

Using out of date Software?

If you are running old versions of software it is time to consider an upgrade.

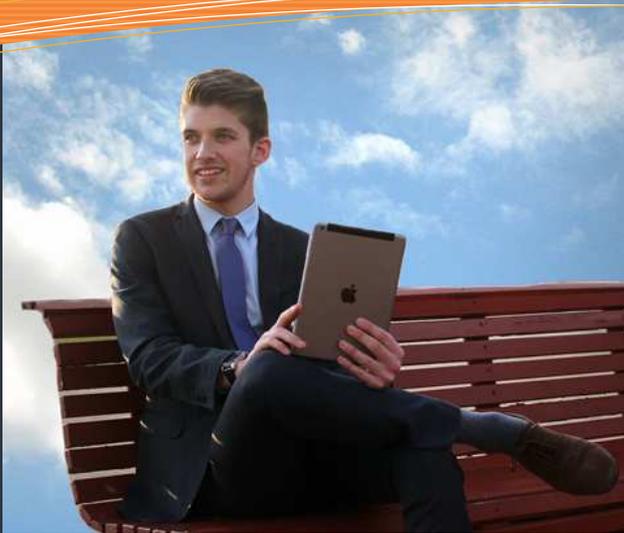
- Old computers are more likely to crash and it is unlikely that the old software versions will run on new machines.
- Within the next 12 months you may be required to pay and report your superannuation contributions electronically so you will need up to date software to handle this requirement.
- Up to date software also has the current tax tables and Superannuation Guarantee levy built in whilst old software does not.
- You will not be able to take advantage of the benefits from using Cloud Accounting software.

Electronic Document Storage



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this issue

Technology update

Cloud Accounting

Is your computer a Dinosaur?



Earlier this year Microsoft announced that support for Windows XP and Office 2003 ceased.

Whilst your machine might still be working ok, if you have these operating systems or software you should consider the following;

- From 8 April 2014 there has not, and will not be, any further security updates, non-security updates, free or paid assisted support options.
- Systems that are not up to date and unsupported are vulnerable to security risks. Also, they may crash and you may not be able to recover key data in a timely manner, if at all.
- *Can you really take that risk?*

If you are using Windows XP or earlier operating systems you need to consider updating your systems before it is too late.

So what is Cloud Accounting?

By now you may have heard the term “Cloud Accounting”, it’s been around for a few years now. In a nutshell the provider of the software stores/backups your data for you and you access the data via the internet. Your data is stored on their servers at their data centre.

Please turn over to find out more!



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So what is Cloud Accounting?..continued

There are a lot of different accounting packages in the “Cloud”, each with their pros and cons.

Pure “Cloud Accounting” packages are accessed via the internet and you don’t load any software on your computer. This allows you to access your accounting software 24/7, as long as you have access to the internet and from an array of different devices.

There are however hybrid versions of “Cloud Accounting” software which allows you to bring your data back from the “Cloud” and work on your own desktop, i.e. offline, allowing you to continue processing should the internet be slow and unreliable in your current location or even offline.

Things to consider when updating your software:

1. Am I happy to use Cloud Accounting – pure or the hybrid version?
2. Do I prefer having a Desktop software package on my own computer?
3. Can I take and store a backup of my data or am I reliant on the provider?
4. Where is the data stored by the provider – Australia or overseas? Am I comfortable with that?
5. Can I access my data if I stop paying my subscription?
6. Is it easier to use a Cloud Accounting package so we have the ability to update your file with changes, complete BAS’s and assist with processing etc. on your LIVE data. (no down time for you)
7. What is the cost?
8. Does it include bank feeds?
9. Does my current software package offer a cloud solution?
10. Will I be able to upgrade my data?
11. Will it run on my computer – Windows or Mac?
12. Do I need Debtors/Creditors/ Payroll?
13. Are there any third party add-ons that work with the software?
14. Is flexible reporting available?

Some **advantages** associated with the Cloud Accounting packages include;

- Access any time, any place
- Real time information
- One data file
- Multiple access options
- It may be cheaper
- It can be safer
- Up to date version of software
- Reduced data entry time with use of bank feeds.

If you need help making a decision on your software requirements, your answers to these questions will assist us to guide you to the correct package- Cloud or Non Cloud.

Some of the more well-known packages include MYOB, Reckon, XERO, QuickBooks Online, Agrimaster and Phoenix.

We feel that it is time for you to consider if you have a need to upgrade and update your computer and software package.

We are happy to explore with you your best options– just give us a call.

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