Response Number 372

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

We think this is a good idea, forward thinking.

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

Interaction with all mainstream accounting systems.
A long enough lead time to allow for a careful transition and to iron out any bugs before going live.

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?

Making Tax Digital in the UK took quite a while and a lot of accounting software products were not ready when it became mandatory. So third party software had to be used until the software products caught up. The really big ones like Sage etc were ok, it was the smaller, lesser known products that struggled. For us it was about 5 quarters after it became mandatory before we were able to use it without 3rd party software. But since then it has been really good.

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

Again the concern might be that this would costly and difficult for smaller businesses. We fully accept that this is the logical direction of travel but patience and understanding for smaller organisations should be priority.

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 involved in this at the current time.

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

Having not been involved, it's difficult to say.

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?

The information buttons could contain a bit more information.