DAILY RETURNS SYSTEM (DRS)
VERSION 3.5 RELEASE NOTES

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Introduction

This version introduces more user-interface improvements to the daily returns input screen (most used screen of DRS), by dramatically reduce scrolling required in frequently used areas and improving compatibility.
The Vouchers Input screen has received a number of productivity improvements through filtering unneeded contents.
Support for long currencies such as the Hungarian Forint has also been added.

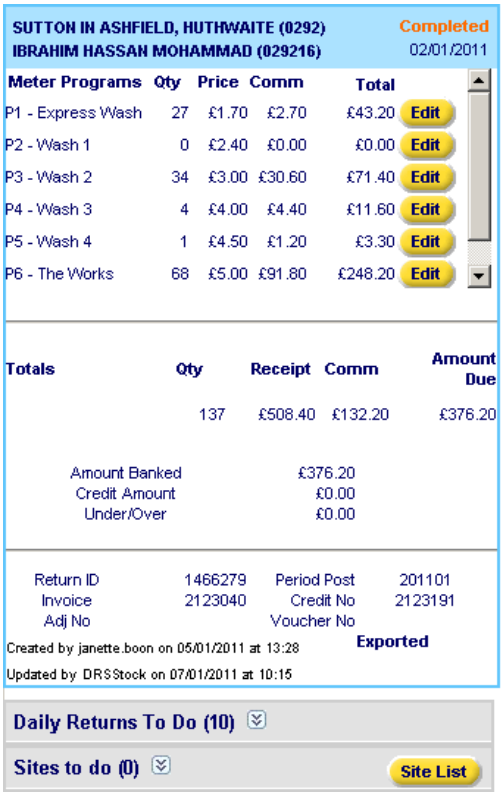
Daily Returns Summary Readability Improvements

The left-hand side area showing the quantity, receipts and commission totals for each meter program has been revamped to improve its readability and make it more compatible with large numbers and currencies.

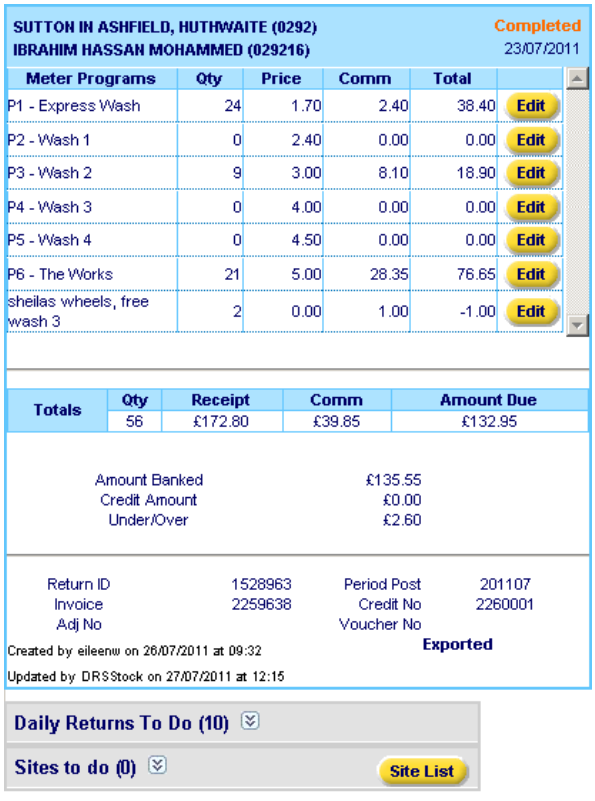
The currency symbol been removed from the details to remove unnecessary visual clutter and allow the user to focus on the actual figures more easily.

Columns have been resized, alignment has been improved and the table formatting has been improved to help distinguish each separate column and row.

Previous Version



DRS Version 3.5



Daily Returns Summary – Dynamic Height Adjustment

Some sites have more meters programs than others and as a result, it could happen on sites with lots of programs and vouchers that the user would have to scroll through the list to show the total of some of the

meter programs.

