

TRAINING & MERCHANDISING MANUAL



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ABOUT US

Since 1985, A-Line Greetings has helped its customers celebrate life's special moments with our unique offering of everyday and seasonal greeting cards, gift bags, gift wrap and accessories.

Experience

Nearly 40 years of experience in the greeting card industry.

Service

Coast-to-coast full service of stores including custom plan-o-grams, ordering and merchandising.

Choice

From classic to contemporary, A-Line offers complete coverage of all occasions, seasons and feelings.

Quality

Premium quality greeting cards designed by A-Line's very own team of illustrators, designers and editorial staff.



NEW HIRE INFORMATION FORM

All new hires are required to submit one of the forms below. The status of your hire (Full Time or Part Time) depends on the correct form that must be submitted. Please see below for examples of the forms. The form must be submitted to the office along with a **void cheque** or a **direct deposit slip** from your bank, copies of 2 ID's one of which needs to be a photo ID, emergency contact form, W-4, I-9 and depending on your location you may be required to fill out a state tax form.

Please note that when the new hire forms are submitted, if the void check or direct deposit info is covering any information on the new hire form, we will not be able to accept it.

Part-Time Form

US Forms

Full-Time Form

ALINE GREETINGS SOCI 1985	A-Line Greetings Tel: 1-800-790-1280 Fax: 1-800-771-7633 Email: contensorse/vice/alineagreeting.com Website: www.llanGordening.com	GREETINGS SMC1 198	Tel: 1-400-290-1200 year: 1-400-771-7033 Email: customeners ocidaline greening, com Website: www.ALineGreetings.com
PERSON	JAL INFORMATION	PER	SONAL INFORMATION
Legal Name: Address: Date of Birth (numddyyyy): Date Hired (mumddyyyy): Contract Rate/Salary:	Cell Phone #:	Legal Name: Address: Date of Birth (mmddyyyy): Date Hired (mmddyyyy): Contract Rate/Salary:	Cell Phone #: E-Mail: Social Insurance #: Fax #: Service Area: Vehicle/Expense Allowance:
information sheet you will need to prophoto ID and either a void cheque, a di Deposit Form. ** I understand that I am being paid by A-L basis. I understand A-Line Greetings will reside in) at the end of each year to repor	red for our payroll, along with this personal ride copies of 2 pieces of ID, one of which should be a frect deposit slip from your bank or ADP Direct ine Greetings to provide services on an employment issue me a W-2 or 1099 (depending on the State you t amounts paid to me in connection with the work.	need to be attached along with copi Bank Information — Bank # (3 digits)	Bank Address: onth Probation period in accordance with our probationary
regarding A-Line Greetings business dea	alge any information which may become available to me lings with customers and I also agree that I will not g card supplier or their customers while also servicing Date:	I confirm that I will never discuss or or regarding A-Line Greetings business	livulge any information which may become available to me dealings with customers and I also agree that I will not etting card supplier or their customers while also servicing gs.

Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

2-2 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYMENT PERIOD

Scope

These Policies and Procedures apply to all A-Line Atlantic Inc. employees.

Policy

A probationary period of at least 3 (three) months will apply to all new staff and to any staff who transfer into new positions within the company, regardless of their length of service in another area or department.

Procedure

At regular periods during the first 3 (three) months in a new position, Management or designate will meet with the employee to discuss their progress to date.

If Management is not completely satisfied with the progress achieved in the first three months but feels the employee would be successful with additional training, the probationary period may be extended for an additional three months at the sole discretion of the supervisor.

If Management is not satisfied with the progress achieved in the first three months and feels the employee would not be successful with additional training, the employment arrangement will be terminated.

Employees will be given written confirmation of their extended probationary period and/or their change to permanent status as applicable.

During the first three months of employment, new employees may be terminated for any reason, with or without cause, in which case A-Line will have no obligations to the employees to provide notice or pay in lieu of notice.

Existing employees who have transferred into a position, but who are not successful in completing the probationary period, will be either transferred back to the previous position, if that position has not yet been filled by another employee, or terminated from employment with A-Line in accordance with our Termination of Employment Policy.

Vacation benefits will accrue during the probationary period* (Please refer to Vacation policy).

*Fulltime Employees Only

End of Policy

Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

4 CLASSIFICATIONS OF FIELD PERSONNEL

Territory Managers

Account Managers

Part Time Merchandisers

In Store Merchandiser

The classification in which you are hired will determine any other forms that you have to submit to the office.

Upon the New Hire forms being submitted to the Field Operations Department, you will be set up in our field staff database; once this is accomplished the accounts that you will be responsible for servicing will be linked to your name.

You will then receive an email from our Field Operations Department with a login and password for our web application. This will allow you to print your routing sheets and view all your customer information online. Routing sheets are the list of the stores that are due to be serviced each week.

