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CYMA Systems, Inc. — CYMA Accounting for Windows Client Write-Up

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From the Nov. 2007 [Review of Client Write-Up Systems](#)

CYMA Accounting for Windows is an accounting platform for mid-market companies, offering modules for management of GL, AP, AR, reconciliation, inventory, payroll, POs, job costing and other functions. For professional accountants who service multiple business clients, CYMA offers the Client Write-Up module, which includes After-the-Fact Payroll and enhanced financial reporting and analysis tools that offer enhanced customization features with the inclusion of a run-time version of Crystal Reports, the F9 reporting utility and the ability to export data to Excel spreadsheets. Payroll functions include direct deposit, check writing, W-2 and 1099 production, and state payroll forms. The CYMA Accounting for Windows system is built in Visual C++ on a Pervasive SQL database, which allows it to support an unlimited number of companies with any number of GL accounts, employees, vendors and other data. Pricing for the single-user version of the program with the Client Write-Up module starts at \$1,745.

LEARNING CURVE & EASE OF USE — 4 Stars

CYMA requires installation of the Pervasive database (included with the cost of the software) prior to the accounting system and is somewhat detailed during setup since the program is geared toward mid-sized and larger entities. The program offers step-by-step guidance during client setup. Its unique interface is centered around the eDesk, which allows extensive customization to each user's needs, including setting up links to external websites or shortcuts to functions within the CYMA program. CYMA's customization capabilities also allow for the creation of more than 100 fields. The screen includes a web address field and can be used as a web browser.

The program's main workspace provides traditional pull-down menus and navigation, but does not offer icon-based menus or workflow diagrams. Within program modules, CYMA provides easy access to client companies and their charts of accounts, ledgers and transaction data. The program can handle any number of companies with subsidiary entities, and its tabbed entry sheets support heads-down

data entry, with information fields that include smart selection lists and account lookup functions. The GL supports up to 24-digit alphanumeric account numbers with 10 user-defined segments and complete date sensitivity, with unlimited historical years. Unlimited user-defined journals allow six alphanumeric digits for IDs. Users can create accounts "on-the-fly" during journal entry tasks and can copy account structures during company setup. Other program features include a full-time, detailed audit trail with consolidation for multiple departments.

REPORTING & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — 5 Stars

With the inclusion of Crystal Reports and F9, CYMA includes exceptionally strong reporting options, resulting in reports that can be totally customized as needed, including header and footer messages. Financial statements include summary and detailed income statements, subtype income statements, and detail and subtype balance sheets. Other reports include entry listings and ratio analyses. The system offers encryption of sensitive data like SSNs, and provides Sarbanes-Oxley compliant security and audit capabilities.

INTEGRATION, IMPORT/EXPORT — 4 Stars

A general import feature is included, allowing acquisition of data from third-party systems via a two-step process (export to *.CSV, then import to accounting module). The company also offers a bridge to AssetKeeper. With its Crystal Reports and F9 features, CYMA can also output reports into Excel and PDF and provides

additional
export/save options.

SUPPORT, TRAINING & HELP SYSTEM — 4 Stars

CYMA includes printed installation and user manuals that include illustrated examples, and the system includes traditional built-in Help, and step-by-step assistance aids client setup tasks. The company's online support center offers a knowledgebase and links for purchasing support plans, contacting consultants

or purchasing manuals; there are no FAQs, or other free do-it-yourself Help resources. Online and live training options are offered, and the program can automatically download system updates.

RELATIVE VALUE — 4.5 Stars

CYMA Accounting for Windows Client Write-Up is a strong program for servicing mid-sized and larger client bases, with a powerful database backend and support for limitless data. The system is best suited to firms not serving the very small business market, but rather those with more extensive transactional data and greater reporting demands.

2007 Overall Rating: 4.5 Stars

Article

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