Response Number 607

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

Real time reporting is welcomed.

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

a) How do group VAT registered companies submit a "single" return?
b) How do transactions maintained in sterling be incorporated into the euro vat return?
c) Will this result in the scrapping of the Annual Return of Trading Details?
d) Apart from a VAT3 return what other information will be returned that is not currently being returned?

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?

I submit a quarterly return to HMRC in the UK for a UK based company, where the accounting function is managed from Ireland and for an ROI based company with a UK VAT no.
a) Submitting a return from the accounts package (Sage Line50) for the ROI based company with the UK VAT no. was not possible as some transactions need to be reported to Irish Revenue and other transactions need to be reported to HMRC. I have to run a report, extract to excel, import into another programme and submit to HMRC via this "bridge supplier".
b) Submitting a UK VAT return via Sage Line50 is fairly straight forward now, but initially not so. The connection between sage and HMRC did not work. Eventually I had to be set up as a complete new user to be able to submit the return. Our outsourced IT company could not figure out the problem. To resolve the issue I was deleted as a user and had to be set up again. It then worked. (It wasn't a firewall block).
c) The settings of your computer are important. When submitting UK returns you have to select your location as United Kingdom and language as United Kingdom (English).

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

Some of our customers have moved to e-invoicing and every month there appears to be an issue uploading the invoice.

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?

See above

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

We haven't had sufficient exposure to eInvoicing to offer suggestions

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?

If the VAT 3 return is submitted via the Accounts package (eg sage), the current warnings that Sage flags would be sufficient when completing an online return