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CPA Practice Advisor



Account Ability by IDMS is a year-end compliance and ATF payroll solution. The

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wages and withholding amounts are automatically calculated on the W-2 forms and data entry is automatically replicated in the appropriate fields on subsequent forms.

Users can import spreadsheets and text files, file electronically with the IRS and SSA and verify TINs before printing and submitting. Account Ability can also generate several error reports and password-protect exported PDFs. In addition, the solution will process corrected returns and verify clients' USPS address.

Reporting – 4.75 Stars

Account Ability supports unlimited clients with unlimited recipients. Users can e-file with the IRS and SSA for all 1098 and 1099 forms, W-2, W-2G, 3921, 3922, 5498, 941, 943 and 944 forms. The solution also supports compliance for Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and the Northern Marianas Islands. Users can generate state and local wage and withholding reports, client activity reports and register listing.

Reports can be generated for forms with missing TINs, federal and state exceptions and TIN matching errors. Social security numbers can also be truncated on returns. Users can enable password protection at the client level and save forms as PDFs. Forms can also be printed on plain paper or pre-printed forms. Account Ability also supports printing continuous forms on dot matrix printers and IDMS offers print and mailing services. Users can select which forms are sent to which clients.

Import/Export Capabilities – 4.5 Stars

Data from Excel and text files can be imported directly into Account Ability. Users can also import the previous year's data into the program. Account Ability also exports data to Excel, mail-merge applications and PDFs. Account Ability doesn't have any integrated billing and invoicing capabilities.

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comprehensive printing and mailing services. Licensing for Account Ability starts at \$219.95, and each concurrent user license costs \$35.

Best Fit: Firms managing year-end compliance and ATF payroll for multiple mid- to large-sized businesses

What's New:

- Recording of passwords and PINs
- Ability to create notes from any screen
- “Windows Calculator” integrated Account Ability
- Ability to lock client returns
- Ability to mark clients as inactive
- Updated forms 1099-B, 1099-K and 1098-C

Strengths:

- Complete print and mail services available
- Comprehensive reports
- Built-in document management feature

Potential Limitations:

- Built-in billing and invoicing features not available

2013 Overall Rating: 4.75 Stars

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