ACCESSING THE WEB APPLICATION

- First go to <u>www.alinegreetings.com</u>
- On the right-hand side of the screen, you will see **Staff Portal** and then **Staff Access, New Customer Wizard, Sales Resource Management, Staff Email and Internal Forms.**
- Choose the selection that applies (Please note that you use the same password and login for both your email and staff access).

Your login and password must be entered exactly as shown in the email that you receive; all our passwords are case sensitive. If after 3 attempts you cannot log in successfully, close your browser completely then try going back in again.

If still unable log in please advise the Field Operations department, Ext 107 or Fieldoperations@alinegreetings.com



Email: customerservice@alinegreetings.com Website: www.ALineGreetings.com



Once in the Web Application, you will have access to the following:

Customer Information:

- O <u>Returns and Invoices</u>: STDINV = Standard Invoice, STDRTN = Standard Return is any credit issued against an account. This could range from seasonal card returns, first-order discounts, rack discounts, damaged product, rebates, etc.
- <u>Customer Notes</u>: Usually entered by office personnel to record information regarding payment, terms, customer calls/inquiries, etc.
- O <u>Master Notes</u>: Primarily includes new account information relating to the opening order, contracts, rebates, set-ups, racks, etc.
- O Sales: Includes sales information for Everyday cards as well as Seasonal.
- O <u>Price List</u>: Pricing for all product for a particular customer.
- O Plan-O-Grams: Detailed diagram of a customer's display layout.
- <u>Customer Information Report</u>: A summary of generic information for a customer, i.e. Basic Contact Information, Sales and Merchandising, Seasonal, Plan-O-Grams.
- Routing Report: Here you can print a Routing Schedule for a particular week. The Routing Cycle, indicated in weeks, determines how often a store is serviced. Multiple stores in the same area should be combined in the same cycle week to minimize expenses. Should you need to revise a routing schedule, please go to "Printable Forms", print and complete a Routing Change Request Form and submit to fieldoperations@alinegreetings.com. PLEASE NOTE that currently, you are not able to add/submit routing reports via the web. You will be notified once this application is complete.
- **Expenses:** This is used for entering online payroll. Instructions for this are always emailed with your welcome letter with your username and password.
- Printable Forms: This section houses many forms and documents that you will request from the Field Operations department as supply orders. These include numerous Order Forms for Everyday/Seasonal cards and Accessories. It also includes Credit Card Authorization Forms, Routing Sheets, Routing Change Request Forms, New Customer Information Forms, etc. In addition, there are support documents such as Submitting Scanned Orders, Store Scanning Instructions and a copy of this Merchandising Manual.

Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

Additional Notes:

- After receiving your login and password, you may be sent a scanner unless you have already received supplies from your Territory Manager. Your Territory Manager will advise Field Operations if a scanner is required. If so, you will be sent an Equipment Acknowledgement letter that will need to be signed and sent back to fieldoperations@alinegreetings.com
- In most instances, store scanners will not be sent to Field Personnel servicing only 1 account.
- A tracking number will be emailed to you for any package that is sent directly to you.
- Staff receiving scanners are required to scan all card and ancillary products to complete their order. Paper orders should only be written in rare circumstances, when the order cannot be scanned. For this reason, please make sure to keep a small supply of order forms on hand with you as you service each account.

Please note all email correspondence from the office will be sent to your Aline email account For Full Time Merchandisers and to Email Provide for Part-Time Merchandisers. Please ensure to check your Email on a regular basis.

EMAIL USAGE POLICY

- A-Line email accounts are intended for business purposes only.
- Email generated using the A-Line email system is the property of A-Line. No employee should have any expectation of privacy to his/her internet or email usage.
- Management may elect to review or monitor email usage at any time.
- Mailbox hygiene is important. Emails should be archived or deleted on a regular basis to avoid unnecessary Mail Server congestion.
- Transport of bulk emails, email jokes or chain letters of any sort is prohibited.

PART TIME MERCHANDISER

Expense Policies

Kilometer Allowance

Reimbursement for Kilometers is currently 35 cents per kilometer. The Rate is based on the Government regulated Self - Serve Gas price in Corner Brook. When an increase or decrease occurs, an e-mail is sent from HO. This allowance is intended to cover all operating expenses including gas, insurance, repairs, maintenance and employees travel time.

Office Supplies

Part Time Merchandisers who are <u>required</u> to use a printer will be reimbursed for 1 black printer cartridge per year, only with the approval from their Account Manager or Territory Manager. Any additional cartridges or expenses must be approved by your Territory Manager.

Vacation Policies

Merchandisers are required to send an email to their Territory Manager advising them of vacation. Vacation entitlement is based on Employment Standards specifications in your area; however, time would still have to be approved through your TM to ensure that he/she can arrange to have your stores covered if need be. Once the TM approves your vacation time, they will forward the email onto fieldoperations@alinegreetings.com.

All vacations for Field Staff need to be reported to the office. In turn we notify our office staff when people are on vacation, so they do not contact them, also it needs to be noted in our payroll office for future reference.



