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Ever-Changing Forms Require Constant Attention

By Ellen DePasquale

More than 250 state and federal reports, including 400 individual form pages, are included in Aatrix State and Federal Payroll Reports—and that is only the tip of the iceberg. According to Aatrix, 20 percent of the forms change each quarter. Maintenance of these reports would be a full-time job for payroll software companies, which is why most of them only offer limited reports.

Aatrix, on the other hand, has built its whole business on the model of keeping up with these changes. Its integration with many Microsoft Windows and Macintosh accounting packages, including Peachtree, MYOB, Cougar Mountain, CYMA, Blackbaud, Microsoft Dynamics, People's Choice, OSAS, TopPay, Traverse, Paymate and Red Wing, make Aatrix a snap to get data into a report, and a breeze to get the right reports generated. There is even a standalone version for QuickBooks users.

Features

Ease of use is the best feature, hands down. Aatrix does one thing, and does it well, so it is important that the user interface does not get in the way. From the simple screen design to the obvious choices available, anyone can get the necessary reports processed.

The first selection is state, federal or existing report. From here, the user can generate a new report or view one already saved in the system. The next selection is to determine which report should be generated. The list is relevant to the initial selection, so the user can easily see what is available. Once the report is chosen, the last piece of information to select is the date range.

Date range options are also relevant to the report chosen. Month, quarter, year or range are the choices presented. When all options are complete, the report is generated.

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The reports are not just static PDF versions; they are live, WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) versions that allow all data to be edited. Even better than just editing the data, fields are color coded to alert the user to important missing data. For example, fields highlighted in red need attention before the report can be completed. The rest of the editable data fields are highlighted in blue, so they are distinguishable from the text in the form.

Once the report is completed, the user can either print to mail or use the e-file optional service from Aatrix. Not only will Aatrix file the reports; the service takes care of the magnetic media filings, transmitted paperwork and payments. In addition, Aatrix will also print and mail employee W-2s, file the SSA copies and the state W2/W3 report as well—all priced on a per-employee basis.

Summary

The importance of timely, accurate state and federal payroll reporting cannot be overemphasized. Online services take that headache away, but for in-house payroll solutions, Aatrix is the add-on that can be a lifesaver.

Aatrix is an excellent state and federal report processing solution for any accountant or individual company running in-house payroll.

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