

RAMM News

RAMM 2005 is here! The latest version of New Zealand's premier road asset management software incorporates better ways to view and handle road asset data, and more RAMM applications being developed for use with PDAs- see our article on Pocket RAMM inside.

RAMM 2005 Launched!



New Asset Types

Retaining Walls and *Pedestrian Crossings* are now recorded and maintained as separate assets in RAMM.

User Defined Assets

In RAMM 2005 we've introduced *User Defined Assets*.

Using a wizard in RAMM Manager, you'll be able to import a non-standard asset into RAMM (for example, an electronic traffic information display).

It will then become available within RAMM, just like a standard asset, with its own Detail and Grid windows, and optionally linked to the RAMM Assessment and RAMM Asset Valuation modules. You'll be able to add them to Maps as well. More on this later!

RAMM Contractor

RAMM applications using the RAMM Contractor functionality can now *automatically generate claims*

for work done, and will be able to handle *multiple contracts*.

RAMM Contractor is also being progressively extended to our Pocket RAMM applications.

In time we intend to make the R A M M Contractor functionality independent of any asset, and offer it as a separate application within the RAMM programme.

RAMM Forward Work Programme

The RAMM Forward Work Programme (also known as NOMAD) has had a number of Local Authority related enhancements added to it.

Calculating Forward Work Programme Costs is now performed using square metres rather than kilometres as earlier, and costs are reset for programmes that are not currently locked.

User Interface Enhancements

You can now quickly select saved Filters from a drop-down list.

Similarly, you can select values for In-List filtering. Date range macros are included to make Range filtering easier.

We've also included a quick filter

option in Traffic Signals to bring up all Controlled Intersections in the list panel.

The Grid layout in the main RAMM window has a facility to help you quickly locate columns.

The List panel in RAMM can be customised to display State Highways with the shield icon.

System Enhancements

We've put in a number of system enhancements in the interests of security and data integrity.

There is now a *Master Dimensions table* for better standardisation of dimensions.

Customised settings can now be applied to the importing of files, and when importing Signs a default legend will be suggested.

You will also be able to see all users currently connected to your database. •

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This year RAMM celebrates 20 years as the benchmark road asset management software application in New Zealand!

20 years is a significant milestone in the software industry, where lifespan is measured in days.

Today's hot software is often tomorrow's cold CD coaster. RAMM has not only survived, but surpassed expectations.

Celebrating 20 Years of RAMM



Beginnings

The initial RAMM development effort involved John Hallett and Campbell Newman.

This development effort was soon picked up by the National Roads Board and used by a large number of Local Authorities.

Campbell started C.J.N. Technologies and took over the development and support of RAMM in 1991. The team's initial effort was a no-nonsense, Unix

and Informix based 'green screen' application. RAMM ran within a menu shell called Fanfare.

RAMM now runs in Microsoft Windows, and we're at the cusp of a big step into the world of mobile computing with our Pocket RAMM applications (see below).

The software development team at C.J.N. now numbers 7, and is supported by others in Informix database management, customer support, business development, software design, testing,

documentation and market communications roles.

Thanks for your support!

We sincerely appreciate the invaluable contributions you've made in so many different ways to RAMM over the years. It's through your support that RAMM is where it is today. Believe us when we say the best is yet to come! •

Pocket RAMM

Pocket RAMM takes road asset management to an entirely new level. With it you'll be able to free yourself from your desk and take



assets. You can view and manage all your asset and contract information in one place, a PDA in the palm of your hand.

Different modules are available for inventory management, contract management, or for simple Patrol functions restricted to recording faults. It's possible to purchase these modules separately or in combinations.

The work you do is instantly updated on your database, and GPS technology precisely locates the assets as well as the PDA unit doing the maintenance.

The benefits

Those who are using Pocket RAMM software on a regular basis have told us how much time and effort is saved.

- *Less paperwork.* Since the work is done 'live', no fiddly pieces of paper.
- *More efficient workflow.* Things happen faster at every stage of the contract.
- *Better communications.* The PDAs are mobile phones as

well, and email and personal management software like Outlook is bundled with the PDA operating system.