ROUTING SHEET(S)

Your routing sheet(s) will list the stores you are responsible for servicing each week.

A-Line G	reeting Cards Custom	er Routing Schedule	9							
A Line o		-				Week	#	45		
Mary Jai	ne	NL1200 S'VILLE TO	EER LAKE			11/5/20	12 - 11/9/	2012		
cust#	NAME	ADDRESS	TOWN	AUTO SEASONAL	ALLOW	DATE MM/DD/YYYY	UNITS	START	STOP	TIME WORKED
11670 G	TS OF JOY	59 MAIN STREET	PASADENA		Y		_	_:_	_:_	<u>:</u>
Cycle: 8	Order Code \$1: NA	Order Code \$2: 8	Notes:							
16609 AE	BBOTT & HALIBURTON # 1	MAIN RD	PORT AU PORT			_/_/_	_	_:_		:-
Cycle: 8	Order Code \$1: 9	Order Code \$2:	Notes:							
26582 PA	ARKVIEW VARIETY LTD # 7002688	BOX 268 RR2	PICCADILLY		Υ	_/_/_	_	_:_	_:_	_:_
Cycle: 8	Order Code \$1: 13	Order Code \$2: NA	Notes:							
11010 CC	OLEMANS FOOD CENTRE # 7	73 HUMBER ROAD	CORNER BROOK		Υ	_/_/_	_	_:_	_:_	:-
Cycle: 6	Order Code \$1: 13	Order Code \$2:	Notes:							
18217 A	BUCK OR TWO # 384	MURPHYS SQUARE	CORNER BROOK	Σ _γ ζ	Υ		_	_:_	_:_	: -
Cycle: 1	Order Code \$1: NA	Order Code \$2:	Notes:							



This indicates the customer number of the account – in all correspondence to the office both the customer's name and customer number should be included.



This indicates the routing cycle for the store – in this case the store is on an 8-week cycle which means you will not be due to service the account and it will not show on your routing sheet for another 8 weeks.



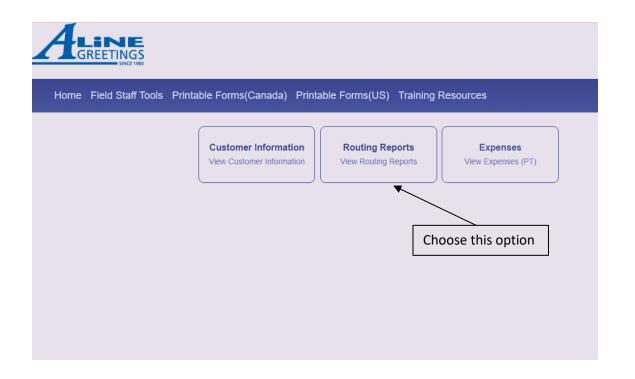
This indicates the customer is on auto seasonal distribution – the seasonal cards for this store will be automatically generated at the office - you will only be responsible for reordering any seasonal if applicable.

This indicates the customer is allowed to return their seasonal product – this does not mean that Everyday product can be returned. If this field is blank on your routing sheet, the account cannot return their seasonal product.



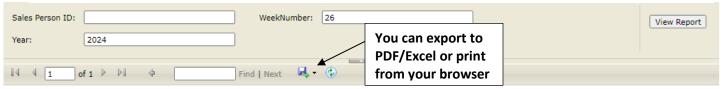
PRINTING/EXPORTING ROUTING SHEETS FROM THE WEB APPLICATION

First log into your web access account: https://staff.aline.ca





Make sure that you have selected the correct week from the tabs on your screen – you can do this by double checking the dates on the top right-hand corner of the routing sheet



A-Line Greeting Cards Customer Routing Schedule

Week # 26

6/24/2024 - 6/30/2024

CUST#	NAME	ADDRESS	TOWN	AUTO SEASONAL	ALLOW RETURN	DATE MM/DD/YYYY	START	STOP	TIME WORKED
	A BUCK OR TWO #			Yes	Yes	//	_:	_:	/
Cycle:1			Notes:						
	CANADIAN TIRE #			Yes	Yes	//	_:	_:_	/
Cycle:2			Notes:						

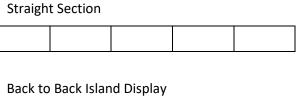


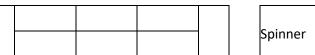
DISPLAYS

Standard fixtures are 4ft wide and can be joined to make various size displays. Each section of a display has a different letter which allows you to identify it when reordering. The fixtures consist of 12 to 16 tiers (rows). Each tier (or row) is divided into pockets by plastic dividers and each pocket is numbered accordingly to the size of the fixture. Below are a few examples of display set ups...

