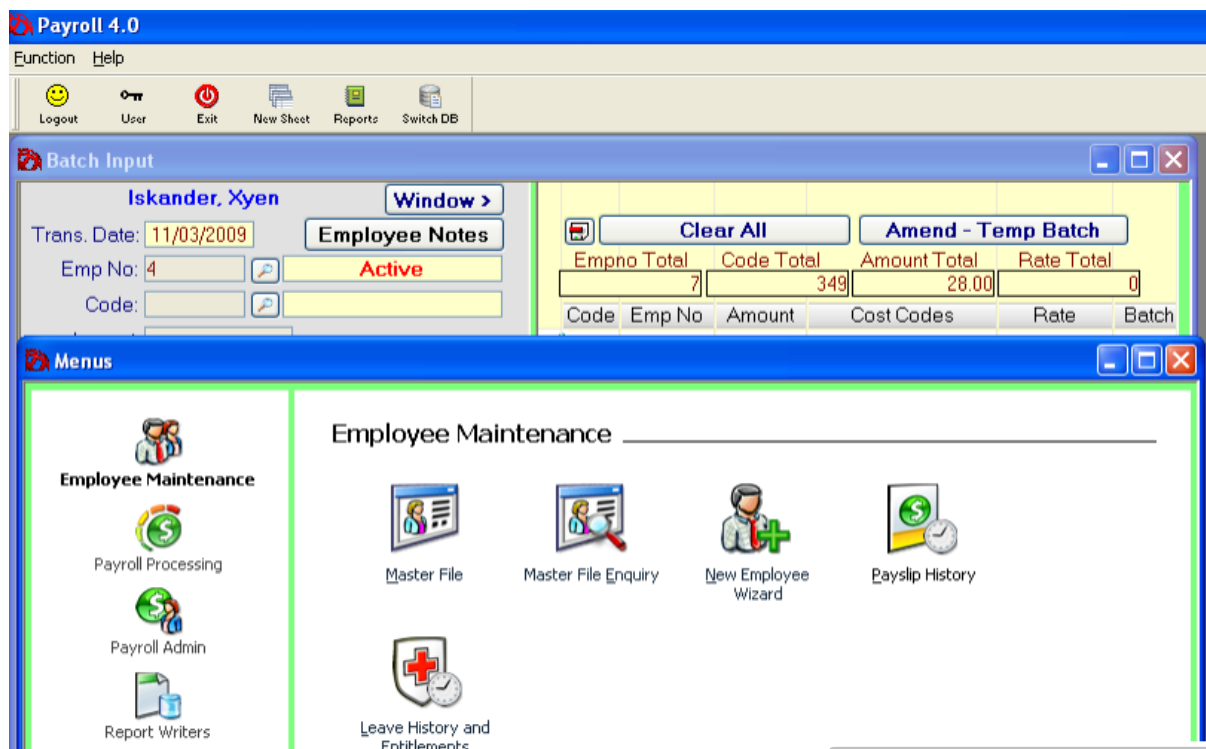# Version 4 - New Features

Multi-Sheet

Version 4 gives the user the option to 'multi-task'.

The New Sheet function provides the user with a means to carry out a second task without disrupting the work they are currently doing. A user could be part of the way through the Create New Employee wizard and be requested to do an urgent task such printing payslip history for an employee. By clicking on the New Sheet option, a new window pane will open to the main menu. The user can check Payslip History, close the sheet and be back on the screen they were before to continue adding new employee details.

The above image illustrates how the New Sheet feature works. When involved in batch input, you can click on the New Sheet button, do a second task then return to the batch to continue with your data entry. You can be more responsive to office demands.

With a widescreen display you can view two sheets side by side.

Some current customers log in twice in order to achieve this multi-task capability. This can incur an added cost of extra use-counts in the software license. We can overcome this problem with the multi-sheet facility because it does not require you to log in twice.
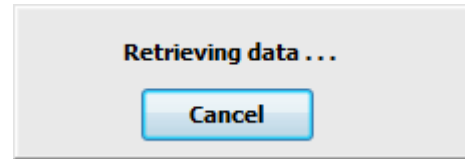
Vista Support

The Runtime evironment has been tested with Vista Business Edition and makes full use of inherited Vista features for window objects such as transparent windows, tab & button visual effects, datetime calender and formatting support and file dialog options.

