Response Number 505

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

In theory I would be in favour of that kind of reporting and returns system

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

I work on a VAT receipts basis (if I have termed that correctly) and more often than not, the amount I bill initially will be less than the figure I end up recovering. Also, it can sometimes take a long time to get paid and so very often, fees recovered in one accounting period can relate to work done in a previous accounting period.
It would be extremely convenient if I could simply submit to revenue the total recovered and then pay the VAT on or close to the date the fees get paid. That would certainly decrease workload at time of return and reduce the risk of missed return dates etc. VAT payments then on the other hand which are usually much smaller than VAT receipts could be recovered separately perhaps, which might further help incentivise accurate and timely reporting.

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?

The only problem I might encounter here is that I often recover less than my invoice/fee note due to taxation of legal costs and the negotiation which occurs after the initial fee note is sent

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?

If the total payment received could be included with an auto calculate feature present that would be useful certainly. For e.g. - I could bill €3000 with VAT at 23% for a total invoice amount of €3690. However, after negotiation and legal costs taxation I might end up recovering €2517.75 total or some other random amount which is inclusive of VAT. An auto calc feature would give me and revenue an accurate figure which I must then return to Revenue and thereby reduce likelihood of errors and would mean when I get paid, revenue recovers the right amount of VAT, in a timely fashion.