GIFT WRAP SPINNER









18 pkt Value Pack Rack







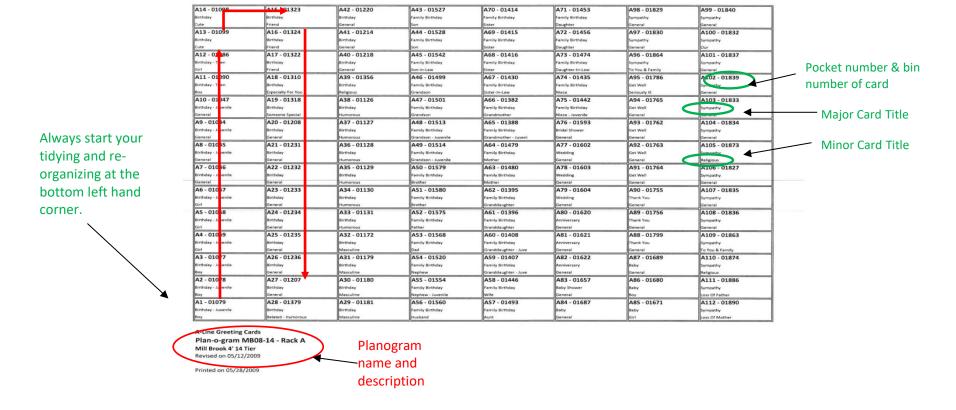
18 pkt Handmade Rack





PLAN-O-GRAMS

Each size card display has its own plan-o-gram. Your merchandiser binder contains the plan-o-grams you will require to properly maintain any size display. Below is a sample of a plan-o-gram for a standard 4' 14 tier display of wrapped cards. If you do not have a planogram to match your card display in store, contact the office at 1-800-790-1280 Ext 101 or by email at customerservice@alinegreetings.com



Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

GREETING CARDS

Aline carries two main types of greeting card product: **Wrapped** and **Unwrapped**. When purchasing Wrapped product each card is individually wrapped inside the outer case pack of 6. Most of the \$1 retail product is wrapped.

Please note the code for each card line will be in brackets next to the style. You may notice the codes on the planogram labels for store scanning in your stores.

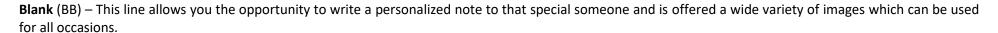
\$1.00 Retail

Mill Brook Studio English (MBW or MB) Every day and Seasonal Cards

Mill Brook Studio French (MBF) Every day and Seasonal Cards

Furry Friends (FF) is an assortment of humorous pet inspired cards.

Funny Bone (FB) is an assortment of humorous cards.



Blessings & Best Wishes (BBW) is an assortment of inspirational and religious cards.

Mill Brook Studio English (MBU or MB) – This is an assortment of unwrapped Mill Brook cards. This line is available if the customer prefers to have their cards unwrapped. We also have unwrapped Seasonal cards.







\$2.00 Retail - (all \$2 retail product is unwrapped)

Rosedale Everyday (RD) Everyday and Seasonal Cards

Humor Me (HM) is an assortment Rosedale Theme with funny, edgy and witty humor.

Rosedale Ages (RAG) is an assortment Theme with ages ranging from 1-100.

Just Fur You (JFY) is a Rosedale Just Fur You combines both pet cards and humor cards into a very attractive and unique line of greeting cards.

Rosedale Blank (RBL) is an assortment Rosedale Theme which allows you a chance to personalize your message on contemporary and traditional designs for any occasion.

\$3.00 Retail – (all \$3 retail product is unwrapped)

Rosedale Gold (RG) is the high end addition to our line. The "Easy as 1,2,3 program" which was introduced to our customers in early 2015.

Rosedale Gold Humor Me (HMG) is an assortment Rosedale Gold Theme with funny, edgy and witty humor

Rosedale Gold Blank (RGBL) is an assortment Rosedale Gold Theme which allows you a chance to personalize your message on contemporary and traditional designs for any occasion.

Handmade Greeting Cards (MH) is an assortment of handcrafted and embellished everyday all occasion greeting cards

All Greeting Cards are designed by our Creative Department at our Head Office. We are always updating and adding new designs for all occasions, seasons and feelings.

Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

ANCILLARY PRODUCTS

In 2010, Aline added a full selection of Everyday and Seasonal Christmas ancillary products to our lineup. This has catapulted Aline to be a leader in the discounted social expressions category with the widest range of products and the most innovative designs.

We have the ideal combination of items in our Everyday Ancillary line to get you through your day-to-day celebrations with friends and family. We can meet all your party needs from bags to bows, from tissue to ribbon and regular items like magnetic memo pads and gift wrap.

Our Seasonal ancillary selection carries products to decorate that special gift or to hold a gift card for the "hard-to-buy-for" person on your list.

In a sometimes-busy lifestyle it's great to know that Aline can be your choice for one stop shopping to alleviate the stressful times. The ancillary line has so much to offer for that special occasion that will enhance the atmosphere for that special day and make the memories last forever.





