

# **SedonaOffice Users Conference**

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# **Query Builders**

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**PERENNIAL SOFTWARE** 

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# **Overview**

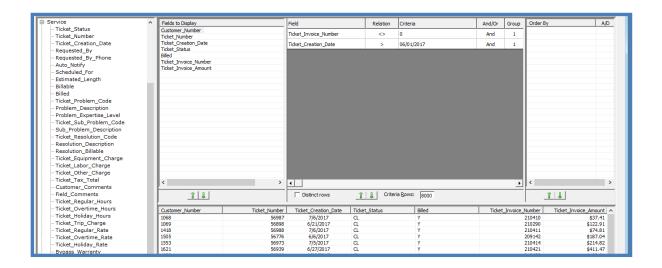
SedonaOffice has a number of Query Builders to help you extract raw data from the database. There are six query builders, each emphasizing a different area of SedonaOffice. These are:

- Customer Management
- General Ledger
- Accounts Payable
- Sales Tax
- Parts
- Jobs

# **Example 1 Sales Leads from Service Tickets**

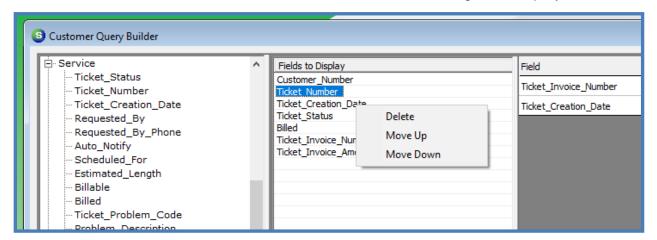
### **Finding the Service Tickets**

Building a query starts by selecting some fields to display. Let's start with a query to create sale leads. The idea behind this query is to search for service tickets that have been invoiced and create a list of customers that may be interested in adding a maintenance contract. We will begin by retrieving a list of Service tickets that meet our criteria.

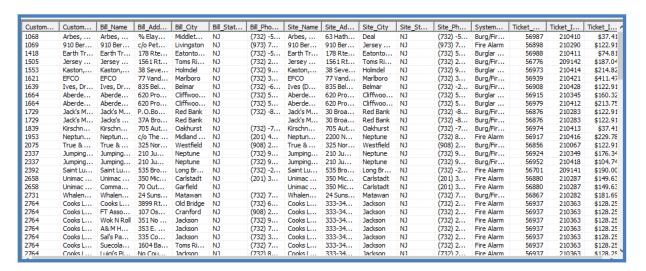


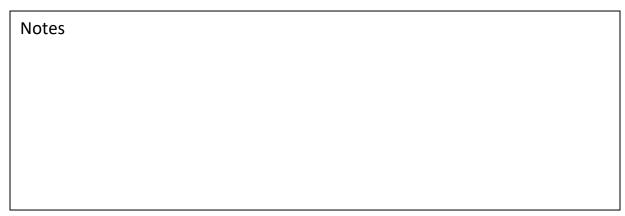
#### **Adding in Customer Information**

Now that we have a list of tickets, we can change our "Fields to Display", to remove the fields we will not need and adding fields we will. Right clicking on a field allows us to remove it from the list. The fields we are keeping we want to move to the bottom, so, we click on the field and use the arrows below the fields to change the display order.



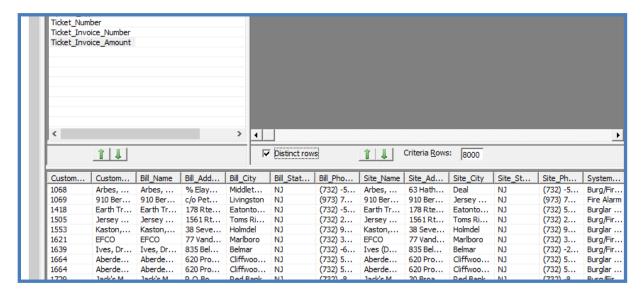
Clicking the green arrow returns the data that meets our criteria.



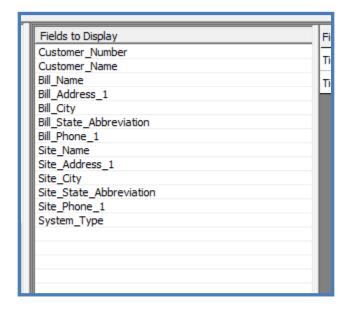


#### **Removing Duplicates**

We have some customers listed twice and that maybe okay if we want to see the total tickets that meet our criteria. If so, we can just export this list and give it to the sales department. For our example, we will remove the duplicates. First, we will select "Distinct Rows" checkbox.



