Response Number 1081

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

About time! There are much needed changes needed in the reporting for VAT area.

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

Make it user-friendly for the accountant AND the business.
VAT 3 returns need a real overhaul, they do ask the required information. Instead of making businesses complete an RTD each year (which most find very complicated and time-consuming), the required, detailed information should be asked for and provided in the VAT 3 return.
I also believe VAT returns should be bi-monthly or quarterly - not every 4 or 6 months (which is for some businesses - this is too long of a gap).

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?

Some businesses are still a bit behind on their technology... so you would need to market it correctly and prepare businesses so that they can get their IT software set-up or updated.

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?

I invoice [redacted] for training that I deliver. Some of them require that I upload an invoice on to their portal. It is very straight-forward.

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

Must ensure that the software is very secure, user-friendly and allows for errors and credit notes where needed.

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?

I would make the EU/Non-EU trade section much more user-friendly and effective (so that there is no more need for annual RTDs). E.g. Boxes for the following information:
Net Sales @ 23%, Net Sales @ 13.5%, Net Sales @ 0%, Exempt etc
Net Purchases @ 23%, Net Purchases @ 13.5% etc etc and also broken down into resale and non-resale if Revenue still sees a requirement for this.
EU Sales
Non-EU Sales
EU Purchases
Non-EU Purchases

The 'postponed accounting' box confuses people!!