ORDER FORMS

ORDER FORMS CAN BE FOUND IN STAFF ACCESS UNDER PRINTABLE FORMS (CA) OR PRINTABLE FORMS (US)

MAKE SURE ALL CARD ORDERS MEET OUR MINIMUM REQUIREMENT OF \$250.00 CANADA AND \$200.00 US FOR FREE SHIPPING

APPROXIMATE REQUIRED PACKS BASED ON STANDARD PRICING:

70 PACKS CA / 56 PACKS US \$1.00 CARDS (Based on \$0.60 per card)

35 PACKS CA / 28 PACKS US \$2.00 CARDS (Based on \$1.20 per card)

47 PACKS CA / 37 PACKS US \$3.00 CARDS (Based on \$1.80 per card)

@h =			ORDER FORM	1	Total faxed page(s) of
GREETING CARDS	E Tel: 1.800.790.1280 Fax: 1.800.771.7633	- Date:		Cust #:	Store page(s) of
80000000000000		Ship to arrive:		Store Name:	
	Instructions; ; T unit = 6 onlys	Cartifee		Address	
RACK "A"					
1 65	RACK "B"	RACK "C"	RACK "D"	1 15 29	#E HUMOROUS RACK "P"
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3 67	3 67	3 67	3 67	3 17 31	45 59 73 87 101
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6_ 70	6 70	6 70	6 70	6 20 34	48 62 76 90 104
7 71	7 71	7 71	7 71	7 21 35	49 63 77 91 105
8 72 73	8 72 9 73	9 73	8 72 73	8 22 36 2 9 23 37	50 64 78 92 106 51 65 79 93 107
9 73	9 73	9 73		9 23 37	51 65 79 93 107 52 66 80 94 108
11 75	11 75	11 75	11 76	11 25 39	53 67 81 95 109
12 76	12 76	12 76	12 76	12 26 40	54 68 82 95 110
13 77 78	13 77	13 77	13 77 78	13 27 41 14	55 69 83 97 111 56 70 84 98 112
15 79	15 79	14 78 79	15 79		
16 80	16 80	16 80	16 80	PET LOVE RACK "L"	1 17 33 49
17 81	17 81	17 81	17 81		49 1 17 33 49 50 2 18 34 50
18 82 19 83	18 82 19 63	18 82	18 82 19 83	3 19 35	51 3 19 35 51
20 04	20 84	20 64	20 84		52 4 20 36 52
21 85	21 85	21 85	21 85		63 6 21 37 53 54 6 22 38 54
22 86 2	22 86	22 86	22 86 -	7 23 39	65 7 23 39 55
23 87 88	23 87	23 87	23 87		56 8 24 40 56
25 89	25 89	25 89	25 89		57 9 25 41 57 48 10 26 42 48
26 90	26 90	26 90	26 90		58 10 26 42 58 59 11 27 43 59
27 91 92	27 91 28 92	27 91 -	27 91		60 12 28 44 60
29 92	29 93	29 93	29 93		61 13 29 45 61
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38 102	38 102	38 102	38 102	5 19 33	47 61 75 89 103
39 103	39 103	39 103	39 103	6 20 34	48 62 76 90 104
40 104 41 105	40 104	40 104	40 104	7 21 35 35 8 22 36	49 63 77 91 105 50 64 78 92 106
42 106	42 106	42 106	42 106	9 23 37	51 65 79 93 107
43 107	43 107	43107	43 107	10 24 38	52 66 80 94 108
44 108	44 108	44 108	44 108	11 25 39	53 67 81 95 109
45 109 110	45 109 46 110	45 109 46 110	45 109 46 110	12 26 40	54 68 82 96 110 55 69 83 97 111
47 111	47 111	47 111	47 111	14 28 42	56 70 84 98 112
48 112	46 112	48 112	48 112	HANDMADE BACK "ME	GIFT WRAP RACK "W"
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51 115	51115	51115	51 115	2 18 34	50 2 18 34 50
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53 117	53 117	53 117	53 117		62 - 30 - 30 - 52 63 - 37 - 63
54 118	54 118 55 119	54 118 55 119	56119	6 22 38	54 6 22 38 54
56 120	56 120	56 120	56 120		55 7 23 39 55 56 8 24 40 56
57 121	57 121	57 121	57 121		56 8 24 40 56 67 9 25 41 57
58 122 59 123	58 122 59 123	58122 59123	58 122 59 123	10 26 42	58 10 26 42 58
60 124	60 124	60 124	60 124	11 27 43	59 11 27 43 59
61 125	61 125	61 125	61 125		60 12 28 44 60
62 126	62 126	62 126	62 126		62 14 30 46 62
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BEE FREIGHT on orders	over \$225. Orders less than \$	225 \$15 faint charse		NOTES	
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Ordering Instructions:	Strip to serior:	_	Stone Name	
Order in Units: 1 unit = 6 cops	Card line	Designer	Address	
MACK "DA" RACK "DB"	RACK "DC"	RACK "00"	SENTIMENTS RACK	
	ua .			

Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

CREDIT AND RE-BILL

A-Line Greetings offers a program called Credit and Re-Bill to customers for their seasonal product. Please note **not** all customers are on this program. This is a process of doing credits that will be used for rebilling in the following year for that season. The returns will be stored in under the racks or an agreed place somewhere else in the store. For the store owner, their credit is applied on the account. Aline will review what was shipped to the store against what was scanned as credit and re-bill to determine what product is required for that season the following year known as auto seasonal. If the customer isn't on Auto Seasonal you will be required to order seasonal cards for the upcoming season based on what is already in the store and what is required to fill the seasonal section.

For Field Staff that do not have scanners:

To complete the credit and re-bill process:

- You will need to sort the product by Sku and input information on our Credit & Re-bill form with quantities so that we can capture the data.
- Sign the form
- The product would be placed in under carriage drawer's storage and placed in a plastic bag or box clearly marked credit and re-bill with a copy of the Credit & Re-bill form included– labels with "Property of A-Line Greeting Cards" are being supplied to be attached to the outside of the bag.
- Put a copy of the credit and re-bill form in the bag with the cards.
- Keep a copy of the credit and re-bill form for your records
- Fax a copy of the credit and re-bill form to 1-800-771-7633 or email to accountsreceivable@alinegreetings.com

For Field Staff that have scanners only:

These cards will need to be scanned using a special bar code so we can record what was sold and what was not during that season. A copy of the bar code is available in the Internal Forms.

Leave the Credit & Re-Bill scanning to be done at the end of your store visit.

- Scan into your store as normal
- Tidy Every day and Themed sections
- Scan planogram label and pocket labels to generate your ED order Do not scan out of the store

- Scan your Credit & Re-bill label
- Scan each Seasonal card individually
- Scan Credit & Re-bill label to complete the process
- The product would be placed in under carriage drawer's storage and placed in a box clearly marked credit and re-bill labels with "Property of A-Line Greetings" are being supplied to be attached to the outside of the box.
- Scan out of the store
- No paper credit note will be required at the store, an email copy will be sent within the next two business days directly to the customers.

It is important to note when scanning:

- Each scan of the Credit & Re-bill label is either a "scan in" or "scan out" of the process. If you are unsure that you scanned in the label and scan the label a possible second time, you will scan yourself out of the process and end the Credit & Re-bill. All cards scanned would generate an order rather than a credit.
- If at any time you realize that there is an additional product to be added to the Credit & Re-bill scan, just rescan your Credit & Re-bill label and proceed to scan the cards individually and then scan the label again to end the process.

If you forget to scan the Credit & Re-bill label to close the process and then try to scan an ED card order for that store, the order will not generate and a rescan of the product will be required to get the product required for that store.

EMAILING THE OFFICE

It is extremely important that inquiries you have are answered in a timely manner. You have customers that you have direct contact with waiting for answers. It is also important to get an accurate and quick response so please direct your questions to the correct department. This will avoid multiple communication interventions and hopefully result in getting answers the first time around. It should help speed up processes and avoid confusion.

Remember, however, all your customer info is available for review on the web application. This should be your first instinct to check the web application. In most instances, this may eliminate a call or an email to the office.

A few things to include in emails:

- Customer #
- Customer Name
- Reason for the email
- Provide clear questions if a reply is needed

Key points to remember:

1. Don't use email as an excuse to avoid personal contact

Don't forget the value of face-to-face or even voice-to-voice communication. Email communication isn't appropriate when sending confusing or emotional messages. Think of the times you've heard someone in the office indignantly say, "Well, I sent you an email." If you have a problem with someone, speak with that person directly. Don't use email to avoid an uncomfortable situation or to cover up a mistake.

If you do receive an email that upsets, you do not respond with another email in rebuttal. This is referred to as "flaming"; it just gets the ball rolling until you have a full-blown confrontation on your hand. Don't just hit the reply button and send something that you will regret later.

2. Remember that your tone can't be heard in an email

Have you ever attempted sarcasm in an email, and the recipient took it the wrong way? Email communication can't convey the nuances of verbal communication. To infer tone of voice, some people use emoticons but use them sparingly so that you don't appear unprofessional. Also, don't assume that using a smiley will diffuse a difficult message.

3. Review an email before you send it

A-Line Greetings



Tel: 1-800-790-1280 Fax: 1-800-771-7633 Email: customerservice@alinegreetings.com Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

You should always review your emails before sending them. This avoids things being left out. Make sure that the individual receiving your email has a good understanding of what you are asking. If you are sending an attachment, always remember to attach it.

