CPA

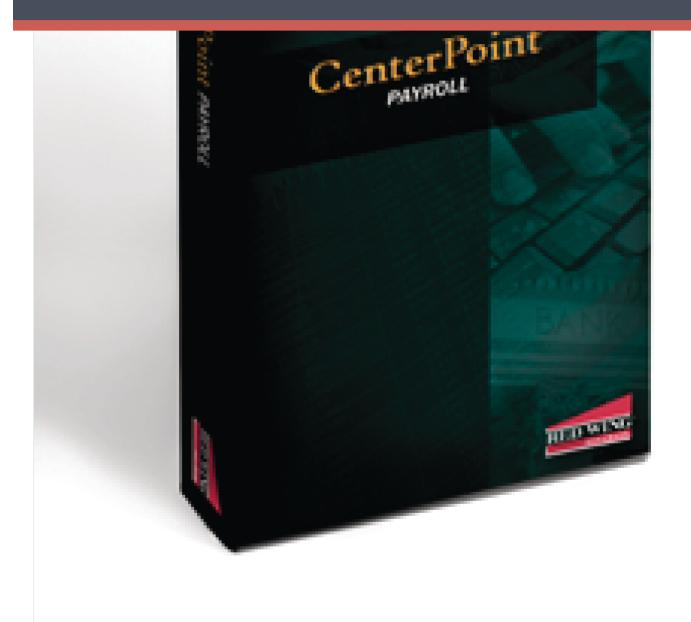
Practice **Advisor**

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BASIC SYSTEM FUNCTIONS

CenterPoint is a full-featured payroll system that can be used with other accounting vendor software applications. It is robust enough to handle companies of all sizes and allows firms to perform payroll services in all 50 states. Tax forms are updated on a quarterly basis to ensure all company filings are correct and current. The interface is completely customizable to the user's preferences, and employee output documents such as paystubs can be printed in either English or Spanish.

Adding clients is intuitive. Client information/data can be imported into the system via Excel or CSV. Adding and editing payroll deductions is simple, and the product supports an unlimited number of deductions, including cafeteria plans, union dues, HSA's, garnishments, health insurance, 401(k) plans, and most other deduction types.

Since the product is focused on multi-employer configurations, processing multiple payrolls simultaneously is a simple task. The system allows for the import of employee time and allows users to easily process payroll via direct deposit or printed checks. All federal and state tax returns are updated quarterly. Payroll tax liabilities can be calculated, but cannot be electronically remitted. Third-party payments such as insurance deductions and garnishments can be calculated, but they cannot be paid through the CenterPoint Payroll system. Tax and third-party payment information must be downloaded to the GL in order to process the payments. 4

REPORTING & MONITORING

CenterPoint has a very flexible reporting module that allows users to create needed reports. With more than 100 standard reports in the system, it supports the generation of just about any report a business or payroll manager might need. The

report writer is quite intuitive and easy to use, providing output options to Word,

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INTEGRATION/IMPORT & EXPORT

The program can import from Excel, as well as from most time clock systems. Import from QuickBooks, Quicken, Sage Peachtree and text formats is also supported. Data can be exported to a GL report for import into most accounting programs, and a bridge program is available for transferring payroll data to the GL of most accounting systems. CenterPoint also integrates with Red Wing's accounting software products, including CenterPoint Accounting, TurningPoint Accounting, and the CenterPoint industry-specific solutions for municipalities, nonprofits and agricultural producers. 4

HELP/SUPPORT

The system provides traditional built-in Help functions, as well as numerous online support options. New users can view an online product demonstration, as well as take part in a community forum. Online training is available using the How2 Viewer, an online repository of web-based training for the key processes and tasks associated with CenterPoint Payroll, which is available to customers with a current support contract at no additional charge. Users can also take self-paced or classroom training through Red Wing Software University for an additional fee. Live U.S.-based telephone technical support is included in pricing. 4

CLIENT SELF-SERVICE FEATURES

In July 2010, CenterPoint Payroll released its Publish Pay Advice Tool, which is a module that allows companies to publish employee direct deposit advices to a secure web portal for anywhere, anytime access to paystubs. This optional module eliminates the need to print and mail a paper advice for each employee every pay period. However, because this review section primarily addresses SaaS-based

products and the extensive feature sets available in web-based products in this area,

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of employers is priced at \$395.

2010 Overall Rating 4

Payroll

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