SAICA
THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE
OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

ACCOUNTS PRODUCTION AND ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE GUIDE FOR PRACTITIONERS

ISSUED NOVEMBER 2018

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 4
How to choose a software programme 4
- Features 4
- Fit 4
- Installation 5
- Customisation 5
- Integration consideration 5
- Importing of information 5
- Entity types 5
- Reporting requirements / Report generation 5
- Access and related remote controls 5
- Compliance 6
- Going paperless 6
- Training 6
- Support 6
- Added functionality 6
- Cost 8
- Software as a Service (SaaS) 8
- Updates 8

Benefits 8
- Timesaving and increased productivity 8
- Standardisation 9
- Compliance 9
- eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) 9
- Integration 9

Risks 9
- Ineffective controls 9
- Security exposure 9
- Inappropriate disclosures 9
- Additional requests for specialist or custom reports 10
- Non-compliant accounts production 10
- Time and costs relating to software implementation 10
- Lack of sufficient checks and balances 10
- Loss of information 10
- Cost 10

Accounts Production Software 12
Accounting Software 16
Accounting Software Applications and / or Add-ons 25
Summary 57
- Accounts Production Software 57
- Accounting Software 58
- Accounting Software Applications and / or Add-ons 59
- Product functionality 62

Key sources consulted in compiling introduction section include (not exhaustive): 68

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INTRODUCTION

This is SAICA's inaugural Accounts Production and Accounting Software Guide for Practitioners. The purpose of the guide is to alert practitioners to certain important criteria in relation to choosing appropriate software for accounts production and accounting purposes in order to assist in making an informed decision for their circumstances; i.e. in the context of their business model, the size and complexity of their practice (front-office and back-office), the types of services they provide and the size, nature and complexity of the businesses of their clients. The guide also includes reviews of a range of software products by comparing them based on selected criteria, including a product overview as provided by each software provider. With this guide practitioners will be able to consider different software products in deciding which products from a practical, service-delivery and financial point of view best suit their practice and client base.

It should be noted that the software products that have been reviewed are not intended to provide an exhaustive / comprehensive list of all available products. Rather, the software products are those from providers that were identified and approached by SAICA to have their products reviewed. These providers were determined based on feedback received from SAICA members in practices as well as providers who wished to be included.

The software providers concerned were requested to provide SAICA with certain identified information in relation to their products, after which the individual reviews were collated and summarised, and returned to the providers for the sole purpose of checking the factual accuracy of the information; care was taken not to include information of a promotional nature. **Please note: Information (both financial and non-financial) provided were correct at the date submitted and the guide was issued. Software providers can be contacted directly to obtain the latest information.**

The software providers concerned were given the opportunity to be a sponsor of the guide; however, the same process was applied to all product information included in the guide, irrespective of whether the provider is also a sponsor or not.

Software solutions are key to running a successful practice. As indicated in the SAICA Practice Benchmarking Report 2016 the most common use for accounting software is for the preparation of financial statements. Most small practices surveyed make use of time and billing programmes, however the majority of practices indicated at the time that they do not make use of cloud computing. In the same survey respondents rated technology developments as the third largest environmental challenge small practices face.

As per the IFAC SMP Global Survey 2016, South African firms rated technology the 8th biggest challenge, where their global counterparts rated it as the 7th largest challenge. Interesting South African firms rated Achieving a digital, paperless environment and Investing in and staying current with software as the two biggest technology issues they face as small and medium practices (SMPs) . Globally, Moving to the Cloud and Investing in and staying current with software were identified as the biggest technology issues SMPs face.

In general it seems like technology is not a major concern among practices as per the SAICA Practice Benchmarking Survey, however the average SMP indicated that they foresee cloud computing and mobile devices to be the two technologies affecting their practices the most for the next 5 years.

This guide also looks at the benefits of using accounting and accounts production software, explain the key concepts involved and the choices available, and risks and rewards from using such software.

HOW TO CHOOSE A SOFTWARE PROGRAMME

Features

What software programmes offer and how this aligns to what you need is an important consideration when choosing a programme. One can get "dazzled" by the features offered, but in the end you might not need most them. Before investing in any software, evaluate which features you value in your current programme, which features you will want in the future, and features you will use frequently. When evaluating the features of a programme it should be determined if the product is scalable to grow with your business.

Fit

Irrespective of the feature of a product, you need to determine how well it fits in with the equipment you already have and your IT strategy. Things to consider would be:

- Storage (if a desktop version is used);
- Where server will be located (if applicable);
- Computer specifications and
- The need for specialist input devices.

Installation

When installing new software it is important to be prepared by being aware of any expected hurdles. Lessons learnt from previous users can be beneficial. It should also be determined if you as the user can install the software or if the provider should install on-site, as this could lead to additional costs.

If the product can be used for a trial period (free or paid for) to help ensure satisfaction and compatibility especially when the costs are high in obtaining a specific software is key consideration.