4. Remember that email isn't private

Email is considered company property and can be retrieved, examined and used in a court of law. Unless you are using an encryption device (hardware or software), you should assume that email over the Internet is not secure. Never put in an email message anything that you wouldn't put on a postcard. Remember that email can be forwarded, so unintended audiences may see what you've written. You might also inadvertently send something to the wrong party, so always keep the content professional to avoid embarrassment.

5. Be sparing with group email

Send group email only when it's useful to every recipient. Use the "reply all" button only when compiling results requiring collective input and only if you have something to add. Recipients get quite annoyed to open an email that says only "Me too!"

6. Use the subject field to indicate content and purpose

Don't just say, "Hi!" or "From Laura." Agree on acronyms to use that quickly identify actions. For example, your team could use <AR> to mean "Action Required" or <MSR> for the Monthly Status Report. It's also good practice to include the word "Long" in the subject field, if necessary, so that the recipient knows that the message will take time to read.

7. Answer Promptly

If you are asked a question in an email, ensure you provide a prompt response or let the sender know when they will receive a reply. If the answer to the question is lengthy or complex, consider calling the sender.

8. Answer all questions

When responding to an email be sure to answer all questions contained within the email. Not answering all questions only results in more email. After receiving reply to emails that have answered your questions, Re-replying with a "thank you" email, although sent with good intentions, is often unnecessary. Besides taking up valuable disk space it also unintentional leads to minor frustration having to open emails that only say "thank you" or "noted"

9. Don't send chain letters, virus warnings, or junk mail

Always check a reputable antivirus Web site or your IT department before sending out an alarm. If a constant stream of jokes from a friend annoys you, be honest and ask to be removed from the list. Direct all personal email to your home email account.

10. Be concise and to the point

Avoid long winded emails. Emails should be concise, relatively brief and specific.

Website: www.ALineGreetings.com

11. Use proper structure and layout

Business emails are business emails. Often, we tend to get a little informal with our emails. Using acronym like "lol", "ttyl" or "cya" should be avoided. The use of emoticons should also be avoided. Their intent is to ensure that the receiver does not take your email out of context. This can often be avoided by restructuring your sentences or communicating via the telephone or directly.

12. Text case and sentence structure

Emails written in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS are perceived as though you're shouting. Emails written with all lowercase letters are perceived as being lazy. We should use proper grammar, spelling and sentence structure. Start sentences with capital letters and use periods at the end. Use complete sentences. Typing phrases or thoughts does not lead to clear communications. Additionally, do not use multiple question marks or exclamations; it is another form of on-line impatience. Also, do not use a lot of colors or graphics embedded in your message because not everyone uses an email program that can display them.

13. Formatting

Stay away from fancy fonts and graphical backgrounds.

14. Courtesy

The additions of words like please and thank you often go a long way. Using courteous greetings and closing help makes emails not seem demanding or terse.

15. The CC field

Use the cc field sparingly. It is often unnecessary to cc many of the individuals who often get copied on emails. If it directly involves the individual, they should be directly in the address line. The cc should be used to keep anyone who must be aware of the contents of the email, but who is not directly involved in the email, in the loop.

16. Use the blind copy and courtesy copy appropriately

Don't use BCC to keep others from seeing who you copied; it shows confidence when you directly CC anyone receiving a copy. Do use BCC, however, when sending to a large distribution list, so recipients won't have to see a huge list of names. Be cautious with your use of CC; overuse simply clutters inboxes. Copy only people who are directly involved.

17. Do not copy or forward messages or attachment without permission

Email sent to you is often intended for you only. If you receive an email questioning the actions of another individual NEVER forward that email or any portion of that email to the individual in question. This is very unprofessional and often leads to unnecessary conflict. If necessary, a separate email should be written by you and the original email should not be copied or referred to.

18. Avoid using urgent or important

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Some people always send their email as important. If it is that important, you may want to contact the individual directly instead of by email.

19. Use a signature that includes contact information

To ensure that people know who you are, include a signature that has your contact information; include your mailing address, Web site and phone numbers.

20. Subject lines

Subject lines should always be included with emails and should be concise. This helps the receiver sort through unread emails and makes it much easier to search for emails later.

21. Summarize long discussions

Scrolling through pages of replies to understand a discussion is annoying. Instead of continuing to forward a message string, take a minute to summarize it for your reader. You could even highlight or quote the relevant passage, then include your response. Some words of caution:

- o If you are forwarding or reposting a message you've received, do not change the wording.
- o If you want to repost to a group a message that you received individually, ask the author for permission first.
- Give proper attribution.

