

### The new refund interception application has gone live . . .

We will continue to communicate how this new system will impact you as we move forward. You may contact us (see contact information on page 2) if you have questions regarding TRIP. For your convenience we will be publishing answers to frequently asked questions in subsequent newsletters.

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### Processing Schedules

With the implementation of the new TRIP system in mid-August, the processing schedule for some files received from the Department of Revenue (DOR) has been changed.

File maintenance and posting notification files continue to be processed on a weekly basis, as they were in the old system, on Friday (file maintenance) and Monday (posting notification) nights, respectively. Balance verification files however, are produced each night that returns are processed at DOR. This could be every night, Monday through Friday.

What does this mean to users? You should log onto TRIP and check for new balance verification records often. During the peak of the income tax season (January through June) this may mean checking every day. Make sure the date range of your search is broad. For instance, if it is Wednesday and you are checking for new balance verification records for the first time that week, be sure to include the previous Monday in your date range so that you don't miss any records.

This new processing schedule does not mean you have less time to make any balance adjustments. Agencies are given at least 12 days to make balance adjustments before a refund is allowed to post against the debt. For instance, if a balance verification record is created on Monday, October 23, 2006, the release date for that record is set 12 days in the future, Saturday, November 4, 2006. Because the posting notification job only runs on Monday nights, that refund will not actually post to the debt until November 6, 2006.

Remember that for every balance verification record you receive in a given week, whether on a Monday or a Friday, you always have until at least the Friday of the following week to adjust the balance if necessary.

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### More Changes to Come . . .

The Department of Revenue is in the midst of developing an integrated tax processing, audit, and collection system named WINPAS. On November 13, we begin the processing of individual income tax records (our largest tax type) in the new system. This is going to benefit TRIP; however, there will be an impact to TRIP users as we begin migration of the refund interception processes to the new system.

**Impact:** During the month of November there will be a slow down in the number of interceptions. The individual income tax Legacy system has already been shut down and extraction and conversion is in process. Once the new WINPAS system goes live, we will operate in a controlled environment to ensure that the

system is functioning according to our business requirements. You will see interception activity pick up mid-December and we will be ready for a busy refund season in the spring.

#### **Benefits:**

- WINPAS will be working with the TRIP system in processing payments to the state agencies and getting overpayments to the taxpayers quicker than in the past.
- In the future, you will be able to refer business debts with Employer Identification Numbers (EIN). WINPAS is the processor for Corporate Income Tax.

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## Legislative Update - Lottery Interceptions

**Administrative Fee Charged on Debt Interception** – With the enactment of 2005 Wisconsin Act 59 the administrative fee for refund interception was changed to charge the debtor rather than the referring agency. This legislation covers the interception of state tax refunds under secs. 71.93 (setoffs for other state agencies), and 71.935, (setoffs for municipalities and counties) Wis. Stats.

Lottery prize money can be applied to debts owed to state agencies, but not to local government debts. This type of setoff is administered separately under secs. 565.30(5) and 565.30(5r), Wis.Stats. The Department of Revenue must continue to charge the referring agency for the administrative fee when the funds intercepted are generated from lottery prize monies. For more information, refer to <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/stats.html> and enter the statute number as the search criteria.

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## Safeguarding Taxpayer Information

The setoff program requires that state agencies and local governments exchange sensitive taxpayer information in order to achieve a debt match with Department of Revenue tax records.

We would like to remind our partners of the importance of keeping this information confidential. Make sure safeguards are in place to ensure that personal and financial information is kept confidential. Unauthorized disclosure or inspection of taxpayer information is a crime.

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**The TRIP Web-page** - The TRIP web-page has a new look. Information pertaining to the TRIP program is located in one place for easier navigation. Make sure to save this page to your favorites:  
[www.revenue.wi.gov/ise/trip/index.html](http://www.revenue.wi.gov/ise/trip/index.html)

**The TRIP Listserv** - Be among the first to receive TRIP News! Sign up to receive electronic notifications at [www.revenue.wi.gov/html/lists.html](http://www.revenue.wi.gov/html/lists.html). We will be sending reminders to check out the latest edition of TRIP News as well as program specific information.

## Contact Information

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

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Past issues of TRIP News are available on the DOR Internet at:  
[www.revenue.wi.gov/ise/trip/index.html](http://www.revenue.wi.gov/ise/trip/index.html)

*January 2006*

The "New" TRIP – Application Features

*April 2006*

WAMS logon process

*July 2006*

Referring by Driver's License Numbers

*October 2006*

Post Implementation Highlights

This newsletter is distributed electronically on a quarterly basis.  
Copies can be found on our website at [www.revenue.wi.gov](http://www.revenue.wi.gov) in the government e-services section.