

Questions commonly asked about REIMS

What is REIMS anyway?

REIMS is a computer program that manages used glasses inventories. It stands for **R**ichmond **E**yeglass **I**nventory **M**atching **S**ystem -- named after Phil Richmond a long time VOSH member and co-inventor of REIMS.

How does REIMS aid eye clinics?

Used in the field, the main purpose is to help lay volunteers find glasses in inventory that best match Rx's provided by eye care professionals. This allows lay people to dispense glasses and the professionals to spend their time refracting.

Who uses REIMS?

REIMS was developed for an eye clinic in El Salvador run by ASAPROSAR. They have a permanent inventory of 10,000 used glasses. Several VOSH chapters use REIMS as well as Rotary Project Amigo and humanitarian missions run by U.S. Air Force medical personnel.

How can REIMS be obtained and what is the cost?

REIMS is freeware shared at FriendsOfASAPROSAR.org. Two files, REIMSPRG.ZIP and REIMSFIL.ZIP must be downloaded **to** and un-zipped **in** the same folder (most users name it REIMS). Dummy files (old ASAPROSAR inventory) are included. These files allow prospective users to experiment with the program. Utility options allow for erasing that data and establishing a new inventory.

Is there any documentation for REIMS?

A manual available as a Word document or as a PDF file can be downloaded from the Friends of ASAPROSAR site.

I downloaded the files and when I try to run REIMS I get the message: "Can not locate FoxPro support library".

REIMSPRG.ZIP and REIMSFIL.ZIP were not unzipped in the same directory.

How is the inventory organized?

The program assigns an SKU (serial number) to each pair of glasses entered in inventory. The glasses are stored in SKU order.

This is a quote from Ruth McAndrews, VOSH Iowa and past President of VOSH:

We store by SKU. It makes it easy to re-file and, you don't lose an entire inventory section with a lost bag. I even mix up the boxes of SKU numbers among different team members because sometimes there are sections that are of a similar type. For example we may have input inventory from a box of single vision women's minus. It is very quick and efficient to locate and re-file by SKU. I also take a backup computer and an inverter. I back up at least every half hour on alternate flash drives during the clinic. I also take a paper printout with me.

Doesn't that make a mission totally dependent on the computer?

Yes. All missions bring at least one backup computer. They also back up frequently (every half hour) to flash drives or diskettes. In addition, inverters are taken along to obtain power from 12 volt auto batteries.

How is a back up done?

REIMS has back up and restore features.

Does REIMS handle bifocals?

Yes – both bifocals and single vision.

How does REIMS look for a match?

The screen below is used for that.

The screenshot shows a software window titled "Search for matches" with the following content:

Richmond Eyeglass Inventory Matching System

OD OS Both

Type **B** Single **B**ifocal

OD		OS	
Sphere	2.25 +/- 0.50	Sphere	2.00 +/- 0.50
Cylinder	-0.75 +/- 0.50	Cylinder	-0.50 +/- 0.50
Axis	90	Axis	85
Add	2.00 +/- 0.50	Add	2.00 +/- 0.50

Relax axis tolerances by % Ignore cylinder and axis Two single vision pairs (use when bifocal search fails)

How does REIMS display the best matches?

A screen showing best to worst looks like this:

