Response Number 795

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

A little concerned that it will require our business to adopt new practices of bookkeeping when we are busy with other things at present.

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

Minimising admin for the businesses. Making corrections easy to make.

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?

We are registered for VAT in the UK and that system works well, but is not a real time system. We just do VAT returns every quarter and use a very simple third party software to upload the VAT return to the UK Revenue website. It is a little like using the Ros offline system to create the return before uploading it.

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

Things are ridiculously complicated between the UK, Northern Ireland, RCT etc. At least if we make a mistake offline we can check it out and correct it without much difficulty - but if we are having to make declarations about what we are reporting to be 100% correct it will mean we cannot invoice people until we have checked everything out. Sometimes we are given wrong information by customers - e.g. that it will not be in the RCT system and then next minute it is. Or what if after the invoice is sent the customer asks for the name to be changed on the invoice. So basically unless your system will be flexible to allow changes to be made after the fact I would be concerned that it will add an extra burden to businesses.

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 dont.

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

Dont know.

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?

On the current VAT return on ROS there is a box for UK transactions - when you click the info button it just tells you to fill out the form - utterly ridiculous - no information whatsoever about explaining what information is required. What I would ask is that in laymans terms you explain what to put in the box and give an example.