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From the Oct. 2007 [Review of NFP Accounting Systems](#)

Sage Software has recently released Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting for Nonprofits 2008. This latest version contains several additions to the core product along with enhancements to the industry-specific nonprofit edition.

EASE OF USE/FLEXIBILITY – 5 Stars

The Peachtree desktop screen contains a drop-down menu bar at the top that provides access to various system functions such as File, Lists, Analysis, Reports and Services. To the left of the screen is the navigation bar, which provides access to the Navigation Centers. Also found on the navigation bar are shortcuts to frequently used system functions. This area is completely customizable, allowing users to add shortcuts to any system functions or reports that are used frequently.

The Navigation Centers provide a graphical flowchart interface where functions are listed in logical sequence and are accessible from this centralized area.

The Business Status Center displays fully customizable company information that can be updated by simply clicking on the “customize this page” tab at the top of the screen. Navigation has never been easier. Data-entry screens are simple in design and contain lookup options for all appropriate data fields. Customers, vendors, accounts and items can all be added ‘on the fly’ when necessary.

The nonprofit edition of Peachtree allows users to choose from several business types, including Day Care Centers, Educational Institute, Nonprofit Organization and Religious Organization. Users can use either the United Chart of Accounts or the United Way Based Chart of Accounts. Once a company is created, a complete

setup guide will appear on-screen to assist with all additional setup functions.

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Bill Pay, Time and Expense, Employee Direct Deposit, and a complete GL and Banking function.

Although Peachtree Premium for Nonprofits is better suited to smaller nonprofits, those who find themselves outgrowing the system can upgrade to Peachtree Quantum, which can support up to 10 users and offers industry-specific functionality, as well.

FEATURES/FUNCTIONALITY – 4 Stars

As previously noted, Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting for Nonprofits 2008 contains several enhancements and updates both to the core accounting product and to the nonprofit edition. These enhancements include numerous reporting improvements to frequently accessed reports, such as the addition of 100 new fields, better drilldown capability, the addition of custom data ranges and improved income statements. Better forms customization capability has also been added in the 2008 edition, and files can now also be attached to system records. The 2008 edition also includes a better variety of financial statements and reports, better system security, and a solid audit trail feature.

The specialized chart of accounts ensures that all cash receipts are properly allocated to the correct accounts, and a detailed customer transaction history allows for close monitoring of incoming and outgoing transactions. The Forms function provides fully customized templates for Donation Receipts, Fundraising Letters and Outstanding Pledges.

REPORTING – 4.5 Stars

More than 140 pre-formatted, fully customizable reports are included in Peachtree by Sage for Nonprofits. A special edition of Crystal Reports designed specifically

for Peachtree is also included with the core product. The Reports and Forms

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upon registration. Peachtree by Sage also offers a variety of support options, including the Freedom Support Plan for single- and multi-users, and Peachcare Support, which provides 60 minutes of support annually. Users will also receive access to the product knowledgebase and Live Chat Assistance. Local support is also available in most areas from certified technicians. Training options include self-study guides, an accounting tutorial and local training. The Help function found throughout the product also provides good assistance.

RELATIVE VALUE – 4.5 Stars

Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting for Nonprofits 2008 is currently priced at \$599.99 for a single-user system. Peachtree is a good option for newer or smaller nonprofits that need nonprofit functionality along with a solid accounting system.

2007 Overall Rating: 4.5 Stars

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