Customisation

No organisation is stagnant. Flexibility of a product is an important consideration. The costs involved in specific customisation can often be very high and outweigh the benefits. How open or willing the supplier is to making these custom changes and turnaround time of such changes should also be taken into account.

Integration consideration

When reviewing software a practitioner should consider integrated suites. How these align to your practice's IT strategy is important as this will prevent an entangled complex application landscape. Various accounts production software can integrate with other software solutions (for example, related to income tax, secretarial, XBRL, back-office). In deciding if you would rather stay with your current system (purchased or self-developed) will be dependent on your investment in other applications and whether the software is acceptable to your firm. For audit firms, integration is even more important.

No matter what approach you take, you need to consult all software users in your organisation when deciding which to implement.

Importing of information

As a practitioner you are often in the situation where your clients use a particular accounting package. It is important to ensure that the data from those sources can be easily imported and or exported to the software you use.

In deciding on the package you use or advising your client to use, the ease of transferring information is important as some products may not be supported and data will have to be imported or exported via a basic .CSV file. Some products enable data to be synchronised with or exported directly to the client's system.
The nature of your firm's client base will be key in selecting the most appropriate accounts production solution.

Entity types

Almost all accounts production software produce accounts for sole traders, partnerships, companies and close corporations. Not all will be able to handle larger organisations or group consolidations. Likewise, not all products include templates for specific entities such as charities, medical or pension schemes, trusts, schools, body corporates, or for specific sectors such as farmers, doctors and attorneys. It is important to ensure that the product have the required functionality to process and record the entity-specific transactions required. If this is not the case, you could end up spending more money by either purchasing additional software or by customising the software to be entity specific, to handle specific transactions and produce accounts in a certain format.

Overall, it is crucial to note the financial reporting standard (for example, IFRS or IFRS for SMEs) supported by the software.

Reporting requirements / Report generation

Reporting options are an important factor when considering which software to use; i.e. whether the product can export data to Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word or product unique reports at a click of a button.

A further determining factor may be whether the product can also incorporate externally generated content, whether in the form of additional information, as well as content to enhance the visible appeal and readability of reports such as images and logos. Being able to produce a report that incorporates your client's logo appears much more professional and personalised to the client, and adding colour graphs to reports can result in a striking visual presence, while also making information quicker to read and process and easier to understand.

Access and related remote controls

Owing to the increasing use of mobile devices, which is one of the most anticipated challenges expected by practitioners[1], most firms will want to make use of software that is not connected to the office network at all times. Being able to work off-site or remotely has become a basic requirement.

This may involve additional or different software licences, which in turn have cost implications and comes with control challenges. Certain packages allow client data to be exported and stored temporarily on the hard drive of a notebook for processing off-site. It is important that these software products have good controls to manage database changes to ensure

1. As per the SAICA Practice Benchmarking Survey 2016

that no data is lost and that version control is securely maintained.

Cloud computing has made it easier to work remotely by being able to log in with only a password, anytime, anywhere. Again it is important that these products have sophisticated access control to ensure that only authorised personnel is allowed to make certain changes. Real-time accounting has changed the face of the profession.

Compliance

Flexible reporting might be attractive, but increases risk in relation to ensuring compliance, including the risk that subsequent edits may (inadvertently) result in non-compliance with certain requirements. Built-in compliance tools are key, in generating warnings and alerts when potential non-compliance is detected. With XBRL[2] reporting effective from 1 July 2018, the integrity of the final accounts generated depends on the strength of the controls within the software.

Going paperless

Many practices are moving to paperless or less paper working methods. This may be an important factor in considering software. In theory software can be used to create completely paperless files.

The Electronic Communications and Transactions (ECT) Act of 2002 assists in enabling paperless business by providing the legal parameters for performing most business activities electronically. The ECT Act reflects the current state of business where everything from board meetings, contracting, communicating, storing and record keeping is done electronically. Such electronic activities are subject to the relevant requirements of the ECT Act to be legally valid[3].

It is important to comply with legislation and regulations applicable to storing and maintaining electronic information[4], specifically electronically signed documents[5].

Training

Training is vital when implementing new software, including ensuring that it is done efficiently and with minimum loss in productive time. The cost around training should be taken into account when considering different products. This would include consulting time, assistance with installation, data conversion and sufficient training to all staff.

The duration and location of training should be considered as it could involve a once-off session, series of sessions and/or refresher course after a few months. The location of where the training will take place should be considered as this could involve either staff travel costs or travel costs to be covered for the presenter. Consider if the entire staff complement requires dedicated training or whether a train-the-trainer programme (where select staff members are trained to then train the remaining staff members) can be implemented. Either way, the amount lost in chargeable hours might be significant. Consider how new staff joining the practice after the implementation training has been completed will be trained and the cost thereof.