This was because the height of the totals summary area was static.

To remove this annoyance, I have implemented a mechanism that will dynamically resize the summary panel where the totals of each meter program are shown, based on the number of items in it.

In clearer terms, the summary panel will adjust to its contents, rather than using an arbitrary value bound to be too small or too tall depending on the site.

So, it should always resize to the most appropriate height to avoid the scrolling but also avoid having too much wasted horizontal screen real-estate.

Obviously, to not let it expand without any control, it will stop expanding once it reaches a certain maximum height.

If this maximum height is reached, the panel will be sized at that maximum height and the user will have to use the scroll bars to scroll through the details.
This is done so because otherwise, the user would have to scroll on the whole webpage itself, which would be worse in terms of user-experience.

However, I do not expect this maximum height to be reached often, if ever as the maximum height is relatively high.
For example, UK Site 0300 Kirkcaldy, shown below, has a lot of meter programs and displays perfectly fine with no need for scroll bars, as pictured in the next page.

Daily Returns Input Area – Dynamic Height Adjustment

The same mechanism has also been implemented on the right-hand side of the window, where the meters are input by the users.
In the past versions, scrolling was required there as well, but the height of this area should automatically adjust to the best size based on the number of meter programs in it.

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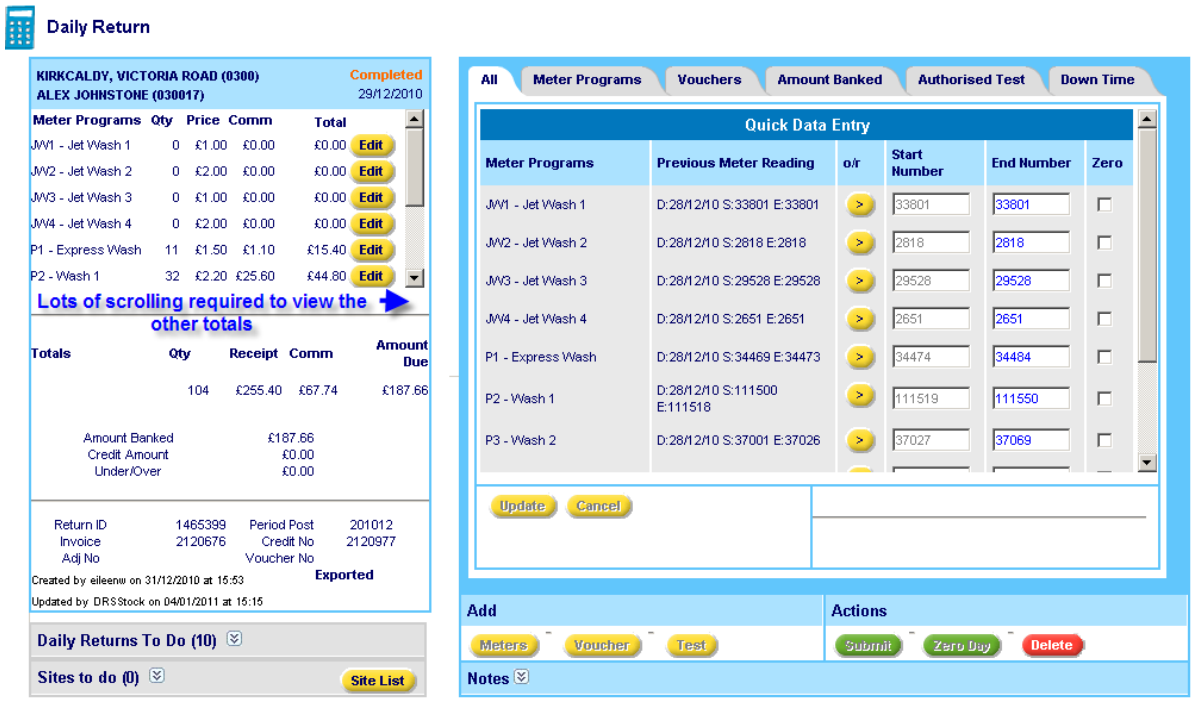
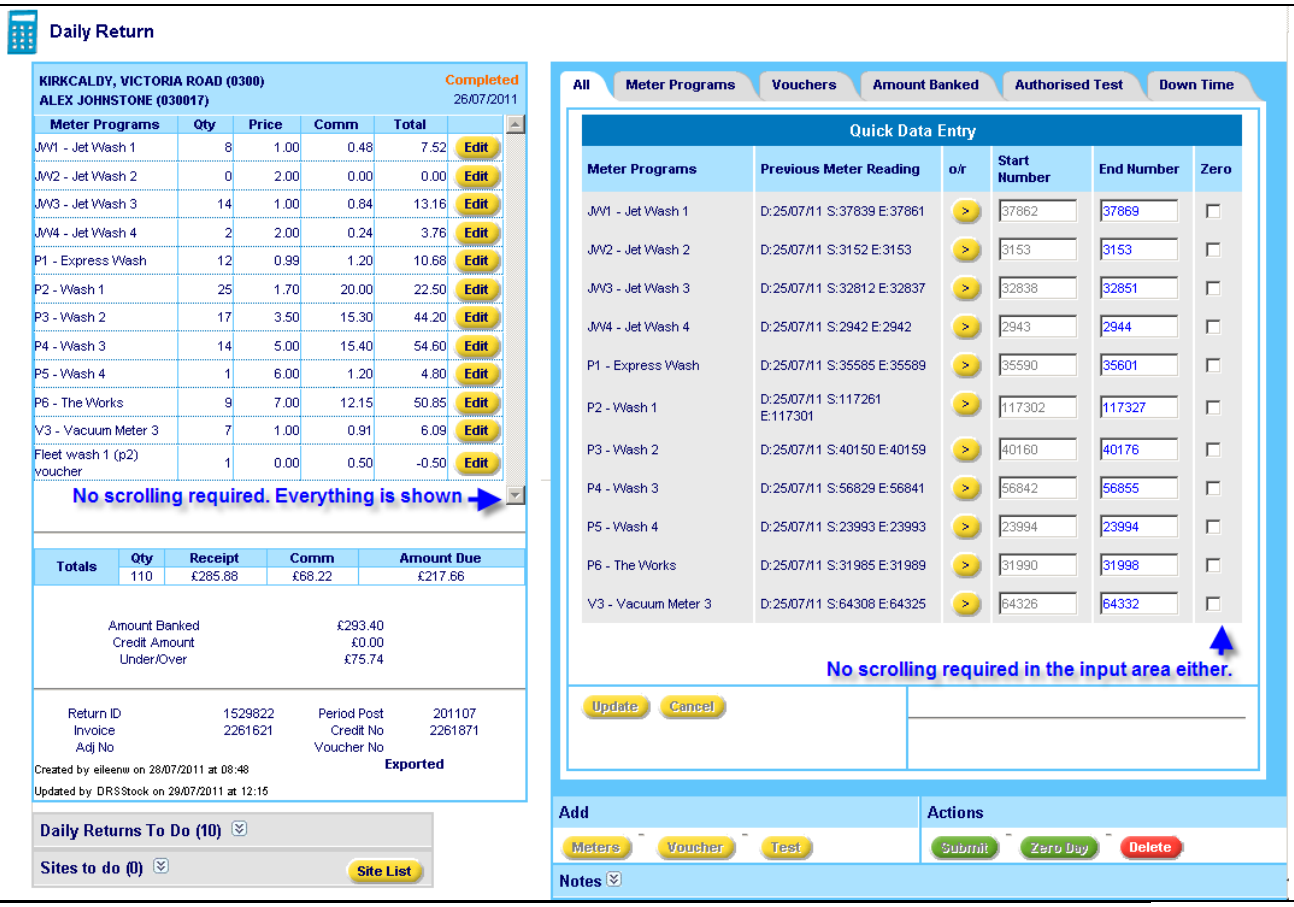
Previous Version ↓



DRS Version 3.5 ↓



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Using the F11 keyboard shortcut to switch to full-screen

To maximize the available height to the actual contents, it may be useful for the DRS user to use the “F11” keyboard shortcut of Internet Explorer to switch the browser in full-screen mode.