- *More accurate data.* Asset locations can now be verified via GPS instead of by guesswork.
- *More accurate claims.* Claims better reflect the work done.

Pocket RAMM in action

Pocket SLIM, Pocket Signs and Pocket Traffic Signals are now

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RAMM where your assets actually are: on the road!

Asset Management on the go

Whether you're a Network Owner, Contractor or Consultant, Pocket RAMM gives you a whole new world of flexibility, freedom and efficiency in managing your

Horizon Holdings:

"In the very first month of use, Pocket Signs had a huge impact on my business. My desk is usually littered with paper- it's now clear. Pocket Signs has allowed me to get out and see the ongoing work and inspect inventory. It's great- I'm going to include Pocket Signs in all the tenders we participate in!"

Kathy Retter
Director

available. As of May 2005, we're quite chuffed that 3 City Councils, 2 District Councils, 3 SLIM Contractors, 3 Consultants, and 2 Signs Contractors are now using Pocket RAMM applications via

the CJN Hosting service.

For more information including details of pricing and the hardware specifications, see the **Pocket RAMM** section of our website.

Pocket RAMM solutions are sold and supported by **Stephen J Burnie Ltd.** Call Steve Burnie at any time on 027 2288805 to set up a free demonstration of Pocket RAMM. •

SLIM goes Super-SLIM

SLIM for free!

SLIM Client and

SLIM Consultant are now free if you already have RAMM.

This means that if you've already purchased either of them, you no longer need to pay the annual fee.

If you don't use SLIM, this is a great way to check it out!

SLIM Client will be installed automatically, as part of the RAMM 2005 upgrade. You can even use it to view and manage your Street Light inventory- absolutely free of charge.

If you wish to manage contracts and claims as well you'll need to

purchase SLIM Contractor, which requires a licence and annual fee.

You'll get a day's free training with

Management) application was originally developed by CJN Technologies as an add-on to RAMM.

SLIM Client is used by Network Owners to view and maintain a Street Light asset inventory. SLIM Contractor gives Contractors specific permission to replace or update assets and generate claims, and SLIM Consultant is used exclusively by Consultants. A number of Network Owners, Contractors and Consultants in New Zealand use SLIM to manage their street lights.



every licence purchase, plus free support and upgrades on all software.

SLIM, then and now

The SLIM (Street Light Inventory

Feel free to email Campbell Newman at cam@cjntech.co.nz for more information on SLIM.

You can also check out the **SLIM** pages in the **Products** section of our website. •

Perfect Hosting

The CJN Hosting service has grown in popularity and use over the last year. Virtually all our clients use it.

Less is more!

Thanks to economies of scale, we've been able to pass on a cost benefit to Hosting users on selected hourly plans.

Hosting now costs up to 20% less on plans above 20 hours (it's not available for concurrent user plans or plans less than 20 hours). So there's never been a better time to sign up to the CJN Hosting Service!

Pocket RAMM via Hosting

The CJN Hosting service is an integral part of the Pocket RAMM solution.

A PDA running a Pocket RAMM application uses any available mobile broadband network to connect to the Internet.

CJN Hosting now costs up to 20% less on selected hourly plans

From there on the CJN Hosting Service takes over to make sure that the connection is secure and that you're connecting to the right database.

You can now put the power and flexibility of the Hosting Service in the palm of your hand!

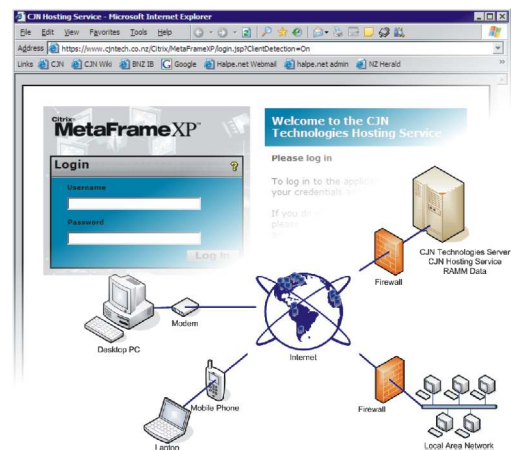
Shadowing other users

A recent innovation to the Hosting Service is the ability to **shadow** other users. This facility allows two users of the Hosting service with the right security permissions

to connect each others' Hosting sessions together for troubleshooting, training, demos, or just to share ideas.

