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UBCC — Client Data Center

800-827-8610 www.ubcc.com

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UBCC offers a comprehensive write-up solution in a real-time, platform-independent, character-based program known as Client Data Center. Client Data Center will run under any of over 700 operating systems, including Windows, Linux, Unix and Citrix, to name just a few. UBCC's intent is that users should not be limited or otherwise subjected to system constraints. We think UBCC qualifies as being accessible. Longhorn, here we come!

UBCC's Client Data Center features real-time and after-the-fact payroll processing, general ledger, trial balance, and a financial reporting module. User productivity and efficiency are provided in a customizable environment — the hallmark of UBCC's dedication to providing solutions that meet individual user needs.

George R. Gray is a CPA at Randolph, Vt.-based Compucount, Inc., a CPA firm that specializes in monthly write-up (nondisclosure compilations), payroll services and tax preparation. The firm's three professionals and seven support staff service 120 monthly write-up clients, process 115 live payrolls, and prepare 600 personal and business tax returns per year. Gray noted that over the course of the last four-plus years, UBCC has been rewriting its software to have a

GUI interface. He says, “The rewrite has provided an opportunity for many enhancements and a user interface that is more Windows-friendly and easier for a new user to navigate.”

LEARNING CURVE & EASE OF USE — 3.5 Stars

UBCC offers fast client setup and data entry. Navigation is available through function keys that are customizable on an operator-by-operator basis to suit the needs of each individual user. Additionally, each user has the choice of executing tasks via command-driven or pull-down menus. The heads-down advocate

will be satisfied because the program allows users to adopt the look and feel that best suits the manner in which they prefer to navigate, enter data and execute write-up computer routines. Command menus are very large as to choices and not always arranged in a logical manner. There’s no doubt that when the user learns where to mouse-click on the screen or how to otherwise invoke commands by depressing (initial) letters of the command (word), navigation becomes easier.

REPORTING & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — 3.5 Stars

Formatting of financial statements is straightforward, featuring free-form report design. Financial reporting is available on a 12-month side-by-side basis with five years of comparative data (including budgets) available. Custom reports are easily shared between locations, departments, profit centers and clients.

INTEGRATION, IMPORT/EXPORT & PRODUCTION PROCESSING — 3.5 Stars

Integration is available through a suite of UBCC products, including Payroll Service Bureau, Contractor Management, General Ledger, Commercial Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Bank Reconciliation, Unified Payroll, Depreciation, Job Management, Inventory Management, Order Billing and Universal Importer. UBCC has a bridge program that exports data to Lacerte, UltraTax CS and other tax programs. Data may be imported from Quicken, Peachtree, and many other client accounting software products, as well.

SCALABILITY & PORTABILITY — 3.5 Stars

As a multi-user system, UBCC can accommodate a wide spectrum of users, from few to many. UBCC works on the belief that its platform-independent (COBOL) programming lends itself to increased portability. However, most users only

have one platform they will use now and in the future, with advanced versions of Microsoft Windows appearing on the vast majority of accountant desktops. (The company noted that it believes Linux will be making big inroads and that it offers many advantages over Windows, although they also believe that there are many advantages for those who wish to stay with Microsoft, as well. They also commented that their portability allows the program to run native today on the new 64-bit Microsoft OS that was just released, with no data file conversion.)

SUPPORT, TRAINING & HELP SYSTEM — 4 Stars

UBCC provides online, context-sensitive help together with traditional telephone, Internet-based and comprehensive on-site training available. System consulting and software modification services are also available. Gray advises new users to take advantage of any support packages offered by UBCC, and he notes that “UBCC support has improved greatly over the last three years.” He also finds value in the new UBCC users group, “in that we are able to discuss problems or issues and figure things out among the group as opposed to placing a support call.”

2005 Overall Rating — 3.5 Stars

Article

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