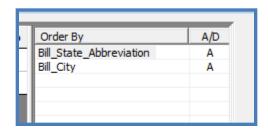
This alone will not change our list as those Ticket Numbers, Invoice Numbers and Amounts make each row distinct. Therefore, we will remove those fields.



No more duplicates.

## **Adding Sorting**

One more thing before we move on to our next example. Currently our list is sorted by Customer number, so for this example, we will sort by geographical order instead. To accomplish this, we will need to add the geographical fields to the "Order By" box.

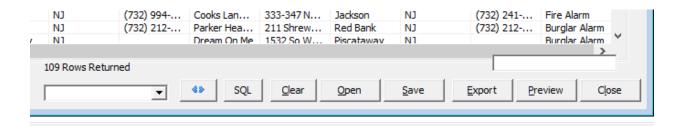


The "A" to the right of the field indicates the order, ascending or descending. Rightclicking the field allows us to change that.

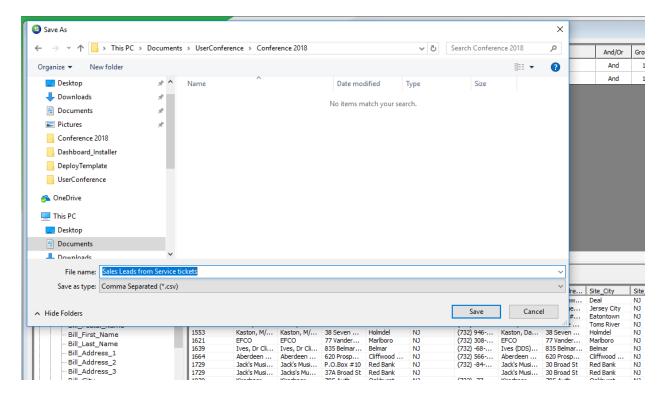
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### **Exporting**

Finally, we need to export this so the sales department may use this information. Click on the "Export" button at the bottom of the query builder.



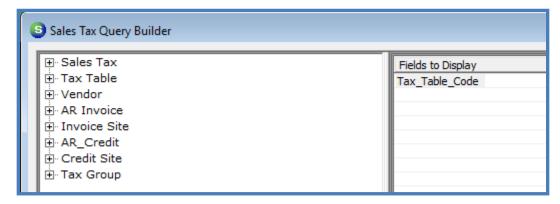
Choose the location and file name and you're done.





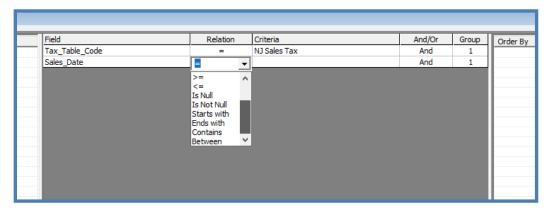
# **Example 2 Custom Sales Tax Report**

One of the lesser used query builders is the "Sales Tax Query Builder". However, with each jurisdiction wanting different reports, this can be very useful. Whereas the "Customer Query Builder" is focused around customer information starting with the customer number, the "Sales Tax Query Builder" is based on tax table information.

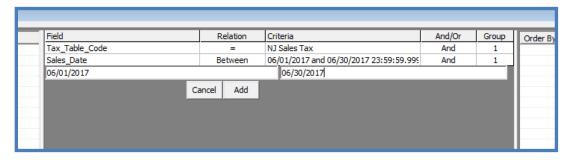


### Selecting a Date Range Using "Between"

We will begin by adding criteria to limit the data returned. We are going to set NJ Sales Tax as our taxes we are looking for and then we are going to set a date range for the sales date. Drag the "Sales\_Date" over to the criteria box then in the drop down choose "Between".

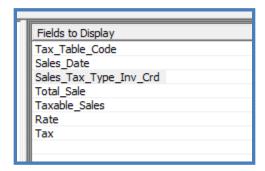


This brings up the between dialog where we will enter the beginning and ending dates.

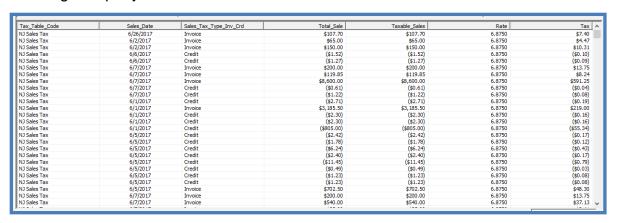


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Now we need to decide what information we want to include in our report. The tax jurisdiction will have a list of requirements but for this demonstration, we will make up our own.