Support

Ongoing support and timing of support is important. This would include if on-site services or support is provided. An online help and knowledge base may answer the majority of questions. And an adequate level of telephone support with an acceptable response time is crucial, especially in critical times. Operating hours and how the support department works is an important consideration. All of which should be considered when entering or negotiating the terms of a response service level agreement (SLA) with the provider. The cost of support should also be determined.

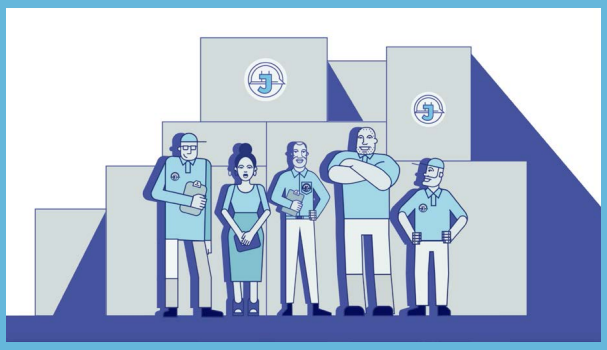
Another consideration under support is the turnaround time regarding “bug” fixes.

Added functionality

Practices offering a wide range of services should consider if the software package caters for these services. Software packages offers different functionalities or modules, which can be a determining factor based on the type of firm and services provided by such firm, for example:

- Taxation
- Payroll
- Secretarial functionality
- Analytics
- Reporting and management statements

2. XBRL is an Extensive Business Reporting Language for electronic communication of business information providing major benefits in the preparation, analysis, communication of annual financial statements.
3. The risk in not being compliant with the ECT Act is that the business activity being conducted may not have the full effect of law, and can therefore not be enforced or proven in a court of law.
4. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Protection of Personal Information Act (POPI)
5. For example Section 16 of the ECT Act



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Cost

Probably one of the most important considerations would be the cost. Although the cost of software has decreased drastically over the last few years with more competition in the market, value for money remains a critical dependency. It is important to identify what determines the price, per user or per licence.

You don't need to start with the most elaborate or expensive product on the market – start with what you can afford. It is however important to consider if the product is scalable to accommodate growth. This will reduce the need to purchase new software every few years as your business expands.

In the end, the correct software will pay off by increasing your profitability, which will allow you to obtain other products as and when required. You will be able to manage your cash flow by providing services at the right time and at the right cost by using the right tools in the most cost-effective way. There are various products available that include diverse functionality or different modules in the price which may work out to be more cost effective compared to acquiring multiple expensive products.

Software as a Service (SaaS)

As an alternative to the standard software installation, the user of SaaS doesn't pay upfront for the software. SaaS works in a similar way to a rental contract in that the user pays for the period of time that the application is used. This in itself adds additional benefits such as:

- Software doesn't need to be installed as the user can access it through the cloud. This reduces time spent on installation and configuration.
- Being in a shared or multitenant environment licence costs are lower compared to the traditional model.
- The customer base can be increased as the platform allows firms to make use of software that they otherwise might not have afforded because of the costs of conventional licences.
- Maintenance costs reduced as the SaaS provider owns the environment and the costs are thereof shared between their customers.
- These solutions are scalable and have integration with other SaaS offerings.
- Costs and effort associated with upgrades and new releases are lower than the traditional model.

The potential disadvantages of making use of SaaS-type products include:

- A lack of control as control resides with a third party.
- Access management and the privacy of information is a major consideration around cloud and hosted services.
- Connectivity is key as this model is based on web delivery. If your internet service fails, this could result in downtime and loss of data.
- These applications often run at slower speeds compared to on-site software.

Updates

It is important that the software used is updated regularly to incorporate regulation and legislation changes if applicable. Also to ensure that the programme is working at its optimal level by rolling out solutions to fix possible "bugs" in the system.

It is important to know upfront how often these updates are done and if you will be notified. It should also be determined if the updates run automatically or should be installed manually. What is included in the update should also be communicated to ensure that you as the user are aware of what is intended to change.

BENEFITS

There are various benefits in making use of accounts production and practice management software. It is particularly attractive to practices wanting to move away from only compliance work, to more advisory services. Software can be a way to introduce change and standardise working processes. Below we list some of the benefits associated with automating the production of accounts (not exhaustive).

Timesaving and increased productivity

Time is money as in any business. Technology can perform many routine tasks associated with accounts production. This includes, but is not limited to, creating working papers, schedules and even final accounts. Many tasks are either simplified or eliminated altogether.

By using software with strong internal controls, the practitioner or firm can use less qualified and less expensive staff to handle data entry; i.e. effectively "de-skilling" routine accounts production work (keeping in mind not to compromise quality). This is only possible if it is clear that compliance with legal and regulatory requirements is dealt with by the software, and the final product is reviewed by more senior and qualified staff.

Streamlining accounts production allows qualified staff to deal with higher fee earning work, such as technical or advisory work.

