Response Number 159

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

I understand the need to move to digital VAT reporting but I think it will a big transition and a costly exercise for smaller businesses, particularly those who currently use spreadsheets to record transactions as opposed to accounting software.

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

Will there be an easy mechanism to report nil returns? As a Northern Ireland business we don't always have work in ROI and as such will have no sales or purchases and therefore need to report a nil return. This is easily completed on ROS.

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?

Our business is based in Northern Ireland and as such is registered for VAT in the UK. We recorded all our transactions on our accounting software and report our VAT liability via the software. There is a link within the software to our UK government gateway account - like an access code which is valid for 18 months then must be renewed. Just curious how the link from the software will work within ROS because currently ROS it is only accessible with a certificate held on a PC.

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

Nothing to note here.

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?

I think Revenue should offer a download of a simple software solution for small businesses.

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?

Possibly a split of sales and purchases between the various vat rates which would help populate the end of year RTD form