priority

CUSTOMER SUPPORT GUIDE

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Introduction

Priority Software strives to make the transition to and use of **Priority** as efficient and easy as possible. Customer support has always been and continues to be a high priority for Priority Software.

Defining and updating customer authorized contacts

Priority Software provides product support to customers who are current with their annual license payments (AULC).

Priority Software provides your designated company contact(s) with a username and password to access Priority Software's web-based Customer Service. It is your company's responsibility to control access to your username and passwords, providing it only to those who are authorized to use this support.

You can add or delete contacts in our records by accessing the Priority Software Service Center on the web site.

Contract support terms

Your standard product contract entitles your company to support for the correction of product defects in the current releases of active products. For a limited time, Priority Software will make corrections in the immediate prior release. This period usually ends up to 6 months after Priority Software makes the current release available. This does not apply if someone other than Priority Software makes modifications that cause the problem. The schedule of current product releases is dynamic. Your customer service representative can answer specific questions.

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Priority Software Customer Support

Contacting Priority Software

<u>Regular contact</u>: Open a service call at <u>www.priority-software.com</u>. Click on the "Customer Log-In" link and follow the instructions provided below. During normal work hours, you will receive a response to your call within 24-48 hours.

<u>Problem alerts</u>: If the first two methods do not produce an adequate response, you are invited to contact our International/U.S. representatives (whose contact information will be posted and updated from time to time on our website).

All new cases must be submitted via a service call on the Priority Software web site. This ensures efficient and effective review and handling of your call by a Customer Service representative, as well as tracking capabilities and an identification number.

Submitting new cases

When submitting a new case to the Customer Support Center, please be sure to include the following information:

- 1. Precise identification of the software package, including the release number, operating system and database (Oracle, SQL).
- 2. Any helpful information about the specific case, which may include:
 - ☐ Error messages or codes (preferably as a screen shot)
 - System log messages
 - □ Program output
 - Description of expected correct behavior
 - Impact of case
- 3. Any recent changes made to the system (patches, service packs, etc.)

Client operations

The following suggestions help ensure a smoothly run operation:

1. Use change management.

Ensure that your systems are current in order to speed up the process of resolving any cases that arise. Do so by:

- □ Keeping orderly documentation on changes to your systems
- □ Applying maintenance regularly or keeping up with current software release levels
- Making incremental changes rather than mass changes, when possible, to make changes easier to track
- Rigorously testing new releases before moving them to the production server

2. Appoint a contact person.

Having one support contact point reduces the possibility of redundant reported issues and missed communications. It also helps prioritize multiple open issues.

3. Use stability management.

Have procedures in place to roll back from unsuccessful changes, whether they are provided by Priority Software, other vendors or other applications software. Perform regular data and program backups for system recovery.

4. Use case management.

Know when and why a case is open. This is very helpful in understanding events that precede a case. Understanding will expedite case analysis.

5. Keep communication open.

Keep the communication open between your support contact and Priority Software's Technical Support Engineer. Make known the results of tests, diagnostics and interim corrections.

Product issues

The Support Center handles product issues. "Product" refers to the entire product, including installation procedures, software and documentation.

A product issue is one where the software does not perform as documented, or the documentation is incorrect. Normally, Priority Software resolves these issues by recoding or reengineering the software product or by changing the documentation. Priority Software may supply an interim correction or circumvention to make the product operational until a permanent change can be made.

Usage issues

Usage issues are specific to a user or environment.

Typical issues might include questions on how to:

- Install the product
- □ Configure or tune the product for your environment
- □ Apply maintenance or upgrade to new releases
- □ Do normal product operations, such as run a report, restore a file, etc.

You may resolve usage issues on your own by researching the documentation available on the Priority Software web site and in the product.

This documentation provides self-service diagnostic capabilities for usage issues and questions. You may also contact Priority Software Support for assistance with usage issues. You will be asked for your approval to continue on a fee basis when you call, in the event that the case may not be a product defect. However, the Technical Support Engineer may only be able to make this determination late in the process of case analysis.

Priority Software consultation services

Priority Software consultation services are fee-based telephone or e-mail services designed for customers who are seeking advice on the use of Priority Software products. These services provide access to Technical Support Engineers with experience in functional and operational areas of Priority Software's products.

In order to take advantage of these consultation services, you must have a valid license and be up-to-date with the AULC payments. The default mode for consultation is ad hoc, pay-per-incident (time and expenses), with written authorization.

Should you have a question about any consultation service or billing, please contact your Administrative Manager or send an e-mail request to the Customer Service Center.

Custom fixes

A custom fix is a software change that is not a part of the standard product. It is provided upon the customer's request to modify the operation of the standard product to meet their specific needs.

Priority Software does not guarantee that it will implement custom fixes as a standard part of the product in future releases, or that it can apply or alter a custom fix to fit any future release (unless the fix is covered by specific fees that become a part of the AULC). Priority Software distributes custom fixes on an "as-is" basis.

A custom fix constitutes an uncertified feature and Priority Software will not be liable on any claim, whether in contract, tort, or otherwise, for any damages arising directly or indirectly from your use of such a fix. Priority Software provides all support on custom fixes through the Priority Software Consultation Services, including realignment of custom fixes from prior releases.

Resolution escalation

If you feel your case is not receiving adequate service from Priority Software, contact the Customer Support Center and discuss expediting the case. If you do not reach a satisfactory solution, request that a member of the Priority Software Support Management Team contact you.

Priority Software Professional Services

Priority Software offers you on-site and remote assistance through our Professional Services Organization. Priority Software's Professional Services are designed to address your company's needs in four areas:

- □ Product start-up and implementation Services
- □ Application consulting services
- Education services.

Product start-up and implementation services

A quick, seamless, and successful product start-up and implementation can greatly benefit your company's bottom line by reducing costs, demonstrating a quick return on investment and increasing productivity. Priority Software Professional Services will ensure that your product start-up implementation runs as efficiently as possible, addressing all aspects of implementation, including training and education, functional consulting, gap analysis, customizations and data conversion.

Application consulting services

Successful application development projects are based on proper scope identification, effective project management, quality design and development, and efficient use of the development tools. Priority Software Professional Services can provide these services and more to help you organization make the most of your Priority installation.

Education services

Priority Software recognizes the importance of high-quality functional and technical education for our customers and we place a high focus on product education. Experts are available to provide implementation planning services, as well as project management, product consulting, and key user training. With detailed knowledge of Priority and practical "real-world" experience, the experts address a customer's particular situation by identifying individual tasks and activities required for success.

Service Call Status Definitions

When Priority Software places your case in a wait status, it indicates that Priority Software Customer Service has reviewed the service call and either (1) has given you specific actions to perform and is waiting for a response or (2) is addressing the issue internally. The status definitions of service calls are:

New Call: Your service call has been opened in the system, and has not yet been reviewed by Customer Service personnel.

Pending: Your service call is being reviewed.

Answered: Your service call has been responded to and an answer provided. You can still update the call.

Awaiting Customer: Priority Software Customer Service is waiting for a response from you.

Updated: You have successfully updated your service call, which is now awaiting review by Customer Service personnel.

Programmer: A programmer has been assigned to review your service call.

Senior Programmer: A senior programmer has been assigned to review your service call. **Awaiting Upgrade**: Your upgrade request is being reviewed/handled. That is, Priority Software is either reviewing your account or waiting to connect to your system to perform technical checks before the upgrade.

Canceled: Your service call has been canceled.

Closed: Your service call has been closed. If you have additional questions on this issue, please open a new service call and cite this service call number in the new call.

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