Having a thought out IT strategy and logical approach to the use of software and different applications will increase employee productivity. Software can eliminate inefficient and disjointed processes which increase the risk of errors. With the reduction in labour-intensive and manual tasks the agility of the growth of your practice is increased.

Standardisation

Accounting software enables you as the practitioner to standardise your accounts production process, which means that all staff will have to follow a similar process. This cuts down training time to new employees and allows managers to better control the quality of work done. Having a standard accounts production process facilitates remote or off-site working especially where cloud computing programmes are used.

Compliance

Statutory disclosure in line with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) or the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) is a priority for corporate accounts preparers. Various accounts production software products are able to effectively address many of the compliance requirements. Rules built into the software trigger defined account headings, classifications, presentations and disclosures, and data entries.

eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

The Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) has mandated digital reporting for all qualifying entities[6] by requiring the submission of annual financial statements online in an XBRL format. The purpose is ultimately to reduce the burden of multiple submissions to different regulators. Non-compliance could lead to either investigation[7], deregistration or penalties[8], depending on the contravention of the Act.

Integration

There are benefits in linking all your software under an integrated practice management software, but the success of doing this is dependent on the amount of common data shared between the programmes. Time saving is dependent on the amount of shared data between programmes. Having multiple overlapping databases complicates a system and increases costs, which further strengthens the case for integration of software applications/programmes.

RISKS

Like all things in life with rewards, certain risks arise by relying on software-produced accounts. Software risks encompasses the probability of occurrence of certain events and their potential impact on an organisation. This includes risks for the practitioner and the practitioner's clients. Below we list some of the risks to be considered when choosing a software package (not exhaustive).

Ineffective controls

Strong internal controls that prevent users from over-riding built-in compliance controls are key. Amending of templates and deleting of data should only be performed by authorised staff. This is where the audit trail plays a vital role, not only in recording numeric data, but also with activity on the file.

Users that edit templates in a way that effectively disconnects from the master template run the risk of disclosure updates not pulling through from the original data, which can result in non-compliant accounts being produced. Software products should provide disclosure options and editing without affecting underlying master templates.

The use of templates should also be controlled to ensure the correct templates are used for a particular client as this could result in unnecessary costs. By using the incorrect template for a specific client, the work will have to be redone at the cost of the practice. This also has a direct impact on the client relationship when services are not delivered in the right format, at the right level of quality or timeously as agreed with the client.

Security exposure

Information stored electronically can be manipulated and if proper controls are not in place can result in unauthorised access and threats to data integrity. Strict control is key since financial data is sensitive and confidential, and manipulation of accounting software poses a fraud risk. It is necessary to enquire and determine the security in place when considering any software.

Inappropriate disclosures

With the automation of the disclosure process potential risks posed include that reliance is placed on suppliers updating and maintaining the master accounts templates.

6. Submission of Annual Financial Statements for companies prescribed in Section 30 when read together with Section 33 and Regulation 30 of the Companies Act, Act 71 of 2008. Section 58 of the Close Corporation Act, Act 69 of 1984 as amended to include Close Corporations as stated in Schedule 3(A)(5) of the Companies Act.
7. For failing to submit annual financial statements with annual return. After the investigation a compliance notice will be issued mentioning a deadline to comply. Failure to comply by the selected date may result in an administrative fine or formal prosecution may be instigated.
8. For failing to submit annual returns

The practitioner must familiarise him/herself with any update done by the supplier to ensure it meets the necessary requirements. The more the more reliable the supplier and the software product are, the less onerous this task becomes.

Ultimately you, the practitioner, are the accountant and you remain responsible to ensure that the accounts are compliant with all changes in standards and laws and regulation. The buck stops with you.

Furthermore, the supplier should inform you whether updates are run manually or automatically. Manual updates increases the risk that some users may not be working on the latest version of software.

Additional requests for specialist or custom reports

Practices with specific client requirements should ensure that their chosen software can provide the reports required as this could come at an additional cost to the firm. If your firm currently does not require these specialist or custom reports, consider what the costs involved would be if the need arises at a later date, and whether the software you are currently using can be upgraded to produce such reports?

Non-compliant accounts production

As mentioned throughout the guide, the compliance aspect that is built into the program is key to ensuring compliance with reporting requirements. Software can lessen the compliance burden but is dependent on the software provider updating their programmes regularly. Timely updating to comply with changes in standards and legal and regulatory requirements is very important. If this is not done as and when required you run the risk of producing non-compliant accounts.

Time and costs relating to software implementation

It is important to invest sufficient time in evaluating software. Changing from one software product to another takes time and could result in downtime for staff. A key factor would be the time it will take to convert data from the old system to the new one. Consideration should be given to running the old and the new systems in parallel. The amount of data / information (standing data and transaction data) that can be transferred to the new system will also be a key consideration.

Proper preparation for data conversion and transfer is vital and comprehensive staff training is key as this, if not done right, could result in increased cost and time wastage. Staff could spend unnecessary time in converting information that is in the incorrect format or when information pulled through from the data set is incorrect and cannot be relied on. Both of these result in time wastage, which directly translates to costs. In extreme cases this could even result in a loss in clients.