Office Departments

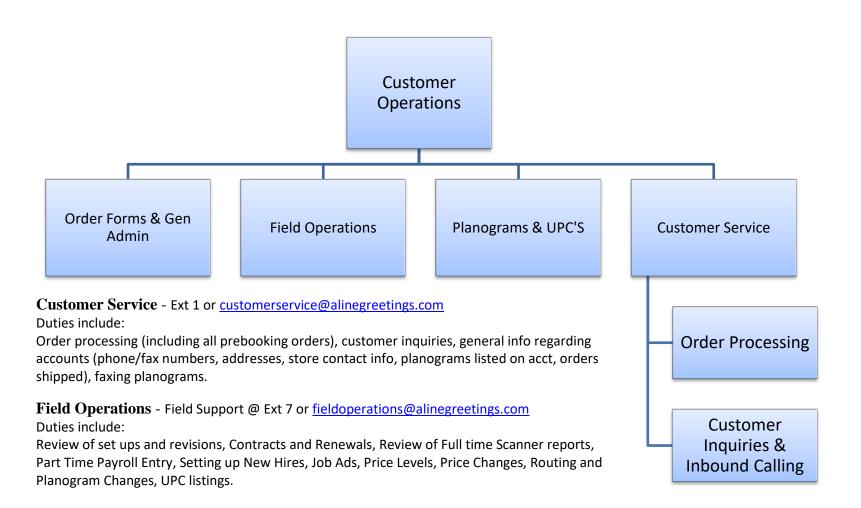
Customer Operations

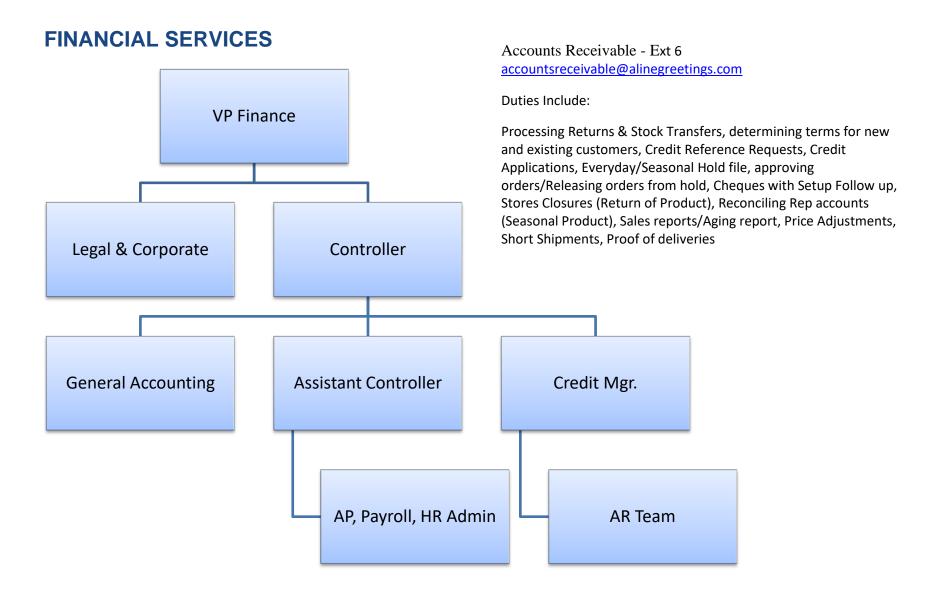
Provide customer support, order management, and reporting. Partner with the Sales Team to help drive sales increases and control expenses.

Financial Services

Provide General Accounting Functions and support the business decision making process with accurate and timely analysis and metrics

CUSTOMER OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT





CALLING THE OFFICE

Points to remember when calling the office:

- All office staff members have voice mail; there should be no reason to give a message to someone else in the office to pass along.
- When leaving a message on someone's voice mail please make sure the message that you leave is detailed and explains exactly what you are looking for or what the call is regarding. Messages like, "Hey, its Joe call me back please!" should not be left on anyone's machine.
- If you have left a message for someone, please do not call back to the office to someone else and ask the same questions, it is a waste of time to have numerous people in the office working on the same task at the same time.
- After leaving a voice mail please do not email that person within a couple of minutes, pick one or the other. Obviously if the person did not answer your call, they are already busy with something or someone else. Your call will be answered when the person becomes available.
- Each department has numerous people that can answer your questions; this is the reason why you should get used to dealing with departments rather than individuals unless of course you are returning a call from an individual staff member. In the previous couple of pages we had included only a single extension for the Customer Service, Field Operations and Accounts Receivable department instead of listing out all the members of the departments with their extensions attached.

As there are over 200+ field personnel in Canada and the US, when leaving a voice mail please make sure to give both first and last names. We have many people on staff with the same first name and this will eliminate any confusion regarding who to return the call to.

Remember that the office staff members are fielding calls from across both countries; people are in all different time zones. There are times when your call may not be returned right away, however, we ask that if you are waiting for a response, please be patient.





PAY STUBS

Please note that for all Field Staff your pay stubs are not mailed directly to you. To get copies of your pay stubs you must log into your ADP payroll account. With your first payroll you will receive 2 emails, one from our payroll department with instructions to set up your ADP payroll account and one directly from ADP with an activation code. You are required to sign-up for an A-line ADP account, regardless of if you already have another account with a different employer, your account should be set up within 5 days of receiving these emails.