Search for OD 2.25 - 0.75 x 90 Add 2.00 OS 2.00 - 0.50 x 85 Add 2.00	Sku	Philscore	Gen	Size	Tint	Mat	Type	Odsp	Odcy	Odax	Odad	Ossp	Oscy	Osax	Osad	Entered
	R03:2125	0.092	M	L		M	B	2.25	-0.75	82	2.50	2.00	-0.50	83	2.50	12/02/2003
	R04:6787	0.131	U	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.50	95	2.00	2.00	-0.50	87	2.00	10/29/2004
	R04:7852	0.185	F	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.75	99	1.75	2.00	-0.75	73	1.75	10/30/2004
	R05:7030	0.223	U	L	N	M	B	2.25	-0.75	103	2.50	2.00	-0.75	85	2.50	10/27/2005
	R05:9944	0.248	U	M	N	M	B	2.00	-0.50	85	2.25	2.00	-0.50	77	2.25	09/30/2005
	R05:9775	0.249	F	M	N	M	B	2.00	-0.50	101	2.25	2.00	-0.50	81	2.25	09/29/2005
	R03:9112	0.253	F	S		M	B	2.25	-0.75	100	2.00	1.75	-0.50	84	2.00	11/19/2003
	R04:6848	0.255	F	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.75	105	1.75	2.25	-0.75	90	1.75	10/29/2004
	R03:1518	0.255	M	M	N	M	B	2.25	-0.75	106	2.00	2.25	-0.50	90	2.00	02/04/2003
	R04:2194	0.286	U	L	N	P	B	2.00	-0.50	69	1.75	2.00	-0.50	106	1.50	11/12/2004
	R05:7284	0.290	F	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.75	90	2.50	2.25	-0.75	84	2.50	10/29/2005
	R01:3738	0.296	M	L		P	B	2.00	-0.75	89	2.25	2.00	-0.50	89	2.25	11/27/2001
	R04:53	0.301	F	L	N	P	B	2.50	-0.75	94	2.25	2.00	-0.50	106	2.25	10/27/2004
	R04:278	0.303	U	L	N	P	B	2.50	-0.75	98	2.25	2.00	-0.50	106	2.25	10/27/2004
	R05:828	0.342	F	M	N	M	B	2.00	-0.75	87	2.50	2.00	-0.50	90	2.50	09/29/2005
	R05:382	0.346	M	M	N	M	B	2.25	-0.75	104	2.50	1.75	-0.50	94	2.50	09/29/2005
	R01:500	0.353	F	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.50	100	2.50	2.00	-0.25	88	2.50	11/15/2001
	R00:2916	0.376	F	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.50	92	2.25	1.75	0.00	0	2.00	11/13/2000
	R04:9284	0.378	U	M	N	M	B	2.00	-0.25	87	2.25	2.00	-0.25	93	2.25	11/08/2004
	R03:2150	0.380	F	M		P	B	2.25	-0.50	94	2.25	1.75	-0.25	100	2.25	12/02/2003
	R02:3590	0.380	F	M	N	P	B	2.50	-1.00	83	2.25	2.00	-0.25	97	2.25	09/16/2002
	R01:8934	0.382	U	M	N	P	B	2.50	-1.00	83	2.50	2.00	-0.25	105	2.00	12/06/2001
	R04:7016	0.383	F	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.50	85	2.00	1.75	-0.50	91	2.00	10/29/2004
	R05:9739	0.385	F	L	N	P	B	2.00	-0.75	106	2.00	2.00	-0.75	90	2.00	09/29/2005
	R04:6720	0.386	F	M	N	P	B	2.25	-0.50	87	2.00	2.25	-0.50	106	2.00	10/29/2004
	R05:9756	0.386	F	M	N	P	B	2.00	-0.50	104	1.75	2.00	-0.75	75	1.75	09/29/2005
	R01:6786	0.398	M	L	N	P	B	2.25	-0.50	90	2.25	1.75	0.00	0	2.25	02/06/2001
	R05:716	0.403	F	L	N	M	B	2.00	-0.25	96	2.00	2.25	-0.75	80	2.00	09/29/2005

The column headed *Philscore* (named for Phil Richmond) shows the relative ranking . A *Philscore* of zero is a perfect match.

How does REIMS handle blindness in one eye?

The search for a match can be does for OS, OD or both eyes.

How are readers handled?

Readers are stored separately by sphere. REIMS has the capability of recording the sphere and dispense date for readers for later reporting.

How long does it take to enter inventory?

Most people can enter between 60 to 80 per hour. Teenagers have been particularly helpful in this task. This time includes writing the serial number (usually with a red Sharpie) on the plastic bag containing the glasses.

Can inventory be entered simultaneously on more than one computer?

Yes, REIMS provides for importing data from other computers.

What is the flow of an Rx form at a clinic?

This is another quote from Ruth McAndrews:

"From the refraction area, the forms are placed upside down in a pile. By turning the pile over, the computer operator keeps everyone in proper queue (i.e. first in /first out). I have found that with careful choices, except for unusual Rx's or low inventory late in the clinic, most of the time only a couple numbers are needed. It was less work to look for additional ones occasionally than to pull/decide/re-file all the extras for everyone else. It also means fewer pair are "in circulation" and, therefore not missing in action. We usually only take an inventory of about 5,000 pair including readers.

"The initial dispenser chooses which is best for the patient and explains their use. The "reject" goes back in a re-file box. The patient then goes to the adjuster who adjusts the glasses. We have the adjuster then circle the number (or numbers if two pair) of the pair that is leaving with the patient. We send the baggie with the patient as we do not take cases. The adjuster also notes to junk a pair if they break. The finished paper goes back to the computer operator to delete the item used."

After the eyeglasses are dispensed and fitted how is the computer operator notified of which serial number has been dispensed and/or junked?

At the ASAPROSAR clinic, the baggie for the glasses dispensed is returned to the computer operator. See Ruth's method above. Quickly deleting glasses dispensed or junked is important so that they are not selected again.

Who can answer other questions about REIMS?

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08/29/07