You can shadow others nationwide, or even worldwide... anywhere you have an Internet connection.

For more information, visit the **CJN Hosting** section of our website or email Campbell Newman (cam@cjntech.co.nz) to discuss your Hosting needs and negotiate a suitable plan. •



Help and Support

RAMM 2005 has been released with a number of new help guides.

New printed manuals

New versions of the **RAMM Asset Valuation**, **RAMM Assessment** and **RAMM Forward Work Planning** guides are now available, and these will be sent to all RAMM users.

The **SLIM (Street Light Inventory Management)** manual will be available later this year. A draft version is available on our website **Documentation** page.

You can also check whether you have the latest version of any printed manual.

If you'd like a copy of any one of them, email Guy Halpe at guy@cjntech.co.nz.

Pocket RAMM and Pocket SLIM

We've taken a bold step into an entirely new area of documentation and help for our Pocket RAMM suite of applications and solutions.

All our manuals are available as web based HTML help, compiled (CHM) help accessed from within the software, downloadable PDFs and printed manuals.



Pocket RAMM users, however, are on the move most of the time.

They're hardly likely to have the time or the inclination to pore over manuals or get to terminals to access the Internet.

So for them, we've designed a series of laminated Quick Reference guides that will fit in a car sun visor or door pocket.

They're concise, durable, and cover all aspects of connecting to a Pocket RAMM application.

You can download the PDF version of the Pocket SLIM Quick Reference from our website **Documentation** page.

Check for upgrades

Remember to check for upgrades as often as possible on our website.

If you're using the Hosting Service the upgrading is done automatically, and you don't have to worry about it. If you're using an installed version, however, upgrading is crucial.

You should be running RAMM 2005 by now, but if for any reason you're still running RAMM 2004, we have upgrades for the **Land Transport NZ Reports** and the **RAMM Assessment Bug** that you should already have installed.

You can download them from our website **Upgrades** page.

Have your say

It always takes a little while to adjust to a new version of RAMM.

The CJN Forum is the ideal place to discuss problems and share opinions. Check it out at <http://forums.cjntech.co.nz>.

RAMM TIPS

"ICA client not found" when connecting to the Hosting Service



If the Citrix Metaframe login window shows you this message in the Message Centre box on the lower right, you will need to install one of the recommended clients before you can connect to the CJN Hosting Service.

Use the links to download and install an ICA Client, or go to <http://www.cjntech.co.nz/hosting/hostingClientTypes.htm> to read more about the different clients available, download and install them.

More information on this error is also available at <http://www.cjntech.co.nz/hosting/hostingCommonProblems.htm>.

If you need help with the installation feel free to give us a call on 0800 CJNTECH (2568324).



If you've got a query or problem that you'd like to talk to us about, you can always call Fiona for help on 0800 256832 (CJNTECH).

In addition to her programming and Informix expertise, Fiona has a wealth of experience in quickly diagnosing problems and solving them. You'll find her easy-going, friendly and helpful.

You can also email her at fiona@cjntech.co.nz.

More Information

Pocket RAMM:
Steve Burnie
(burnies@xtra.co.nz).

Perfect Hosting, SLIM goes Super-SLIM:
Campbell Newman
(cam@cjntech.co.nz).

All other articles, editing, design and prepress

Guy Halpe
(guy@cjntech.co.nz).

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www.intuitivmedia.net.

CONTACT US:

CJN
TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
P O Box 302-278
North Harbour
Auckland
New Zealand
Tel: 0800 CJNTECH (256 8324)
Fax: (09) 415 4791
www.cjntech.co.nz
info@cjntech.co.nz

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