Enabling this mode will cause the title bar, toolbars, address bar of the Internet Explorer browser to be hidden.
As a result, the DRS contents will really have as much as space of possible.
The full-screen mode can be turned off by pressing F11 again.

Screens with a resolution of at least 1280*1024 (1280 pixels horizontal / 1024 pixels vertical) are recommended for using with DRS in the best conditions.

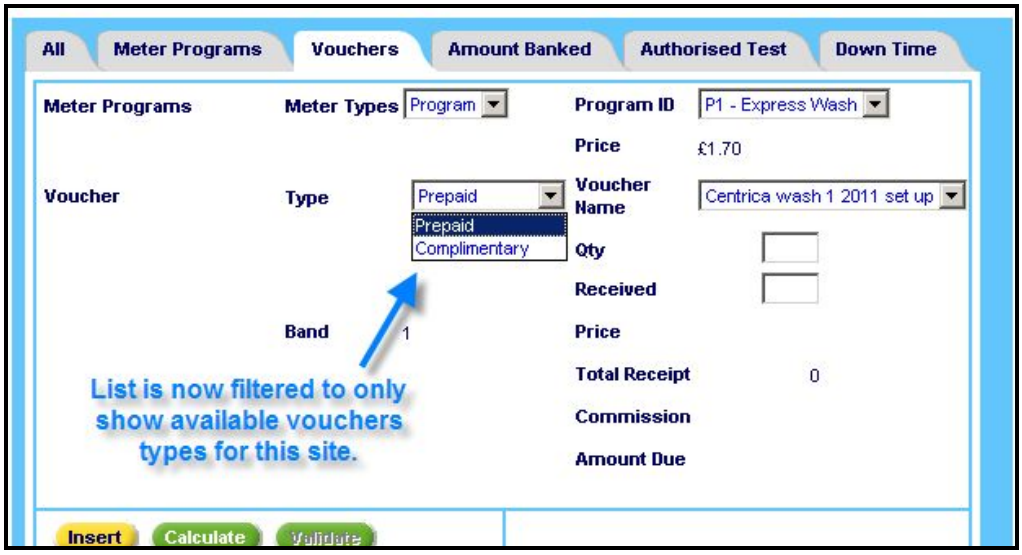
Vouchers Type Input Filtering

In DRS, when inputting vouchers to the daily returns, one of the dropdown lists displays the list of vouchers types (Prepaid, Discount, Complimentary, Promotional, etc).

So far, this list was always populated with all those voucher types, even though some were sometimes not relevant for the current site and/or meter program.

In smaller countries, this was time-consuming and frustrating because they tend to only use the "Discount" type.
However, this voucher type was the third choice or so in the list, forcing them to switch to the correct voucher type all the time, even though a single type was actually relevant.

I have updated DRS so it can detect which vouchers types are relevant for the current site and meter program.
This means that it will only show voucher types for which there exists valid vouchers that can be applied for this site and meter program.



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Operators Statement Changes

The operator statement has received a couple of improvements.

New row displayed even if only the commission changes

In some rare cases, where only the commission of a program/option changed but not its price, on the same Price Band, a separate distinct row for this particular commission rate would not be shown. Figures and totals were all correct though.

The behaviour by design for the report so far was for the commission of that program to be averaged and put on a single row, as the price didn't actually change and only the commission.

However, for some clarity reasons for their operators, the Netherlands DRS users have requested a separate row to be shown even if only the commission changed and not the actual price.

