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Up software = PRODUCTIVITY.

Dec. 01, 2008

*From the September 2005 Issue*

Easy to learn + intuitive setup + fast data entry + import/export efficiency + needs-integrated + flexible/modifiable use and output + affordability = Best of Class Write-Up software = PRODUCTIVITY.

No doubt we can come up with a lot more “ingredients” to add to our recipe. But can we agree on the proper amount of a given ingredient? And when does an ingredient become an enhancement? When does an enhancement become a separate program?

The objective of write-up programs is to take client data and create (general ledger) books, trial balances, financial statements and databases. Clients have unique information needs. Program flexibility assures the practitioner that they will be able to (generally) meet the unique demands of each client engagement.

Whether the practitioner bills by the hour or by the job, the write-up software program of choice should enable the practitioner. Productivity begets productivity. We see this every day in practice, as we remember how long a client service engagement used to take from start to finish. While I can't speak for every practitioner, I know that in my firm our write-up program has truly become the centerpiece to engagements, which leads to the preparation of financial statements and/or tax returns. More than a centerpiece, it is truly a gateway. Each staff person counts on our client database, which is “enabling” to the provision of related services. Such enabling leads to increased confidence

in the provision of services, and increased confidence leads to increased productivity

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can fit the needs of the client engagement. No “cut and paste” necessary nor spoken there.

No two write-up programs surveyed in this review were exactly alike. However, good programs — those that enable their users — convey a message of quality that the user can immediately sense. Without a doubt, integration with other programs in the practitioner's office is an important attribute for write-up program selection. Speaking of attributes, ultimately the integration with your client's data may prove the most important — the ability for information to be shared between the accountant and client, with little fuss or muss. Software utilities should be easy; hoop jumping should be avoided.

### [AccountantsWorld — Accountant's Relief](#)

Accountant's Relief runs in the practitioner's office, while Accounting Relief AC is a web-based, online product available through AccountantsWorld Online, allowing for practitioner and client access. Client access is determined and controlled by the practitioner.

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### [CCH Tax and Accounting — ProSystem fx Write-Up](#)

Welcome to the new kid on the block. ProSystem fx Write-Up features a comprehensive product including general ledger, comprehensive financial statements, bank reconciliation, after-the-fact payroll, checkwriting, import and export utilities, and integration with the ProSystem fx family of products, including Tax, Engagement and Trial Balance products.

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### [Financial Microsystems Inc. — Client Ledger System](#)

Known to its users as CLS, the Client Ledger System is written to run under MS-DOS and is compatible with all versions of Microsoft Windows.

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### [Intuit — EasyACCT Professional Series](#)

Intuit's EasyACCT has been part of the company's line of products for several years, though it may be familiar to many users as the write-up offering of the now-defunct TaascFORCE. With solid improvements to the EasyACCT write-up program...

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### [Intuit — QuickBooks: Premier Accountant Edition 2005](#)

Intuit actually has two write-up packages, the result of its purchase of EasyACCT plus the development of its QuickBooks Premier Accountant Edition (QBAE).

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### [Micronetics — XPert Write-Up for Windows](#)

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after having provided a DOS Client Write Up System for many years previously.

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### [Sage Software/CPASoftware Division](#)

#### [— CPAClient Write-Up](#)

CPAClient Write-Up consists of general ledger, after-the-fact payroll, financial reporting, trial balance and bank reconciliation.

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### [Thomson Creative Solutions —](#)

#### [Write-Up CS](#)

Write-Up CS is the de facto standard, a.k.a. the Top Dog. This program and its many innovations are regarded as the industry standard.

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### [The Versatile Group — CertiflexDimension](#)

The Versatile Group, Inc. offers CertiflexDimension Professional Accountant Series and the CertiflexDimension Business Accounting Series...

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### [UBCC — Client Data Center](#)

UBCC offers a comprehensive write-up solution in a real-time, platform-independent, character-based program known as Client Data Center.

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Time and time again we hear that what's important is not the cost of the software; rather, it is the cost of implementing and building a (supporting) database with the program, with migrating a practitioner's accounting practice to regular and sustained use of the write-up program.

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