CPA
Practice **Advisor**

From the Oct. 2007 Issue

We are heading into the home stretch of 2007. If your year has been like mine, you are shaking your head and trying to figure out where the time went. October begins the fourth quarter for many businesses, and we are all busy preparing for next year — looking ahead, planning, budgeting, and evaluating overall growth strategies and internal business procedures. Ahhhh! The joys of management.
We know it is a BIG job, and some days seem overwhelming. So this issue gives you some practical tips and advice as you juggle all the balls and keep the plates spinning!

NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT
Now is the time to look at the technology you use in your business. If you are going to be making changes in 2008 to transition to Windows Server 2008 or Windows
Vista (or even updating Office 2007), then this issue gives you some valuable insight and recommendations to consider when looking at your network infrastructure.
(See Randy's very thorough and helpful advice on page 40, in the first half of a two-part column. It's like having your own IT expert helping you analyze and evaluate your current setup. And you aren't even getting the bill! At least send the guy a pizza! Actually, just a note letting him know it was helpful will do. But I'm sure our writers wouldn't turn down free food if it arrived!)

PRACTICE & CLIENT RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT
Looking at implementing a solution in 2008 that will help you more effectively capture, store and analyze customer information, and, therefore, allow you to

more effectively manage your relationships, communications and projects with

practice management products, beginning on page 8. You owe it to yourself to take a really close look at these reviews and see how far these products have come and what exactly they can do for you. Plus, you can learn even more and earn CPE by attending our free live webcast event on Practice Management/Time & Billing on October 4 at 2:00 p.m. EDT. Just sign up today on our website!)

MONEY MANAGEMENT
So how much should you invest in your 2008 technology budget? What is the average
amount accounting firms spend on infrastructure, software and training? We hear these questions a lot at tradeshows and on reader visits. Everyone wants a simple answer, but every firm is different. Unfortunately, there is no cookie-cutter solution to offer you. However, Greg talks with one tax and accounting professional who shares some great starting points for you to consider in the "Technology Talk" feature.

Thanks for taking time out of your busy schedule to spend some time with us.
If there are other management issues you would like us to cover in 2008 or if there are additional areas for which you'd like some technology advice,
drop me a note at shari.dodgen@cygnusb2b.com,
and we'll see what we can manage (sorry, couldn't resist)!

Technology

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