

AccuFund Suite Offers Nine Levels of Functionality



By Lori Widmer

AccuFund's Accounting Suite has brought report writing down to the simplest terms. The company's goal to get results minus the complexity results in a less-than-three-step reporting process—by selecting fields, sorting them and subtotaling the options, the report is complete.

Features

There are nine levels of functionality in the core AccuFund Accounting Suite product, including cash receipt and bank reconciliation alongside general ledger and financial report writing. The system can be customized to fit the account structure of the organization.

Simple screens allow users to both view and add data to the system. Large icons at the top of the screen indicate specific functions within that sub-screen. One large icon displays a drop-down menu of choices between the various components of the system.

The Reports/Forms Designer allows users to get specific with the details. Instead of pre-formatted templates, users can define exactly the fields needed for their particular operation. The system does come loaded with templates for those wanting to evaluate what their needs are before building their own.

The AccuFund Accounting Suite works with Microsoft (MS) Windows 98, ME, 2000 or XP with a Pentium IV—500MHz, 128 MB of RAM and 150 MB of disk space. The application also runs in MS Terminal Services or Citrix environments.

For servers, the application supports Novell, MS Windows NT, 2000, 2003 Server and XP, and Linux servers running at least a Pentium IV 500 with 512 MB of RAM and 250 MB of disk space. Systems also need at least 50 MB of additional space for each year of history.

Annual phone support/maintenance contracts are available for 25 percent of the purchase price. The contract allows for unlimited calls to the toll-free support line between 9 a.m. EST and 4 p.m. PST weekdays. Support is required for the first year. The software also comes with simple-to-understand user



training manuals.

Administrators can set the system security from a password-protected screen, as well as user access.

Reporting couldn't be easier. On nearly every window that appears, a Report button allows users to choose from the information being viewed, or any other parameter, and create an instant report from that information. Reports can be printed or stored by electronic means. Options are plentiful—users can send the information to an MS Excel spreadsheet or a printer, or the information can be created in HTML and PDF. The application even attaches the information instantly to an email

in the form of a PDF.

Disconcerting is the big green button on the toolbar that closes the program. The button is green and has simply an arrow that is meant to indicate "close," but more closely indicates a forward motion. Since there are no rollover descriptions, I managed to accidentally close the program three times before learning to avoid the icon. Luckily, I had no data to lose, so it was merely a minor inconvenience.

I also wish the system had more identification of the icons. It took opening each one to determine what they were representing. A seasoned user wouldn't have problems with this, but a beginner would have to use trial-and-error to find the right screen.

Summary

Where this system truly shines is in its reporting functions. Without a doubt, it's the easiest reporting functionality I've seen to date. The system, in general, is easy to use and takes little effort to get used to. The handy training manuals make it simple to get up and running on all the functionality this system offers. ☺

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