Well-researched and informed choices with a carefully planned and implemented installation will ensure a smooth transition and will improve profitability, efficiency and even staff morale.

Lack of sufficient checks and balances

The practitioner needs sufficient checks and balances in order to ensure the accuracy and correctness of transactions captured and accounts produced – at the point of transition when a software solution is implemented, but also subsequently as part of normal operations. Most software solutions provide automatic check and balances, backed up by review and monitoring procedures that the practitioner implements. Without these, the mistakes that could occur can be detrimental to your practice or to your client's organisation; you could end up losing the client or being sued due to providing incorrect information.

Loss of information

Being reliant on software, any loss of service due to a power or an equipment outage could cause work disruption and, at worse, loss of information. Besides these types of disruptions that prevent new information from being captured (i.e. continuity of work), access to stored information is limited. Backing up data is crucial as a power outage or an equipment "crash" can cause information to be lost or corrupted.

Cost

Fee pressure in a highly competitive market and low-cost outsourced accounts production can be somewhat offset by using software that makes accounts production quicker and more efficient, even more so when backed up by practice management software (integrated, if possible). Choosing the 'right' software is an attractive cost-optimising option.

Software can be very expensive – besides the software itself, there are costs associated with installation, maintenance, customisation, training and hardware. Although software results in time savings, it can take some time before the accounting software investment pays off. Cost and the related cash flow implications will always be important considerations when deciding on a software programme/application. Cost saving should be balanced against quality and maintaining professional and technical standards.

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ACCOUNTS PRODUCTION SOFTWARE[9]

CaseWare Working Papers	
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers, Public Sector, Trusts, Close Corporations, Body Corporates, Share Blocks, State Owned Entities, NGOs and Group Companies.
Cost	Competitive bundled pricing.[10] Free training provided.[11]
Website information	www.casewareafrica.co.za
Contact details	Contact person: Claire Jones Email: Info@casewareafrica.com Telephone number: 010 494 1006
After-sale support	Support desk accessible via client community, email or telephone during work hours, from 08:30 to 17:00. CaseWare Africa Success Community provides for afterhours support.

Overview

CaseWare Working Papers is an end-to-end financial statement solution that handles the entire Audit and Financial Statement Drafting engagement from start to finish, in one system. It takes care from the write-up or acquisition of a trial balance to the final financial statements, audit, review, as well as storage, back-ups, document management and collaboration. From smaller accounting and auditing practices to Network Firms across Africa, CaseWare is trusted to deliver compliance, increased efficiencies and improved profits. CaseWare integrates with popular accounting systems, allowing professionals to efficiently prepare financial statements that comply with IFRS and the IFRS for SMEs.

CaseWare is not a spreadsheet solution. The CaseWare solution is built on a platform that ensures integrity of data; although flexible and fully automated it is built on architecture that is not easily manipulated.

CaseWare solutions cover the entire Auditing and Accounting Ecosystem:

- From write-up to trial balance
- Financial statements
- Audit
- Independent reviews
- Tax submission
- Monthly management accounting
- Analytics
- Company secretarial solutions
- Time and billing

Additional modules include:

- CaseWare SmartSync
- Consolidations
- Enterprise (disclosures for listed entities)
- Corporate tax module
- TaxWare
- Analytics (generalised audit software)
- Probe (audit, review and compilations)
- ATA (attorney trust account - audit)
- Pension funds
- Connector (monthly management accounts)
- CaseWare time and billing
- SecWare (secretarial product)
- CaseWare cloud
- CaseWare online

9. Accounts production software is designed for accountants to produce periodic financial statements for their clients from their manual or computerised accounting records.
10. Functions included in bundles based on client scenario / requirements available on request.
11. All users have access to the CaseWare community that include a wide range of training options from free online training videos, guides, webinars and articles. There is also an option to attend class room training or onsite training that is billable.

CaseWare Cloud	
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers, Public Sector, Trusts, Close Corporations, Body Corporates, Share Blocks, State-owned Entities, NGOs and Group Companies.
Cost	Competitive bundled pricing.[12] Free training provided.[13]
Website information	https://www.casewareafrica.co.za/
Contact details	Contact person: Claire Jones Email: Info@casewareafrica.com Telephone number: 010 494 1006
After-sale support	Support desk accessible via client community, email or telephone during work hours, from 08:30 to 17:00. CaseWare Africa Success Community provides for afterhours support.

CaseWare cloud solution deals with all aspects of the ecosystem as well as storage and security of data, providing large and small firms a new way to collaborate. This cloud offering allows you to take control of your firm with unprecedented visibility into your engagements, helping you to increase efficiency and productivity. With CaseWare Cloud, all of your engagement needs are in one centralised location with no need for servers. CaseWare Cloud also offers a full-time and billing system out of the box, letting you track time, bill clients and perform analyses from any web-enabled device.

