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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **BASF Fights Worldwide Hunger**
- **Is Nitrogen the New Carbon?**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Happy "Hug a Texas Chef" Month!

Greetings Readers!

As you know, with each new year we like to make changes to our newsletter. We're always looking to improve our mix of industry news, customer highlights, and our own company happenings! With only a few months left in the year, my thoughts have already turned to what improvements we may want to make for next year—and this is where you come in.

Here you will find a survey on our current newsletter, as well as possible changes you would like to see. To thank you for your time and valuable input, we will be drawing for a $25 cash gift card from the answered surveys we receive.

Thank you,

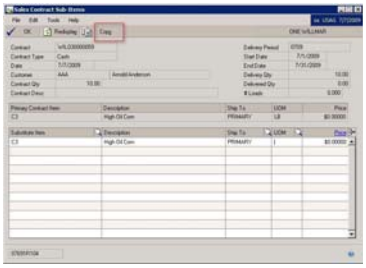
Micci Ryan, Editor

Final Spotlight on CINCH 10.4: Bulk Ship Sub-Item

E-Markets recently released a new version of our CINCH® solution, CINCH 10.4. We have already highlighted many of the updates that this version has to offer, and our final spotlight will be on the Bulk Ship Sub-Item functionality with many changes to save time and data entry.

One of these time saving features is that the sales contract sub-items window will now allow the user to copy sub-items from another contract, eliminating repetitive data entry.

Both the Load Generator tool and the Load Order Entry tool have added the ability to create Load Orders for Sales Contract Sub-Items, and shipments for Sales Contract Sub-Items can conveniently be created in the Bulk Shipping Entry tool.



The modified Sales Contract Sub-Items window is just one of the many new features in CINCH 10.4.

To learn more about the Bulk Ship Sub-Item updates, along with the many more CINCH 10.4 changes, video demos can be viewed on the CINCH FTP site. If you'd like to speak to a member of the E-Markets services team, please call 877-674-7419.

To upgrade to the newest version of CINCH, contact Ryan Allen, Ryan.allen@e-markets.com.

Ag Companies Join Forces to Support Worldwide Hunger Relief

September 10, 2009—This August, BASF Crop Protection partnered with Horizon Ag to donate funds to the Stop Hunger Now organization's record-breaking University Million Meal Week.

BASF is the supplier of CLEARFIELD® trait. Horizon Ag partners with BASF to make CLEARFIELD rice varieties for planting in the United States. Their donation helped purchase quantities of rice that were used for approximately one-half of the meal packaging effort. Four North Carolina universities hosted University Million Meal Week events, where students and community volunteers packaged 1,031,776 meals for the less fortunate around the world.

"Horizon Ag is proud to support efforts to reduce hunger during these critical economical times, and we hope BASF's donation inspires others to do the same. As more families today across the globe are affected by events beyond their control, we think this is the least we could do to assist them. Stop Hunger Now is a lifeline for millions of people in the time of their greatest need," said Randy Ouzts, general manager of Horizon Ag. "Rice is a staple of life and accepted the world over as a key component for daily nutrition, and we are more than willing to support the effort to reduce hunger in areas where people are simply unable to feed themselves."

Leadership at BASF echoed Ouzts' sentiment. "At BASF, we are committed to our part in meeting the rising global need for food, fiber and fuel via our crop protection products—and our role in enabling growers to get more from every acre grown," said Paul Rea, Director, U.S. Crop Business. "We too realize the growing need to support those in the most desperate of circumstances, those afflicted by hunger. As such, we are happy to play a role in ensuring meals are provided for global distribution."

Stop Hunger Now's highly nutritious meals include rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and vitamin-fortified flavoring mix with 21 essential vitamins and minerals. Each meal provides a reasonable serving for six and costs 25 cents to make. Stop Hunger Now provides all ingredients with contributions from sponsors and other contributors.

Source: BASF

E-Markets' customer BASF is the world's leading chemical company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics and performance products to agricultural products, fine chemicals, as well as oil and gas.

Podcast Series Shares Harvest of NASA Advances in Agriculture

September 23, 2009—A new NASA podcast series spotlights scientific advances in monitoring agricultural production and landscape changes that affect the sustainability of the world's food supply. The videos also examine the partnerships between NASA and other government agencies concerned with the availability of food.

Beginning September 23, a new episode in the series "Science for a Hungry World" will be posted online each Wednesday through October 28.

Podcasts will cover:

- Land use and land cover change
- Sustainability of food availability and access
- The essential interplay of water and agriculture
- The future of the world's food system
- Join agriculture projects between NASA, USDA, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

The podcasts are part of a summer-long series of news stories, image features, videos, and other multimedia exploring how NASA's unique vantage point from space provides benefits to agriculture in the U.S. and abroad.

The public may view the podcast series on NASA's Web Portal www.nasa.gov under the heading NASA TV & Video. To view the entire podcast series on the web, click here.

Source: NASA

NASA will be posting a new episode of it's podcast series "Science for a Hungry World", every Wednesday through October 28th.

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Outlook on Pumpkin Harvest

September 22, 2009—Jack-o-lanterns, pumpkin pies and good old fashioned fall decorations: pumpkins symbolize Halloween and the fall season. However, some places in the United states are a little behind with their pumpkin harvests this year.

People in the Northeast may find themselves paying higher prices for pumpkins because of water problems that are pushing the harvest season back—harvest is expected to be off by up to 50 percent this year.

Though crops in the Mid-west are also suffering damage, pumpkin producing states like Ohio are expected to be average.

West Virginia pumpkin farmers say their crop is right on schedule and they're already selling many of the popular gourds.

New book: Is Nitrogen the New Carbon?

September 23, 2009—In looking forward to the next Green Revolution, researchers have been carefully examining the role of nitrogen fixation in delivering successful crops around the globe.

For too long, nitrogen fixation of the soil has involved a dependence upon fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides that are petroleum-based, thus tying the agricultural industry to the availability and market price of fossil fuels. Many researchers agree that the next generations of technologies should emphasize clean and renewable sources to maintain the sustainability of agricultural development.

A new book, *Nitrogen Fixation in Crop Production*, is a resource for the science, application, and politics of the use of nitrogen-fixing crop plants across the globe and in various environments. From the microscopic to the global scale, the book contains a wide range of approaches to the role of nitrogen fixation. The book is published by the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America.

Nitrogen Fixation in Crop Production strongly emphasizes the economics of implementing advanced technologies in the process of nitrogen fixation. The goal of these technologies is the growth of agricultural yields worldwide, creating a system in which regions that typically struggle with their own agricultural sustenance would be able to become more self-sufficient. Nitrogen fixation is widely recognized as a method of achieving these gains, making the book a very timely commodity. For example, the United Nations Millennium Project emphasizes the nitrogen fixation strategy for its sub-Saharan Africa villages.

"Biological nitrogen fixation is an important economic issue for the global economy, as it represents the potential to reduce manufactured fertilizer nitrogen use in certain cropping systems. The economic and societal benefits of biological nitrogen fixation, especially where soil nitrogen supplies and funds for purchased inputs are limiting, are addressed in this book, as is the potential for mitigation of greenhouse gases," writes American Society of Agronomy President Marcus M. Alley of Virginia Tech in the foreword.

The book was edited by David W. Emerich, University of Missouri, and Hari Krishnan, USDA's Agricultural Research Service, Columbia, MO.

The American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America previously published a book on nitrogen fixation in 1984, but with the recent advancements in this science, an updated approach was needed. These nitrogen fixation discoveries include genome sequencing and genetically engineered crops.

Source: American Society of Agronomy