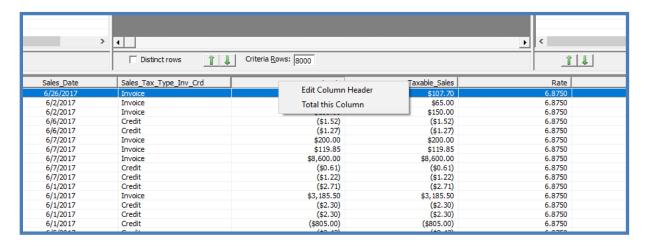
#### Running the query returns:

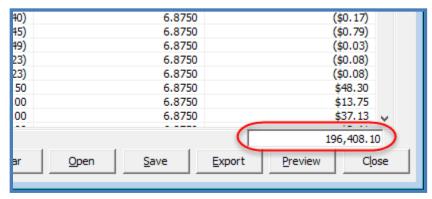


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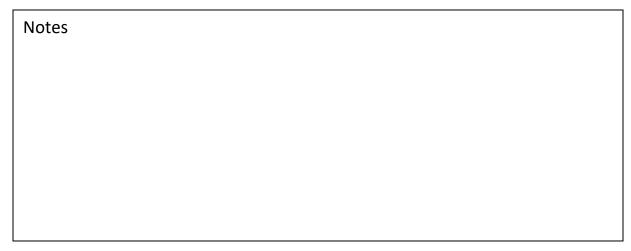
### **Totaling a Column**

We can check our totals to see if we are where we expect to be. Left click on a column you wish to total and select "Total this Column".



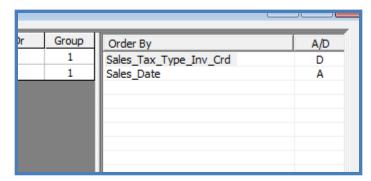


NOTE: Totaling a column is for display purposes only and will not be included in exports or printouts.



### **More on Sorting**

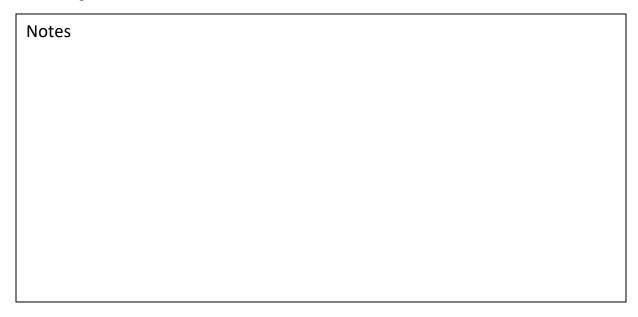
Let's add some sorting by invoice or credit and then by date.



Notice we set the Invoice credit sort to Descending. This is so the invoices will appear at the top of the list.



Now we can export it as before, open it in Excel and add any calculated columns or formatting.

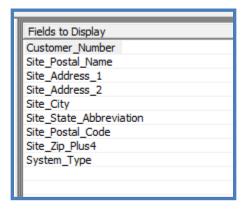


### **Example 3 Mailing List and Mail Merge**

Let us say a particular jurisdiction has changed the requirements for fire alarms and you need to contact all of these customers. We are going to create a mailing list and a mail merge to do this. First, we need to select the fields we want.

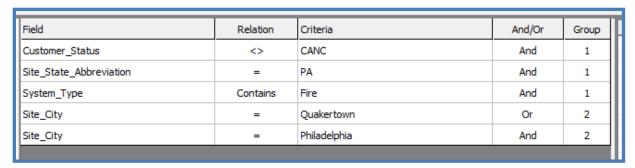
### **Creating the Query**

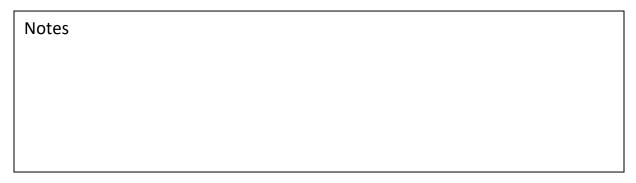
We will begin by selecting the fields that will be needed to create our Mail Merge letters.



