

## Bureaucracy Tracker 4.0 Release Notes

Well, after about a year, I have finally released a new update to the Bureaucracy Tracker System. This is a major upgrade in functionality, as well as having a much more intuitive interface, especially for linking. The enhancements in HyperCard 2.0 are what made this update possible. The changes are numerous, but here is as complete a list as I can think of.

### Bureaucracy Tracker Stack

- Added Navigation menu which is user-customizable. This eliminates much of the screen clutter used for navigation buttons to other stacks you may not use, and allows you to get at stacks you do use.
- Added a Utilities menu to contain some of the stuff that previously was cluttering up the screen as buttons. Report Printing, Linking, and customization options are in the Utilities menu.
- Added options to customize Bureaucracy Tracker to interface with whatever Address stack you are using. The old version assumed the field names that were present on the generic Address stack that shipped with HC 1.x. You can now select which fields contain peoples' names and phone numbers for storage and retrieval. This setup also modifies the Phone message stack similarly.
- Greatly simplified the interface for linking cards together. Converted the threading to use linked lists, so should be much more robust and easier to modify and rebuild.
- Used shared text fields wherever possible to cut down on overhead of including duplicate text labels on each card.
- Enhanced reporting capabilities, using special templates.
- Clicking on a thread name on the File List card will bring you to the corresponding card in the BT Threads stack.
- Improved online help.

### Phone Message Stack

- Works with Address stacks other than the one that shipped with HC 1.x. When you modify the Setup within the Bureaucracy Tracker stack, the Phone message stack is modified also.
- Improved check boxes for selections. Before, there were card buttons for each checkbox. Now, a field simulates the checkboxes, so new cards will be created much faster.
- Improved online help.

### BT Threads Stack

- Uses linked lists to maintain links between cards, so is more robust.
- Scanning through links now lets the user click the mouse to continue.
- Improved online help.

### BT Update Stack

- Takes an entirely different approach to updating, which should work on all previous versions of the Bureaucracy Tracker, although links will be lost on versions prior to 3.1. By outputting the entire old version to a big text file, then reading it back in, it is much easier to parse, even if objects in earlier versions are not in later versions.
- Thank God HC 2 runs in the background! My 840+ card Bureaucracy Tracker stack took over an hour to update on a IICx.
- Doesn't have you rename the threads when you update. Pulls the names off of the existing fields from the old stack.
- Improved online help.