Also, meter programs having received no wash during the targeted month will be excluded from the operator statement's details, as it doesn't serve any purpose and potentially confuse the operators.

Rounding formula

There was an inconsistency in the formula being used in the UK VAT report and the operator statement, which could result in very small differences between those two reports due to slightly different rounding methods being used in those two reports.

The VAT figures operator statement has been aligned to use the same rounding system as the UK VAT Report statement.
Please note that this fix has been actually active since end of June and communicated internally.

"Banked Amount" screen improvements

If the Amount Banked field was set to an empty value, and the Update button was clicked, DRS saved back to the database a NULL value into the database, which resulted in issues when wanting to get back to the Amount Banked later on.
A validation has been added to prevent the empty amount banked to be saved and report a warning message instead, for the user to resolve and enter a value.

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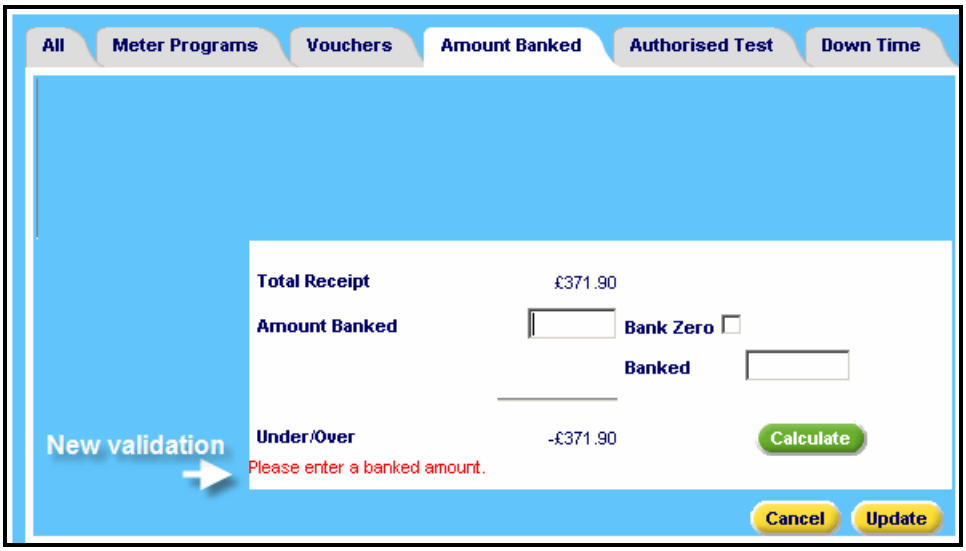
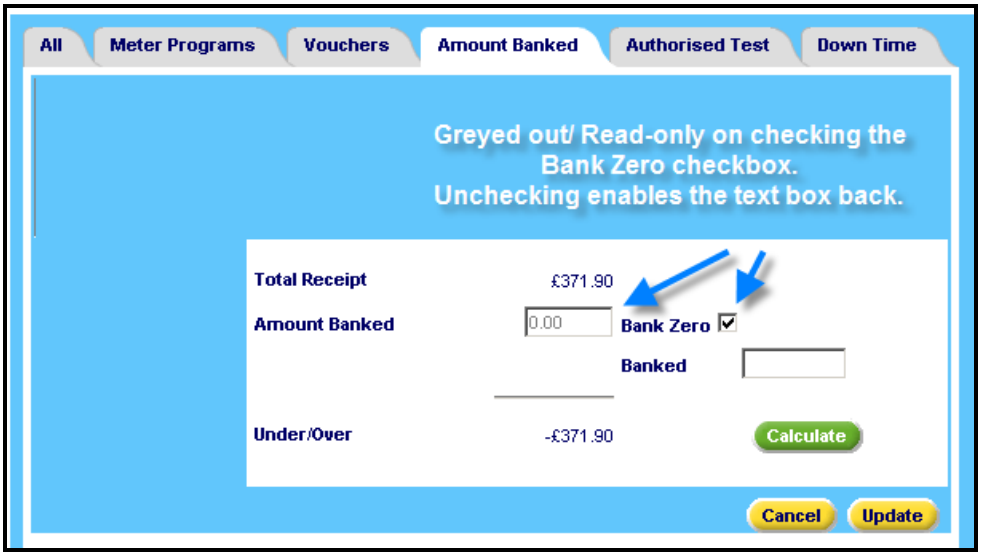