CaseWare Cloud continually undergoes independent security audits. Independent auditors examine their entire Information Security Management System (ISMS) to verify service delivery, operations and management of the CaseWare Cloud platform to ensure it conforms to industry standards. Amazon provides physical security and logical security controls at the infrastructure layer. The platform is covered by a SSAE 16 report and is PCI Level 1 certified, ISO 27001 certified, and compliant with all major security control frameworks. [14]

CaseWare solutions cover the entire Auditing and Accounting Ecosystem:

- From write-up to trial balance
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- Audit
- Independent reviews
- Tax submission
- Monthly management accounting
- Analytics
- Company secretarial solutions
- Time and billing

Additional modules include:

- CaseWare SmartSync
- Consolidations
- Enterprise (disclosures for listed entities)
- Corporate tax module
- TaxWare
- Analytics (generalised audit software)
- Probe (audit, review and compilations)
- ATA (attorney trust account - audit)
- Pension funds
- Connector (monthly management accounts)
- CaseWare time and billing
- SecWare (secretarial product)
- CaseWare cloud
- CaseWare online

12. Functions included in bundles based on client scenario/requirements available on request
13. All users have access to the CaseWare community that include a wide range of training options from free online training videos, guides, webinars and articles. There is also an option to attend class room training or onsite training that is billable
14. For more information: https://www.caseware.com/solutions/cloud/security

Everything else is Obsolete

DRAFTWORX™
CLOUD

www.draftworx.com/cloud

Draftworx	
Entity types supported	Sole proprietors, Partnerships, Private companies, Listed companies and Group companies.
Cost	Desktop version at R5 200[15] Cloud priced per engagement from R50 upwards[16]
Website information	www.draftworx.com
Contact details	Contact person: Earl Steyn Email: earl@draftworx.com Cellphone: 082 857 5690
After-sale support	Telephone, email and teamviewer-based support during office hours.

Overview

Draftworx fully automate your financial statements and engagement compliance. It includes all financial statement frameworks, working papers, audit methodologies, collaboration tools and digital signatures in a desktop, cloud and hybrid[17] variant. Draftworx is designed for accountants and auditors by accountants and auditors to alleviate problems identified in existing marketplace software.

Source trial balance data can be extracted with ease from most widely used accounting packages, or simply an Excel trial balance. An automatic mapping tool limits time spent on a traditionally arduous task when compiling.

Draftworx uses an Excel-like engine that blends familiarity with ease of use. Individual cell locking ensures your data cannot be manipulated.

It is easy to learn and easy to use for all levels of staff, yet incorporates flexibility and powerful features for even the most ardent auditor.

Built for auditors, Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) is a dynamic auditing methodology built to streamline engagements, leveraging technology that automatically adjusts working papers based on prior information.

Draftworx is fully XBRL compliant, and can also be used with non-Draftworx financial statements.

Included in Draftworx core (desktop):

- Frameworks
  - International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)
  - IFRS for Small and Medium Entities
  - IFRS Consolidations
  - Close Corporations
  - Sole Properties
  - Partnerships
  - Trusts
  - Non-Profit Organisations
  - Monthly Management Packs
- Methodologies
  - Compilation
  - Accounting Officer
  - Attorneys Trust Audit
  - Audit Lite Plus
  - Independent Review
- Additional modules
  - Risk Assessment per Component (RAC) audit
  - Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) framework
  - International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS)
  - Digital signatures

Draftworx Cloud is one of the first solutions to allow users to complete the entire client engagement through an internet browser. It allows for multiple staff members to work on the same financials or working papers at the same time, thereby alleviating the burden of single-user access to client files.

No matter what the nature of the engagement, Draftworx Cloud allows users to collaborate in real time on financial statements and working papers through a web browser. No desktop software installation is needed, simply log on and start working.

The per engagement pricing allows the user to just pay what they use, and structure their client billing with more ease than before.

Draftworx databases are password protected, and can only be opened with the programme. Client data is also password protected and secured in the database, as well as all templates and documents. Read-only mode can also be activated on client files. Draftworx is locked down by means of the licensing system, so a Draftworx 'copy' cannot be pirated and used on another PC to view client files.

Draftworx Cloud makes use of the latest best practices to keep your data secure, and is protected using 256-bit SSL encryption. The Draftworx API provides security for your sensitive data, delegating and scoping access based on the requesting user or application. All event logs and alerts are constantly monitored by the security team.

Currently on the Draftworx roadmap is Timeworx, Secworx and Taxworx.

15. All functions included
16. Dependent on framework / working papers with unlimited users.
17. Work on both desktop or cloud and transfer working papers between the two.

ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE[18]

Microsoft Dynamics 365	
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers and Group Companies.
Cost	The cost is per user per month subscription model, based on functionality needed. This is all inclusive of software, business intelligence, machine learning, storage, high availability and disaster recovery capabilities. Phone and email support is also provided. • Team member user: US$ 8 per user/month *+ Capabilities include: • Read and Approve • Run all reports • Employee Self Serve • Essentials user: US$ 70 per user/month *+ Capabilities include: • Invoicing • Purchasing • Opportunity Management • Budgets • Finance • Fixed Assets • Purchasing Order Management • Resource Management • Workflow • Contact Management • Simple Inventory • Advanced Sales (SO) • Advanced Inventory (stock) • Distribution • Premium user: US$ 100 per user/month *+ In addition to all capabilities in Essential licence, includes additionally: • Service Management • Manufacturing + Available in Cloud Solution Provider (CSP) only; Includes cloud platform, Microsoft PowerApps and Microsoft Flow Partners can determine end-customer pricing; User types are licenced at the organisational level, customers are not allowed to mix and match Essential and Premium users. *All pricing subject to change. Please consult price list for actual pricing Free training provided.
Website information	https://dynamics.microsoft.com/en-za/business-central/overview/
Contact details	Contact: Dynamics Support Email: MBSSUP@microsoft.com Telephone number: +1-888-477-7989
After-sale support	24/7 Support Dedicated support webpage: https://dynamics.microsoft.com/en-za/support/

18. Accounting software describes a type of application software that record and process accounting transactions within functional modules such as accounts payable, accounts receivable, journal, general ledger, payroll and trail balance. It functions as an accounting information system.

Overview

Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central is a business management solution that helps companies connect their financials, sales, service, and operations to streamline business processes, improve customer interactions and make better decisions.

Dynamics 365 combine multiple disconnected systems into one. Boost efficiency with automated tasks and workflows - all from within familiar Office tools like Outlook, Word, and Excel. Get an end-to-end view of your business, with built-in intelligence when and where you need it.

Dynamics 365 Business Central puts flexibility at the core of your business, enabling you to start quickly, grow at your own pace and adapt in real time. Easily tailor and extend the application to meet your unique business or industry-specific needs. Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central integrates with other Microsoft cloud services including Office 365 and can be customised or extended for specific industry needs with PowerApps, Microsoft Flow and Power BI.

Key capabilities and business process coverage includes:

- Platform Capabilities: Complete Office 365 integration, Microsoft PowerApps, Microsoft Flow, PowerBI and AI/Machine Learning all embedded into the platform.
- Financial management: Multiple companies, Multiple currencies, Account receivables/ payables, Bank reconciliation, Fixed asset management, Month/Year-end closing.
- Sales and service management: Quote Generation, Contact Management, Sales Invoicing, Payment processing.
- Project management: Capacity Planning, Budgets and Estimates, Job and process costing, Resource management.
- Supply chain management: Inventory and Purchasing control, Shipment and distribution, Returns and cancellations, Procurement and vendor management.
- Operations management: Forecasting, Production planning, Manufacturing capacity, Warehouse management.
- Reporting and analytics: Customer insights, Self-serve reports Interactive dashboards, Built-in intelligence.

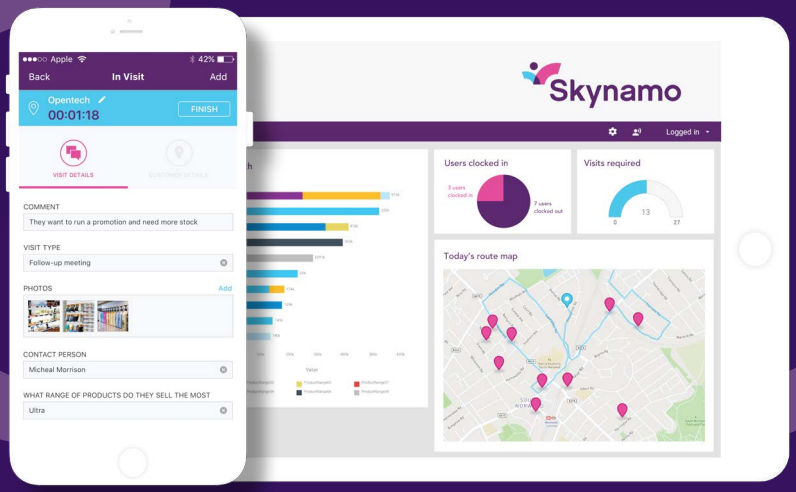
Microsoft Dynamics 365 relies on Azure Active Directory (AAD) to provide authentication for users, helping to protect Dynamics 365 from unauthorised access. It simplifies the management of users and groups, and enables you to assign and revoke privileges. Dynamics 365 uses the same identity platform as Microsoft Office 365, so a user of both services has the same username and password. Customers can federate an on-premises AAD or other directory stores to enable using corporate credentials to authenticate.

Microsoft Dynamics 365 provide a security model that protects data integrity and privacy, and supports efficient data access and collaboration. The goals of the model is to provide users with the access only to the appropriate levels of information that is required to do their jobs:

- Categorise users by role and restrict access based on those roles.
- Support data sharing so that users and teams can be granted access to records that they do not own for a specified collaborative effort.
- Prevent a user's access to records the user does not own or share.

