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Online accounting software maker Xero has partnered with H&R Block, Inc. to offer the Xero system as the core small business online accounting platform in H&R Block's Small Business Program suite of services.

H&R Block selected Xero as its preferred online small business accounting partner after an intensive vetting process. H&R Block has 11,000 branded locations nationwide, and will solely promote Xero as the recommended small business online accounting solution in the locations that sell H&R Block's Small Business Program suite of services.

This partnership is part of H&R Block's services to small businesses to give them a technological edge with the most modern, cloud-based financial management tools. For Xero, partnering with the well-known tax company gives it the opportunity to increase its brand awareness in the U.S. and expand its marketing and sales channel to more small businesses throughout the country.

Xero leads the way in the new wave of cloud-born technology innovators that are reinventing how small businesses manage their everyday business tasks. Xero offers a modern, design-led customer experience that makes accounting intuitive and even fun for business owners who don't have an accounting background. Ultimately, it gives small businesses a technological edge so they can more effectively compete and grow their businesses.

"Together with H&R Block's well-known brand and established channel, we're able to help improve the financial lives of more small businesses by bringing them the latest cutting-edge financial tools," said Peter Karpas, CEO, Xero North America. "At

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online platform so users are not chained to their desks or computers as with desktop accounting software. They simply use whichever device they prefer — their laptop, tablet or smartphone — to see their real-time cash flow, create and send invoices, as well as share and collaborate on financial reports. To meet the specific needs of different businesses and industries, Xero seamlessly integrates with 300 best-in-class business tools such as Square for taking mobile payments, Harvest for time tracking and Bill.com for streamlining payables, billing and cash-flow.

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