



## the newsletter of Tarragon Solutions

### Tarragon Solutions

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### Solutions!

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## Tarragon's invoices and the change of VAT

Notwithstanding a late change of mind by HM Government, the VAT rate will revert to 17.5% on January 1st 2010. As a result of this, invoices issued by Tarragon Solutions will specify VAT as follows:

- Any invoice dated on or before 31st December 2009 will use a VAT rate of **15%**
- All invoices dated on or after 1st January 2010 will use a VAT rate of **17.5%**

For our customers who have taken out or renewed annual support during 2009, your monthly payments were calculated based on the rate of 15%. The change of VAT rate will have no effect on your monthly payments.

However, if you are considering purchasing goods or services from us and are unable to reclaim VAT for whatever reason—**get your order in now!**



Well, 2009 has been an interesting year, hasn't it?

Our thanks to everyone for your business and support through the year and we look forward with you to the Good Times that, undoubtedly, are just around the corner!

## CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES - 2009



December 24th - Open until 1:30pm

December 25th - Closed

December 28th - Closed

December 29/30/31 - Open as normal

January 1st - Closed



## EU Cookie Monster about to bite - hard

December 2009

 **Solutions!**

Following the recent selection, behind closed doors, of a "President of Europe" comes news of another piece of European sleight of hand. Hidden away in an 18-page press release which covers such diverse topics as train driving licences, fishing quotas and a maritime treaty with China is a pronouncement that will adversely affect any European organisation that runs a web site.

The text of this legislation – **which has already been passed, very quietly, by the European Parliament** – affects the use of cookies such that they "should be allowed on condition that users are provided with clear and precise information in accordance with Directive 95/46/EC about the purposes of cookies or similar devices so as to ensure that users are made aware of information being placed on the terminal equipment they are using."

In other words, if your web site is about to use a cookie to store innocent information such as a user's preferences on his PC then your site must, under this law, obtain the express permission of the user to store that cookie. Every time. Under pain of a £5,000 fine (at least - the EU kindly invites member governments to use that figure as a baseline). This type of constant interruption and annoyance would really upset users - as Microsoft found with the User Access Control in Windows Vista.

Of course, this will not affect non-EU websites so, once again, EU law will put EU businesses at a disadvantage.

The law has to be ratified by the EU member states, including the UK, so, if you feel this might adversely affect the use of your website, now might be a good time to start talking with your local MP.

### FACTS FROM TRENDLABS

- Webthreats: In the first six months of this year, 8.7 billion URLs were requested on average per day with 0.04% found to be malicious. The U.S.A. hosted the most malicious websites.
  - Malware: One piece of malware is created approximately every 1.5 seconds.
- Spam: Russia, Turkey, Germany, Poland and Ukraine all feature in the top 10 countries in the world sending the most spam (for the first six months this year).

### Tip of the Month - Keep Meeting Requests (Outlook)

After accepting (or declining) a meeting request, it's removed from the Inbox and is only on the calendar. If you'd like to keep a copy in the Inbox, go to Tools > Options > Preferences > E-mail Options > Advanced E-mail Options then uncheck the option to 'Delete meeting request from Inbox when responding'.

Please let us know what you think of [Solutions!](#) - email [solutions@tarragon.co.uk](mailto:solutions@tarragon.co.uk)