Response Number 725

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

We've been used to the UK's digital reporting system for some time, so a similar connection with the Irish VAT dept would be great

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

Security - the connection has to be two way and guaranteed secure so the information supplied cannot be tampered with and a receipt can be received once submission is complete

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?

Confirmation of a successful submission is a definite "best practice". All accounting software is built to communicate with the HMRC (UK) Tax dept, so be sure to issue specifications to those software companies so the transition is smooth for the business wanting to report

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

Only concern would be timeframes. Some EU countries have such tight reporting timeframes that it can cause headaches for Finance teams. If you decide on a weekly reporting, then a timeframe of by the end of the following week would be a lot more user-friendly.

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?

We are not engaged with eInvoicing currently

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

Make sure the communications are clear and the timeframes to be fully engaged are workable

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?

Smaller companies may not use the same language as large ones, so keep the wordings simple so all know what you're requesting