CPA
Practice **Advisor**

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Sage North America offers several asset management systems for commercial,

Basic System Functions

Initial installation of FAS 100 is intuitive, and users are guided through company and asset creation tasks with data-entry screens that help users assign book types, short years, overrides and other factors. Several data import options are available, and the program allows existing business asset categories, custom fields and options to be copied, or users can select from customizable templates. FAS also offers the ability to merge companies and provides backup and restore utilities. The system's company selection list is generally based on the Explorer menu style, with little search and filter options.

When working within an organization's asset data files, the program defaults to show the Assets Snapshot screen, which is essentially a dashboard of summary data for that entity, showing asset listings, recent asset activity and graphical overviews of information such as placed in service by quarter, investment by remaining life, acquisition comparisons and depreciation comparisons. Users can also easily toggle through this information as it is represented based on the different asset books, such as tax, state or AMT. This screen provides quick access to common reporting output.

The program's primary interface is centered around a spreadsheet view of assets for the selected company, with columnar categories that can be customized to display virtually any asset information, including acquisition dates, descriptions, locations, GL account numbers, warrant info, etc. This master assets information and selection screen also provides multiple search, filter and grouping options, while tabs give access to disposal functions, transfers, asset histories, images and notes. FAS 100 can be used to manage any number of businesses, with up to 10,000 assets. When networked, it can be accessed by multiple concurrent staff. 4.75

Core Asset Management Features

acquisitions and disposals, partial disposals, like-kind exchanges, splits and consolidations or transfers between related business units. Extensive rules and regulations within the program enable the management of various property classes, such as regular, farm, Indian reservation, Indian farm and government entities. Through add-on programs and modules, options are also available for advanced inventory management, providing automated tracking and reconciliation functions that use integrated barcode technology. A full audit trail is built into FAS 100, plus an Audit Advisor feature gives data analysis capabilities. 4.75

Reporting

FAS 100 includes a built-in report writer for customizing reporting output, with more than 30 preconfigured reports for depreciation expenses, summaries, adjustments, period closes, disposals, asset basis, GL postings, net book value, property tax, AMT and many more. The report writer includes tools that help guide users through report functions and customization. The system also produces fileable forms or worksheets. It supports FASB 109 and GASB 34 and 35 requirements. Reports can be saved to Excel, CSV, PDF, HTML and Crystal Reports. 5

Import/Export/Integration

Data can be imported into FAS 100 through links to Sage Accpac, Sage MAS 90 and Sage MAS 200, plus it has integration with Peachtree by Sage and can import and export to many more file formats. For tax compliance, the program provides direct integration with CCH's ProSystem *fx* Tax and, since the program can output to Excel, the data can be imported by most other professional preparation packages. 4

Help/Support

FAS 100 Asset Accounting guides users through most setup processes and provides many right-click menu options for quickly accessing projections, IRS tables or

switching to asset group views. A traditional Help utility is available, as well as a

capabilities for entities with fewer than 10,000 assets, offering an intuitive spreadsheet-based interface and an excellent dashboard overview. Pricing for the program starts at $2,295.

2010 Overall Rating 4.75

Technology