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Mary Girsch-Bock • Nov. 23, 2020

If you've been in business for any length of time, you know that it's an understatement to say that sales tax rules vary from state to state. Which is why it's vital that you have a method in place to track and collect the appropriate amount of sales tax from your customers. Of course, if you only sell from a single brick and mortar location, you only need to worry about sales tax for the state in which your business operates, but if you sell anything online, you need a way to manage sales tax collection in any location from which your customer may be buying.

This means that anywhere that you have sales tax nexus, you'll need to calculate and

These applications are designed to calculate the correct amount of sales tax that needs to be collected from your customers for every transaction, no matter where the transaction is taxable. Sales and Use Tax software also assists with tax reporting and remittance.

Today, sales and use tax automation is a necessity for any retailer of any size. It doesn't matter if you're selling from a single location in Chicago, or have locations across the U.S., you need something that will properly collect and remit sales tax for your business.

In this issue of *CPA Practice Advisor*, we reviewed 7 products, with all products offering a variety of features and functionality. To make it a bit easier, we divided the products into two categories: Basic and Automated.

- Avalara Returns for Small Business
- Avalara AvaTax
- CCH SureTax Calc
- CFS Tax Software TaxTools
- eFileSalesTax.com
- Taxify by Sovos
- TaxJar
- Vertex Cloud Indirect Tax

The features reviewed included:

- Is the sales tax database automatically updated by the vendor?
- Does the product integrate with accounting applications?
- Does the product handle sales tax filing for multiple businesses?
- What kind of reporting options are available?
- Does the product offer electronic filing or remittance options?

- Does the product offer automated address verification?

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