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technology thoughts ahead of the curve, as well as fess up on how our previous year's guesses fared.

Roman Kepczyk • Dec. 05, 2014

It's prediction time again, where we dust off the proverbial crystal ball and share our technology thoughts ahead of the curve, as well as fess up on how our previous year's guesses fared.

Looking back at 2014 we again had more WINS than LOSSES, but not enough to

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longer supported XP version). Even though Windows 8 had better security, the Metro interface and lack of a Start button drove accountants away.

2. **QuickBooks Online Fights Back (WIN):** We predicted that Intuit would take the Xero threat seriously, and they did by promoting a believable future plan for QuickBooks Online and hiring industry experts to meet directly with CPA firms to promulgate that vision.
3. **Hosted Exchange Users Leap Forward (WIN):** Our guess was that small and medium firms would begin to have their Outlook hosted externally which we saw happening because the cost was great compared to doing it themselves.
4. **Cloud Hybridization Continues to the Majority of Firms (WIN):** The number of firms adopting *some* cloud applications continues to increase creating an easy WIN for the hybrid environment we see firms implementing including the adoption of Windows Terminal Server and Citrix for remote access.
5. **Security Concerns Will Promote Cloud Adoption (DRAW):** We felt that security would be one of the drivers to get firms to adopt the cloud but did not see any indications that this was a primary reason to do so or not, so rather than changing the original prediction to make this a WIN or LOSS, we will put it in the DRAW column.
6. **BYOD Policies Will Abound (LOSE):** While we saw a good number of industry articles and discussions on BYOD and provided many firms with BYOD training and consulting resources, we can say there was good general adoption, but not enough to say the process "abounded" and tagged as a WIN. However, adoption was good enough to say it wasn't a loss (so if you implemented a BYOD policy I WIN, if you didn't have one I LOSE.)
7. **Video Calling Becomes Standardized (LOSE):** This prediction is getting close to having as many LOSE tags attached to it as my biometric password adoption predictions over the past decade!
8. **Social Media Subsystems (DRAW):** We predicted an increase within the accounting profession in utilizing internal social media tools such as SocialCast,

Yammer and Yahoo Groups and while we did see CPA firm and industry

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offices and consultants such as the Growth Partnership and Luke Sussom integrated the "gamification" topic as part of learning this year, which we expect to increase in the near future.

With 2014 Accounting IT Predictions in the archives, it's time to jump ahead towards 2015 to give you all something to "noodle" on during those rare spare moments during busy season and maybe provide some insight into where you should take notice.

Go online to www.CPAPracticeAdvisor.com/12022837 for the rest of this article, including Roman's predictions for 2015.

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