

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us



David Leary, QB Online ProAdvisor – 39

Senior Development Evangelist

Intuit, Inc.

Tucson, AZ

What are the key areas of your firm that have seen the greatest change/challenge in workflow over the past few years? (Or, what are the key challenges you see firms facing?)

The transition from desktop software to SaaS based cloud software is affecting all companies, both big and small, and seems to be headed down a “one business at a

time” type model, versus a one size fits all industry migration.

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

To what extent have you and your practice/company embraced cloud computing?

A few years ago, I wanted whatever screen or device I picked up to have all of my stuff, and the cloud was the only solution. I was an early adopter and migrated everything to the cloud: music, photos, email, books, movies, personal finance, banking, calendar, contacts, notes, to-dos. I can now essentially work anytime and anywhere I choose.

Intuit has fully embraced the cloud with QuickBooks Online and Apps.com. We are leading small businesses and accountants towards a future in which they can use the cloud to work anytime, anywhere.

In what ways have you contributed to your firm/company to make it a better place?

Over the years, I think the best thing I've done at Intuit was challenging the status quo. From changing how we create, build, test, and support products e.g. having developers do tech support during the ViewMyPaycheck development process. To the pushing the comfort zone of Intuit being an open platform, by helping competing products integrate with QuickBooks Online and joining the Apps.com family. I've also led the charge on making Intuit younger, more hip, and social.

In what ways do you participate in either the professional community or your local community to help others?

I really get excited about helping people build stuff. I love being involved in events like Startup Weekend, in which teams attempt to create a business from scratch in 48 hours. I'm always up for mentoring, providing feedback, sharing ideas, or connecting people with others that can help them take the next step in whatever they are

creating.

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

SaaS based accounting packages will become the exclusive domain of accountants. As clients move to industry specific solutions, they will also move away from doing any data entry into the accounting package, and may possibly never touch the accounting system.

Accountants will care about Open APIs. The reality is that all of a client's data won't solely live in the accounting package, but will be spread among many SaaS based solutions the client may use. Accountants will only choose solutions, that have Open APIs, for their clients to ensure they can always easily get the data in and out of any accounting/reporting/dashboard/tax prep/app etc. as necessary for each client. (Any developers reading this should take note.)

How do you see yourself participating in shaping the future of the accounting profession?

I see myself being right in the middle of the vortex of small business owners, accountants, and developers. All three need each other to be successful, but sometimes they aren't the best at communicating with each other. I am always looking for connection points between them so they can work more closely together.

What is your career philosophy?

Ignore your title, be accessible, be brutally honest, and care more than your competition.

Not including your current employer, what company do you most admire and why?

Netflix hands down. To have the courage to kill your core business model (shipping physical DVDs), years before it's time, in order to focus your company on winning

the next 10 years, is amazing. Not many companies can let go of their past, in order to

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

[Read more about this year's 40 Under 40 Honorees.](#)

CPA Practice Advisor is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors.

© 2024 Firmworks, LLC. All rights reserved