#### **Complex Criteria - And, Or and Groups**

Then we need to set up the criteria. This is more complicated than before as we need to include only certain cities. In our example, we are only looking for sites where the state is Pennsylvania and is in the city of Quakertown or Philadelphia. The final criteria looks like this:





The first two lines are straightforward, as we have done previously. The third line uses a new "Relation" called "Contains". It will include any records where the System Type contains the word "Fire".

The next two lines also contain something new. They are using an "Or" instead of and "And" condition, and they are in a separate group. We need a little background in order to understand this.

$$3*4+2=?$$
 18 or 14?

We know from our high school algebra class that we multiply before we add so the answer id 14. However, what if we wanted the answer to be 18? We would use parenthesis like so:

$$3*(4+2)$$

We do what is in the parenthesis first. The logic of the query builder follows the same rules. We add before we or. So, PA and Quakertown or Philadelphia would give us customers from Quakertown in PA but also everyone in Philadelphia even little towns in other states named Philadelphia. So, we do this:

PA and (Quakertown or Philadelphia)

The group number tells the query builder where to put the parenthesis. Each group gets its own parenthesis.

Finally, the last row and/or only affects the next row so it does not matter what is in the last row.

Field	Relation	Criteria	And/Or	Group
Customer_Status	<>	CANC	And	1
Site_State_Abbreviation	=	PA	And	1
System_Type	Contains	Fire	And	1
Site_City	=	Quakertown	Or	2
Site_City	=	Philadelphia	And	2

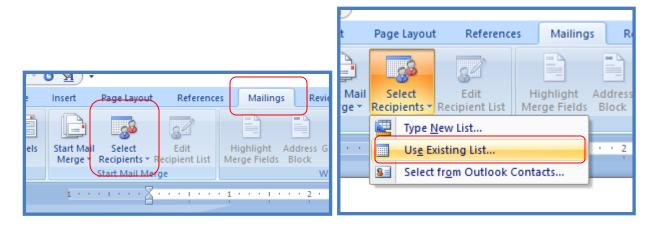
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### **Creating the Word Document**

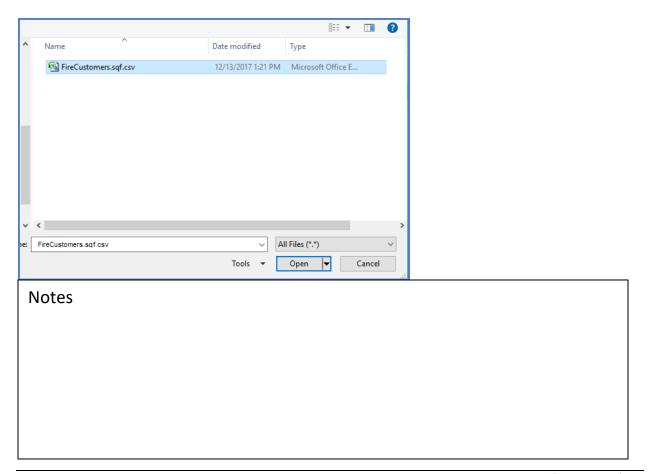
Now we will export the query results as before and then we will open Microsoft Word to create our Mail Merge letters.

Within the ribbon at the top of the Word application, choose the "Mailings" tab and then click on the "Select Recipients" button.

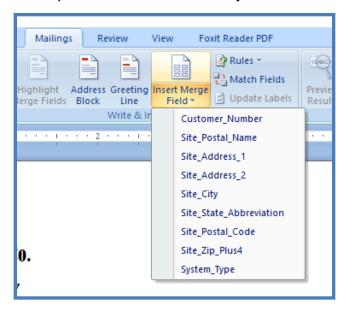
From the drop-down list, select Use Existing List.



In the file search window, locate the exported query data and open that file.



We can now create our letter. Type in the letter as you want it to appear. Adding fields at the points in the letter where you want data to appear.



For example:

### ABC Alarm Co.

123 Main St. Flint MI 48507 734-414-0760

```
«Site_Postal_Name»
«Site_Address_1»
«Site_City» «Site_State_Abbreviation» «Site_Zip_Plus4»
```

Dear Customer,

Your local fire Authority .....finish letter

Notes		

You can preview what the letter will look like by clicking on "Preview Results" and use the slider to browse through the letters.



Once you are satisfied with your letter, click on "Finish and Merge" button.



**Notes** 

The "Customer Query Builder" also supports creating templates and using the button. However, most people find what we learned easier and more flexible.

