Response Number 900

**Q.1 What are your views on the proposal to introduce real-time reporting for B2B and B2G transactions?**

Principle sounds good. I would be more than happy with real-time reporting. The more automation and ease of data flow the better.

**Q.2 What matters should be considered in planning for a transition to a new VAT Reporting system?**

Three issues pop to mind.
First is automation. We use Xero, and the flow of information from invoice to accounting to tax returns is seemless. Challenge will be making sure that the automation works just as well.
The second issue will be corrections / adjustments. Suppliers issue incorrect invoices fairly regularly. I know that the correct thing to do is use things like credit notes to correct it, but in reality a lot of suppliers just void the incorrect invoice then issue a new one. Challenge will be to change the mindset of all parties, so correct accounting practises are always followed.
Third issue is cross-border invoicing. Lots of companies just don't understand the rules and how to apply them, both intra-EU and extra-EU. So that means we receive invoices that don't fit into any of the boxes, as the suppliers are just getting things wrong. That could be a challenge - where to put incorrect invoices.

**Q.3 If your business is currently subject to a VAT reporting programme in another EU or non-EU country, can you please share best practice, recommendations or lessons learnt?**

N/A

**Q.4 Have you any observations, concerns or recommendations on a move to mandatory electronic invoicing for B2B & B2G domestic VAT transactions?**

I would be in favour. Challenge here is educating all companies - a lot of businesses make mistakes in the cross-border VAT side.
Having this mandatory would only be a good thing for companies like ourselves. It's relatively common that a supplier in another EU state will charge their local VAT on top (whereas they should remove at source), and we cannot persuade them of their error and so we just loose that VAT as we cannot reclaim it from another country. This new system would force such companies to get up to date on the rules, and so helping cross-border trade.
Current the VIES return part is a bit of a pain to do - manual work there. Anything that helps automate that side would be great.

**Q.5 Revenue is particularly interested in hearing views from businesses that are already engaged in eInvoicing Public Bodies within Ireland or engaged in B2B eInvoicing throughout Europe and beyond. How did you prepare and what challenges prevailed in your preparations for eInvoicing?**

N/A

**Q.6 What suggestions would you offer in Ireland’s arrangements for a mandatory B2B and B2G eInvoicing programme?**

N/A

**Q.7 Revenue are cognisant that small businesses may have different perspectives and requirements to large businesses, so what information prompts would you find useful for businesses in completing the VAT return?**

all is ok as it is for us