Another improvement is that a click on the "Bank Zero" check box will now reset the Amount Banked textbox to 0 (needed to be done manually by the user before) and the textbox is then disabled/read-only.



"Check All Checkboxes" Button on Banking Screen

A "Check All" button has been added to the Banking screen, as several users reported it was taking them a lot of time to click through all the checkboxes.
The Check All button will automatically tick all the checkboxes on the screen, except the checkboxes that are disabled / greyed out.
This feature was requested by the Netherlands DRS users and can presumably be useful to most, if not all, DRS countries as well.

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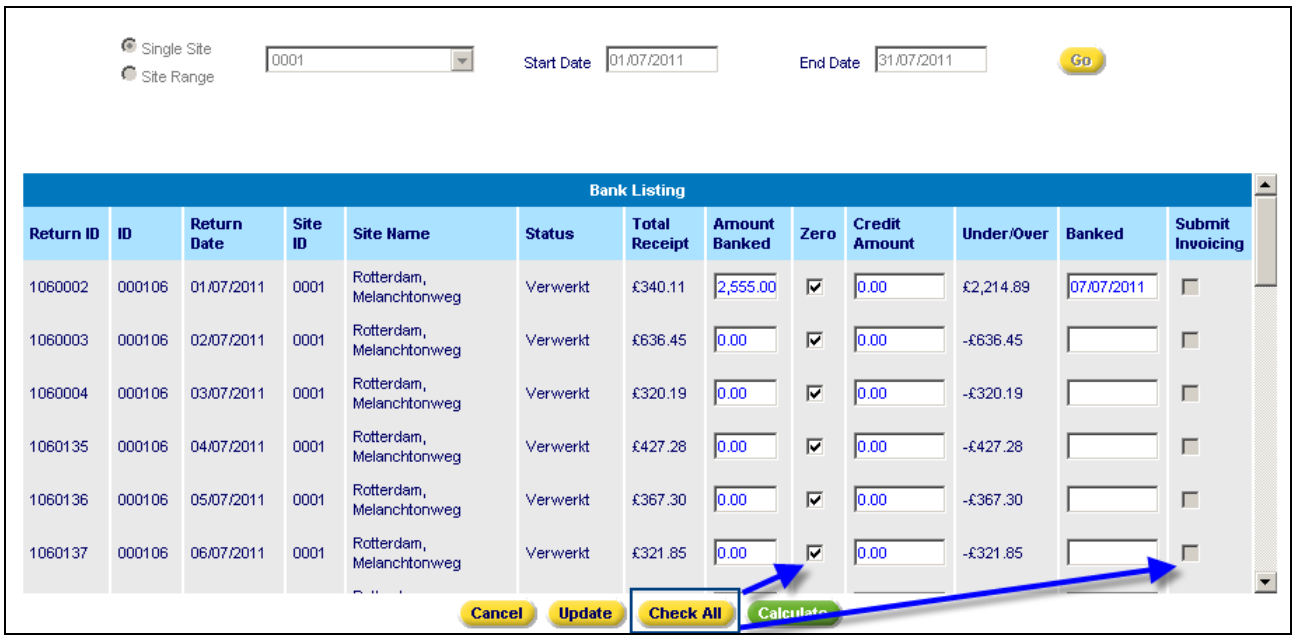

Ending words

If anything did not make sense, or if you would like further precisions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would also like to thank the UK and NL DRS users for their efficient and friendly assistance in testing these new features.

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