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From
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ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance is the stand-alone trial balance application in the CCH ProSystem *fx* Office suite. Its strengths lie in its presentation of data, its setup features, and its DynaLink capability to ProSystem *fx* Tax.

EASE OF USE— 4 Stars

Setup of ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance is very straightforward. An icon-based interface is used to maneuver through the application, and users have control over basic preferences for tailoring to meet their specific needs or the task at hand. ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance makes extensive use of the spreadsheet metaphor in its presentation of data. Selecting a particular feature brings the user to a “spreadsheet” style grid where information can be entered and edited. Multiple screens are open simultaneously, which makes it easy to switch to different features and screens. The significant advantage of this grid presentation approach is the ability to tailor the presentation containing exactly the information that’s needed. Information can also be limited by applying various filters to the data to best match the particular data setup or review task being performed.

TRIAL BALANCE — 4.5 Stars

ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance handles 11 years of account information. It has a very flexible account numbering scheme that can greatly speed up the setup of large charts of accounts. Audit supports general ledger account numbers of up to 40 characters in length with the unique capability of allowing the account structure to be divided into segments to define departments, profit

centers or any other logical division needed. This is very useful for not-for-profit,

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generate balance sheets, income statements, statements of cash flow and supporting schedules. The application has features that automatically handle firm formatting preferences such as font, capitalization, indentation and others. By using these features, firms can get consistently formatted financial statements that comply with firm standard conventions. Editing of the wizard-produced financial statements

is a very simple process. Financial statement information can be exported to Microsoft Word and to various Windows spreadsheet applications when more extensive formatting is required.

Another important aspect is a very easy-to-use cash flow feature that allows the linking of cash flow items to ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance accounts, lead schedules and other information so that the information is automatically updated when balances are adjusted, or upon subsequent period roll forward. ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance has consolidation and combination features for handling multi-subsidiary and departmental engagements. The system also handles not-for-profit engagements with a capability for creating funds and fund types and adding this information to general ledger accounts. ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance has transaction journals that can be used to summarize client detailed information such as check disbursements and receipts, and it can handle any period presentation needed to produce interim financial statements and information.

DATA IMPORT/EXPORT/INTEGRATION — 4 Stars

ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance can easily share data with other applications on both an importing and exporting basis. Data can be imported directly from other trial balance applications and from Intuit's QuickBooks applications. It uses a text file approach for importing information from client general ledger

packages. ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance's grid information can be

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tax application, ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance can transfer information by creating a "tax interface file" that is then imported into the tax tool.

SUMMARY

ProSystem *fx* Trial Balance starts at \$1,275 (less any applicable discounts). This is a very good application for firms that need trial balance tools for preparing basic financial statements and business tax returns.

2007 Overall Rating: 4 Stars

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