CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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Asset Management Software

Multiview offers a comprehensive accounting system that, in addition to the Asset Management System, includes GL, AP, AR, purchasing, order processing, invoicing, inventory, workflow and financial and analytic reporting. The asset system, which can be used as a part of the accounting suite or individually, supports multiple books and depreciation strategies, allows a variety of disposal methods, and maintains a full-time audit trail. Capable of handling any number of assets, the system is geared for larger businesses, with pricing at \$2,500 per user.

NAVIGATION/EASE-OF-USE – 4.5 Stars

Program setup is somewhat detailed, requiring some knowledge of database administration

and client/server relationships, but the installation guide should be adequate for most situations. On the other hand, setting up individual companies and adding assets is fairly simple, with wizards and other assistive devices. The program's interface is very well-designed, offering traditional pull-down menus and an icon toolbar across the top of the screen, with the primary work space opening into a spreadsheet list of a company's assets after selecting the asset icon from the toolbar. The asset list can be filtered or sorted in a variety of ways, and is also searchable. Users can access specific asset records either by double-clicking the asset entry or by using one of the many tabs, which allows moving to screens for Detail, Location, Pending Actions, Change History (audit trail), Transactions, User Fields, Attributes, Supplemental Books and 1031 Exchange information.

Data-entry fields include smart selection lists for common entries such as codes, account numbers and depreciation methods, with calculations performed

immediately upon data entry. Asset acquisition can also be performed via an

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viewed simultaneously on the same screen. It also supports most traditional calculations such as straight-line, ACRS, MACRS, ADR, SYD, declining balance, as well as user-defined calculations. Daily, half-year, mid-quarter and mid-month conventions are supported, along with short year, independent fiscal years, 52 to 53 week years, 13 month, and unequal accounting periods.

The system can perform mass disposals, transfers and acquisitions, and make partial transfers, like-kind exchanges and virtually any other event throughout the life of an asset. Assets can be grouped by several methods, and the system can be used to track zero and negative basis assets, as well as miscellaneous information such as warranties, maintenance schedules, leases, insurance or other information. Depreciation projections can be performed out to 40 years. Security features can restrict users based on task or client, and an audit trail logs all changes made to asset information. The system can be utilized with barcode systems.

INTEGRATION - 4 Stars

All components of the Multiview accounting system utilize the same database, so data sharing is thorough, including automatic posting to the GL, automatic creation of assets from purchases, etc. The program can be integrated with tax programs and can export data in various formats including spreadsheets. Users with advanced database mapping experience can benefit from the system's open relational database, which can share data with many other financial and analysis programs, but some skill is required to map the system.

REPORTING - 5 Stars

Multiview's reporting functions include more than 150 pre-built reports (built with Crystal Reports) for financial reporting, including asset summaries, depreciation, projections, reconciliation, cost and basis, expense reports,

acquisitions and dispositions. Additionally, the system includes worksheets

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SUMMARY

Multiview is a high-end system that can be scaled to meet a company of virtually limitless size. It is functionally strong and, with support for an unlimited number of books, can manage very complex asset bases. Security and customizability further complement the system, which is best-suited to large entities.

2005 Overall Rating – 4.5 Stars

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