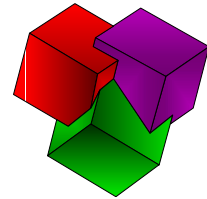


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## ***News Release***

### ***For Immediate Release***

### **TOPS® Pro Version 5.60 Now Shipping Software for Package Design and Palletization**

**RICHARSON**, Texas – May 1, 2006 - TOPS® Engineering Corporation officially announced release of TOPS® Pro Version 5.60 Package Design and Palletization software. This new release offers a host of new features which include:

- ❖ Auto mixed pallet load generator
- ❖ Advance container optimization
- ❖ Support of blister packs, stand-up pouches and more new shapes
- ❖ Nesting and inverted nesting of tubs, blister packs and more
- ❖ Slave pallet and raised platform for pallet loads
- ❖ Enhanced report with more data panels and font size control
- ❖ New solution and analysis comparison report
- ❖ Ship case costing, auto data import and export, direct PDF outputs and more

“This is a major release which incorporates a lots of the requested features from our customer base of over 5,000 users,” according to Mr. Bill Rehring, President and Director of Operations at TOPS. “The blister pack support is one of the most requested features from our customers. TOPS Pro 5.60 allows users to pack blister packs in nested and inverted patterns inside the carton.”

The Auto Mixed Pallet Load Generator is an automatic calculation engine for aisle display in club stores. Users can specify arrangement preference in layer or column and also to control the facing direction of individual boxes.

To get the most use of container space, a new additional loading algorithm allows users to break pallet loads and place shipping boxes directly into the container. This helps utilize void space on the side, top and end of the pallet loads and bring space usage close to 100%.

TOPS Pro 5.60 also includes new input and output alternatives including a click and drop analysis import and direct PDF outputs.

Other new features that make TOPS® Pro 5.60 a must-have for package design include custom defined flutes, ship case costing, enhanced shipcase database function, file search and sort functionality and more pallet types.

**Availability** - TOPS®Pro 5.60 is available now. Subscribers to TOPS®Pro's MVP Annual Upgrade and Support program will receive this new release for free. Other users not current on MVP can join the annual program and receive version 5.60, future TOPS®Pro upgrades and unlimited toll-free technical support.

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TOPS® Company logo, product logo and press photo can be downloaded from our web site at <http://www.topseng.com/pressinfo.html>.

**About TOPS®**

TOPS® Engineering Corporation, incorporated in 1990, is the world leader in the development of innovative software for the distribution and packaging professionals. Its flagship products, "TOPS®Pro" - Package Design and Palletization software and "MaxLoad®Pro" - Cargo Load Planning and Optimization software, has over 8000 installed base worldwide and serves big and small corporations across wide industries. TOPS® also offers the first web-based package design software, TOPSePAC®, allowing package engineers to perform design and analysis anytime, anywhere, on any platform using any internet browser.

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