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### *& Use Tax Software*

Intuit's EasyACCT has been part of the company's line of products for several years, though it may be familiar to many users as the write-up offering of the now-defunct TaascFORCE. With solid improvements to the EasyACCT write-up program, Intuit has served notice that it intends to be a force in professional accountant's write-up. That's interesting news for the many practitioners who have been struggling with their clients' adoption of the popular QuickBooks accounting program.

EasyACCT consists of general ledger, payroll, financial statements, bank reconciliation, depreciation, amortization, trial balance, Information Return System (compliance forms module), AR and AP. EasyACCT is really an all-in-one system, as users don't have an option to purchase individual modules — it's all or nothing. (The Information Return System is available as a stand-alone product.) Intuit also offers the EasyACCT Business System, which integrates with EasyACCT write-up. EasyACCT runs on Windows 98se, Windows NT, Windows ME, Windows 2000 and Windows XP. The network version runs on the same operating systems with the addition of Novell NetWare 5.0 (or later).

### **LEARNING CURVE & EASE OF USE — 4.5 Stars**

Setup is fast and intuitive. EasyACCT offers free conversion of Creative Solutions' write-up product. It would be nice if they extended this ability to other vendors as well. Data entry is heads-down and fast and features various built-in options that add to user efficiency. Entry screens keep track of debits and credits, and an auto-balance "fail-safe" feature solves and posts out-of-balance

amounts should the user attempt to exit transaction entry prematurely. However,

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Financial statement formatting is flexible and easy. Multi-department (or division) reporting is a snap. Financial reports viewed on-screen are available for immediate editing. EasyACCT offers standardized or custom financial reports. Standard reports are created through an automatic design feature; custom reports are created using a built-in detail layout tool.

#### **INTEGRATION, IMPORT/EXPORT & PRODUCTION PROCESSING — 4 Stars**

Integration with other modules is powerful and offers flexibility in meeting client needs. Import is available from EasyACCT modules and from QuickBooks. Export is available to Lacerte and (Intuit) ProSeries tax software. EasyACCT can also export to spreadsheets. Production processing is advanced in EasyACCT, as the user is provided the means to batch print multiple clients (while the office sleeps, before or after that all-important nightly system backup, right?).

#### **SCALABILITY & PORTABILITY — 4.5 Stars**

The 32-bit functionality of EasyACCT will satisfy and serve single users to large networks. EasyACCT users at the low end of system requirements, Pentium 3's loaded with Windows 98se or Windows ME, have environments that already suffer their limited fault-tolerance abilities to the end that increased burdens cannot be placed on these systems, which is true of most any software application. In other words, the better and more modern the system environment, the more effective the software performance. However, EasyACCT users deploying higher-end Pentium 4's with Windows 2000/XP operating systems will be well positioned to operate the EasyACCT system for years to come.

#### **SUPPORT, TRAINING & HELP SYSTEM — 4.5 Stars**

Comprehensive context-sensitive help within the program is always just a mouse-click

away. A complete user's manual is easily accessed on the program CD. Traditional

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