Performance Boost

The "Retrieving data" pop-up window has been removed from enquiry and edit list models. When networks were comparatively slow and customers used low performing legacy PC's. It was originally put in place to allow the user to cancel the retieval of large amounts of data. Since then we have added the option within Gensol to configure or limit the number of rows returned to the screen and so long waits for large retrievals can be avoided. By removing this popup the retrieval speed of data for these models has been substantially improved.

Gensol Reports

Gensol Reports has proven to be important for all Gensol applications. It would have been very difficult to develop complex reports for Payroll and HR using a 3rd party report writer. Consequently Gensol Reports has been used extensively for every Gensol application and so when we improve Gensol Reports this gives every Gensol application a big boost.

At release 4 we have added support for automatic re-size within all bands and not just the Detail Band of a complex report. The SQL wizard window has also been advanced to support complex outer join statements. The Browser environment enables a Gensol Report to be produced and either exported or emailed as a pdf. Adding the ability to optionally encrypt a report which is produced to pdf was critical for such topics as Payroll Payslips. So many improvements for Payroll Employee Self Service and for Forensic Case Management Detective Browser screens, for example.

Online updates

At release 4 we have added the option to download "client file updates". Some client specific files such as images, hardcoded pbd's are not common to all users of Gensol runtime so previously these had to be copied manually into the application directory.

A feature of every Gensol application is the ease by which users may receive and update their application over the internet, quickly and with full audit capability supported.
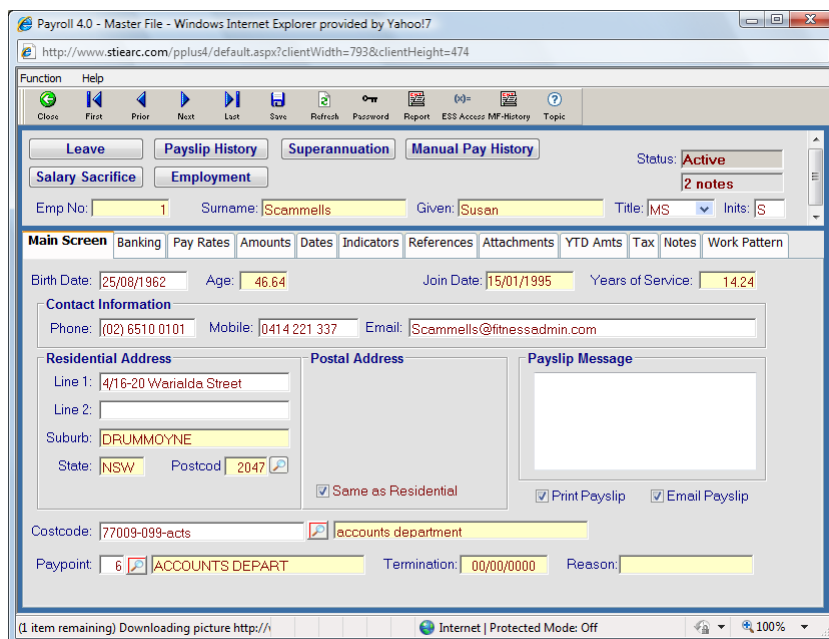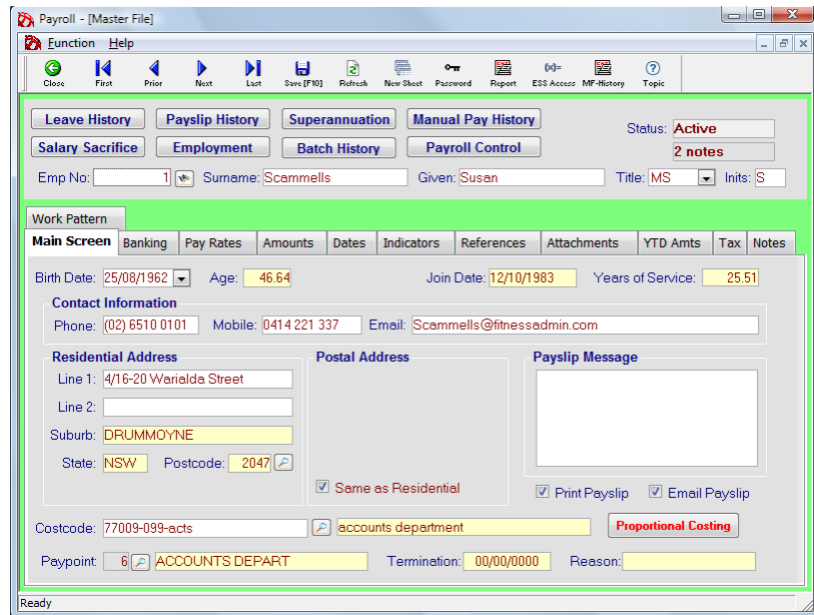
Task Scheduler

At release 4 we have added the option to encrypt PDF reports prior to emailing.

