

# Highlights

Check out these new features in Star-Plus 8.5!

**Menu:** The new **Menu Cards** provide an at-a-glance visual snapshot of key operational data for whichever Menu category you select, with dynamic updates and flip-card views for deeper insights. Half of the cards refresh in real time, while others update during End of Day, keeping information current and accessible. Additionally, the Menu now supports messaging via RSS feed, allowing Auto-Star and resellers to send important service updates or promotional messages to merchants.

**Purchase Order:** The **Purchase Order** program has been redesigned with a cleaner, more intuitive interface to simplify creating and finalizing POs. Users can transition smoothly by choosing either the classic or the new streamlined experience while core functionality becomes easier than ever to access.

**Purchase Order Import:** The enhanced **Purchase Order Import** program introduces a modern interface that simplifies format creation, testing, and PO file import workflows. With expanded capabilities such as support for item descriptions, quoted delimited fields, and flexible price formatting; imports are now more accurate and adaptable to varied data sources.

**AI Receiving:** The new **AI Receiving** tool lets users quickly convert a photo of a Purchase Order into a ready-to-import CSV file, streamlining the receiving process and reducing manual data entry. This provides a faster, more accurate way to prepare PO data for the Purchase Order Import program.

**Tax Holiday Editor:** The **Tax Holiday Editor** makes it simple to manage government tax holiday events by automatically removing specified taxes from selected items during active date ranges. Transactions clearly display the related event code for transparency and auditing.

**Seasonality Helper:** The new **Seasonality Helper** identifies products with seasonal buying patterns, helping stores spot items with irregular sales histories and refine their seasonality profiles. As the tool calculates, qualifying items appear in real time, allowing users to review and adjust product details without stopping the process.

**Self-Checkout:** Several features have been added to the Self-Checkout Till to enhance the ability to appeal to customers, including support for attaching customer records by **phone number**, prompting for a **quantity** when purchasing specific items to speed up the checkout process and supporting the sale of **age-restricted items**.

**Weather Integration:** The system can automatically download **daily weather data** and include it in Transaction Log Viewer on the Daily Cash, Sales Distribution, and Customer Count reports. This helps explain sales trends, such as reduced traffic during bad weather.

**Improved Rx Lookup:** We've improved how prescriptions are retrieved in the system. If the entered Rx is not found on the local database, the system will **automatically query the primary server**. This will solve issues where an Rx cannot be scanned if the queue is behind.

**Item Editor:** Item Editor has many new features and abilities, including the ability to **edit inventory buckets** for items on Advanced Inventory Control, better support for **bundles/assemblies**, and improvements to item **searches**.

**Vendor Import Utility:** The **Vendor Import Utility** now allows stores to quickly **import** vendor lists from CSV files, streamlining setup and data conversions from other systems. This helps new or transitioning stores populate vendor records with minimal manual entry.

**Till Coin Tenders:** The till now displays smarter **preset payment buttons** for **coin-type tenders**, starting with the total rounded to the nearest dollar and followed by common bill amounts. This allows cash transactions to be entered **faster** and more naturally based on real customer behavior.

**Add to Menu:** The Add to Menu window now features a streamlined **Manage Custom Apps** workflow, making it easier to add or remove **custom apps** without affecting the master list. A new prompt also guides users in selecting the best *Visible on Menu* trust level.

**Updated Programs:** **Several programs** have been refreshed with a modern, cleaner interface and now support the **Theme Editor**, ensuring visual consistency with each user's customized theme.