month

MAR/TAR Header

On the MAR/TAR the Header can be changed to pull different information. It can only pull four topics, but it may be changed based on the information the facility would like to view. The header can pull demographic information such as the record number or from documentation like the room number.

For help in making this change please email **clinical@american-data.com**.

LEARN MORE

Deficiency-Free Survey Awards
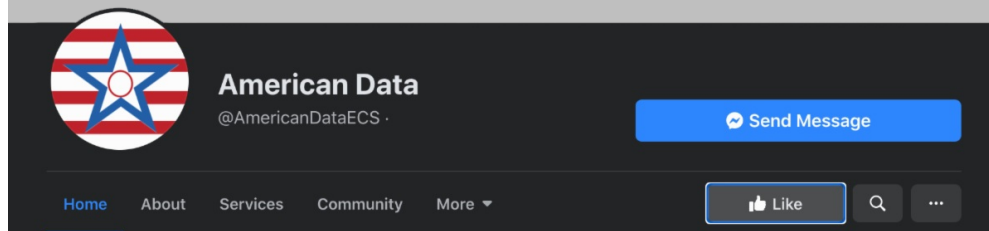

Share your success with American Data!

Many ECS Facilities receive perfect surveys. Did your facility? Let us know!
Please let us know of your facility's Deficiency-Free Survey and/or Most Improved Survey so we can share your successes! Send an email to **cares@american-data.com.**

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS

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"Like" Us On Facebook!

Follow our **Facebook** page to stay connected with the American Data community.

American Data
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American Data After-Hours Support

Regular Business Hours:
Monday- Friday: 8:00 am-5:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

For immediate assistance **after regular business hours,** call 1-608-438-7505.

Stay Connected to American Data!

Follow our social media accounts to get the latest information on software updates, reminders, and company news!

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