Advanced Browser Support

Gensol has been supporting development for the browser environment for many years; however this has involved a separate development toolkit. At release 4 we can support both Client/Server as well as Browser versions of the runtime, both using the same software configuration or source code.

To the right is a screen shot of the masterfile as it appears in Client/Server in Vista at rel 4.
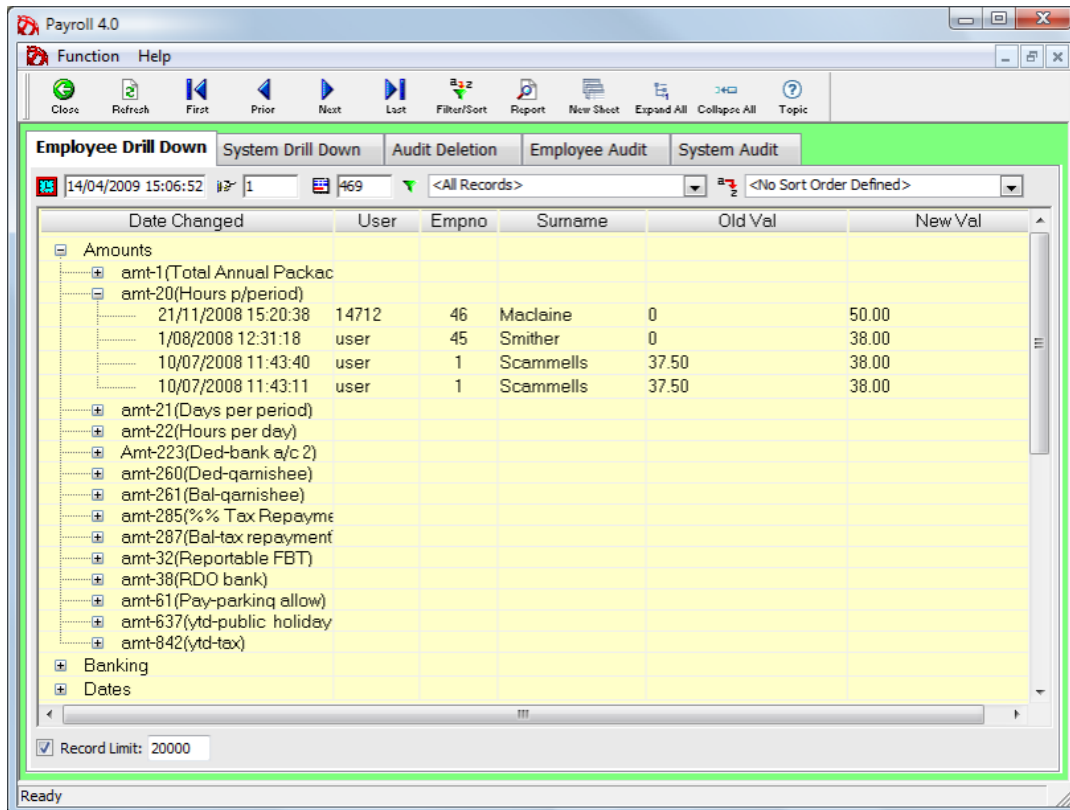
On the left you can see the masterfile in the Browser format.

Users no longer need to learn two ways to use the system. Developing with one codebase that can be used on two different platforms reduces the likelihood of programming errors and improves the deployment of bug fixes. This is a significant step forward.

This means the software development skill-sets required to develop a browser application are not so great because the developer can develop in Client/server and deploy to the browser platform. This innovation will prove to be very important in keeping our maintenance support fees low and our efficiency high. It reduces risk by reducing complexity overall.

Drill down (treeview) data support

A new screen type has been introduced that groups key information allowing the user to easily drill down directly to find the underlying data. This data type only retrieves data when you expand the tree thus making the screen load initially very quickly. Normal filter capability is supported to restrict the selection further.

Multi-system connectivity

The runtime has been advanced to allow separate database connections directly between Gensol applications. This means that you can open a screen/report from a separate application without having to log into that application. For example you can now open the HR Personnel details screen in the HR system directly within the employee screen in the Payroll system. This innovation enables our customers to easily build an enterprise suite of software in a scalable and modular process.