

Latest release emphasizes performance

TitlePoint and TitlePoint Xpress version 3.5 power up



What's new in version 3.5?

Here's a summary of what's new in TitlePoint and TitlePoint Xpress version 3.5. For more information you can click on *Announcements*, located in the *Tools* menu.

TitlePoint

Users can click to recall and display the search page with all search parameters used in a Combo search.

Property Auto-run logic has been improved for some counties to return more relevant search results.

Date-down footers now contain order details.

Multiple legal descriptions returned in Instrument Searches can now be searched simultaneously.

Property searches in Los Angeles, CA now display book and page in backplant documents.

TitlePoint Xpress

New Ownership & Encumbrance Search scans assessor, recorder and tax collector data and constructs a refined grantor-grantee search, creating a paperless title search package that includes current owner, property and tax information, a copy of the vesting or transfer deed and an aerial photo.

Name pick-lists can now be printed.

For the past four months, a group of software and systems engineers and product specialists have hovered over TitlePoint® and TitlePoint Xpress®, like a pit crew at Le Mans coaxing extra horsepower out of a GT race car.

The goal: make version 3.5 of TitlePoint and TitlePoint Xpress markedly faster than previous versions.

"At a time when our customers are under pressure to improve productivity and efficiency, we're glad we can contribute to their performance with better search technology," said Deb Horn, Vice President, National Sales Manager.

TitlePoint was originally conceived as a Web application that would accomplish three key objectives: provide a single interface for geographically-posted plants under Property Insight's care; integrate data and images and enhance user workflow; and speed up the search process.

The third objective (speed) seemed the most elusive because of the sheer amount of data addressed in title searches. But two forces combined to enable the potential for marked gains in title and image search speed.

The first, advances in technology, particularly Microsoft's .NET® framework, allow Property Insight's developers to create faster, leaner search logic. Secondly, over the past several years Property Insight recruited what Senior Vice President Jim Violette refers to as "... some of the industry's top .NET technology experts".

Applying new skills and resources, a development team focused on TitlePoint and TitlePoint Xpress's technical infrastructure to deliver on the original promise of faster searching.



How fast is fast?

Your mileage may vary

What determines how fast TitlePoint and TitlePoint Xpress will work for you? That depends on the equipment you're using, your connection speed and even other applications you have installed on your PC. Here are some examples:

Processor Speed: We recommend you operate using a PC with an Intel Pentium 4 chip with 2 gigabytes of RAM. Generally, the more memory (RAM) you have, the faster all of your applications will run.

Internet connection speed: Your office may have a high-speed Internet connection, but if you share it with many other users it can seem like you're using dial-up to connect. Check with your network administrator to determine if there are things your office can do to limit non-essential Web services.

Graphics memory: Since both applications display document images, having an updated graphics card with its own video memory (we recommend 256 megabytes) can improve performance.

Disk Space: Full or fragmented disks will slow your PC. Make sure you have at least 1 gigabyte of hard-drive disk space available. And defragment your hard-drive on a regular basis so read-write times are minimal.

Spyware and Adware: Most of us have anti-virus protection installed on our PC, but not everyone runs a system scan periodically to remove spyware, adware and malware – three types of software that can be “pushed” to your PC via Web pages or applications you download and install. A word about toolbars: they may be handy in your Web browser, but they can slow performance because they run in the background, draining your memory and CPU resources.

Also, be sure that TitlePoint and TitlePoint Xpress are recognized by all security software as “trusted applications” with full Internet access. And be sure that systems scans are not scheduled to run in production time.

Version 3.5 powers up

From page one

“Our development team focused on improving performance for customers who open and date-down orders involving a large number of searches,” said Lisa Roessler, TitlePoint product manager.

Following the release, both products were performance-tested by Quality Assurance using benchmark search scripts; the results were promising.

TitlePoint: Fastest on Record

In controlled testing, TitlePoint 3.5 showed an overall 11% improvement in search speed, with performance gains ranging from 2% to 28% depending on the county. Navigation and filtering speed was improved by an average of 13%.

Josh Pellymouter, National Support/QA manager, reported that “...searching performance is the fastest we've seen since we started capturing performance statistics... in February 2008.”

“For me, validation of the improvement in performance comes when I visit some of our larger customers and watch how TitlePoint keeps up with their hectic workflow,” commented Jim Violette.

TitlePoint Xpress: Dramatic Improvement

Testing of TitlePoint Xpress by Quality Assurance showed that it out-performed the previous version by an average of 54% on name and property searches using name, property and name pick-list searching. The number of documents returned per second improved on average by 148%.

Significantly, TitlePoint Xpress was showing more search results and in shorter time—something its users had been asking for.

Customer response has been positive

While not everyone was aware of the new version release (there are no downloads, installation or configuration required in a product update), comments from those who noticed have been favorable. By Josh's estimation, a significant number of users have realized a sizeable improvement in speed, particularly on large orders.

“In addition to faster searching, we incorporated other enhancements, such as the new Restore feature that will improve customer workflow when opening orders for a large subdivision,” said Lisa Roessler. “With these improvements we should be able to complete our Southern California deployments and finally retire SuperSearch.”

Thank you for your interest