

Estateman System
Paul Rusby, Commercial Rent Manager
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'The London Borough of Newham purchased the Estateman system in late 1999 to replace the Dataease database system, which had been used for managing the commercial property portfolio and a separate mainframe system, which was being used for Rent accounting purposes.

We needed more flexibility and more options than the current systems provided so we looked at the specialised property systems and selected Estateman. The deciding factor in our choice was the fact that it is very easy to operate. The system is modular, so there is an element of future proofing and modules can be bolted on as and when they are needed.

We currently have approximately 900 live accounts on the system including shops, offices and industrial units. We use the Property Terrier, Tenant Register, Property Manager's Diary and Rent Receivable modules.

We had parts of the system extensively customised, especially the Rent Receivable - the Estateman system was set up to provide invoices whereas we needed it to provide statements in accordance with our agreements, which I understand resulted in a complete re-write of the transaction element of the system.

Estateman programmers were able to alter the system to function exactly as we required and they also built a data export system so that Estateman could interface directly with our financial mainframe system. We recently purchased the Report Wizard module, which looks very good and this should make it easier for users to create and view reports from the system, as and when they require them.

At present, I believe we are not using the Estateman system to its full capability, but as other users become more familiar with the system we are hoping this situation will improve.

As a main user, I am very happy with the Estateman system and I hope that we can develop this further in the near future. One area I would like to explore is the Estateman facility, which enables users to produce HTML reports/pages. We may find this a useful function, as we have our own website -

www.propertyanddesign.com - which would give us the ability to provide 'on-line' information on our web site.'