Skynamo

watch sales soar.



Bridge the gap between Finance and Sales and watch sales soar.

Help your clients boost their sales with Skynamo – mobile-first sales app and Field Sales Management platform.

Skynamo is built for manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of products with reps in the field who visit, sell to and service customers on a regular basis.

Skynamo integrates with accounting packages such as

ACCPAC intuit quickbooks sage xero

Contact us for a demo and to learn how we can work together to benefit your clients.

Visit our website
www.skynamo.com/accounting

or call 0861 345 345
and ask for Marketing

***We're cloud-based!** All information is available offline when necessary and real-time when available.

Palladium Accounting Software	
Entity types supported	Private Companies, Listed Companies, Farmers and Group Companies.
Cost	Monthly user subscription[19] from R258 to R337 excl. VAT per month. Free training provided.
Website information	www.palladium.co.za
Contact details	Contact person: Stephen Corrigan Email: Stephen.Corrigan@palladium.co.za Telephone number: 011 568 2900
After-sale support	Call centre open during business hours but is supported by a Business Partner network.

Overview

The Palladium Accounting Software range is a feature-rich product with features designed to increase turnover, improve margins and enhance operational efficiency. Palladium has been developed using the latest in Microsoft Technology, uses the Microsoft SQL Server database and is a Certified Microsoft Gold Partner.

Palladium offers an on-premises or hosted solution with clients being able to switch from one to the other as required.

Palladium boasts a one-of-a-kind feature set that is within the reach of the smaller business. Apart from powerful financial management functionality to give you full control over cashflow and financial reporting, Palladium also includes features created to make your business more efficient and perform better, these include:

- Sending copy invoices with statements: give customers the information they need to pay faster
- Increase revenue through dynamic upsell prompts, container management and delivery charge management
- Automate processes from EDI integration to couriers for automatic waybill printing or to download sales orders from the Vodacom EDI portal (that integrates with major retailers)
- Lost order management: proactively react to lost orders with reason codes, effectively managing win-to-loss ratios.
- POD document management: get complete control over your PODs in a central repository to eliminate and ensure better business control.
- Projects: track the revenue and costs (with change order and commitment) of various projects
- Manufacturing: manufacture using basic assemblies or process manufacturing with full work centres and comprehensive multi-level MRP explosion.
- Point of Sale: include advanced features such as weight and price-embedded bar-coding with full account processing.
- Workshop module: facilitates the quoting and repairs of internal or client assets, including vehicle servicing, light machine work, fabrications or even repairing of computer.
- Multi-Bin Locations: store the same inventory items across multiple bins with maximum bin quantities.
- Mobile warehouse management solution that works with Zebra and Honeywell scanners.
- Access various functions such as sales orders and customers / inventory enquiries through our mobile application for Android and iOS devices.
- Avoid information overload and be alerted to any exceptions through email or SMS. The Business Alerts module allows you to automate and / or schedule reports as required.

Palladium is Windows 10 Certified and has been developed using the latest Microsoft Technology, and uses the Microsoft SQL Server database. This means the data is secure, stable and able to manage vast volumes of data. Palladium's embedded VPN (dynamic database connectivity) ensures that you can work from anywhere in the world as long as you have an internet connection, without having to worry about your data being lost or corrupted. Palladium thus offers an on premises or hosted solution with clients being able to switch from one to the other as required.

Palladium Accounting is developed in South African by Palladium Business Solutions, a Certified Microsoft Gold Partner and a subsidiary of Rectron (Pty) Ltd, a subsidiary of Mustek Ltd.

19. All functions included

QuickBooks Online Accountant (QBOA)	
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Charities, Accounting firms and Group Companies.
Cost	Free 90-day trial, followed by R13 000 per year. If you connect 5 or more paying QuickBooks Online clients, the use of the software is for free. Other functions charged separately. Free training and certification provided
Website information	www.quickbooks.co.za
Contact details	Contact person: Bridget Du Toit Email: info@quickbooks.co.za Telephone number: 010 203 4500
After-sale support	Phone support Monday – Friday, from 8AM - 6PM SAST. Email support available 24/7[20]

Overview

The newly-released QuickBooks Online Accountant (QBOA), provides a tool to manage your accounting practice, your clients, and your work. QBOA will help grow and manage your practice by letting you spend less time chasing down client documents and more time providing impactful financial advice.

You'll know that your clients' books are done right with advanced audit trails and the ability to jump into QuickBooks online client books anywhere, anytime. Real-time collaboration and project tracking features automate the process of requesting and receiving client documents and ensure that nothing falls through the cracks. QBOA matchmaking will bring new clients your way, by connecting local small businesses in need of help with experts like you.

QBOA has integrated client and practice management, which gives you one single login to manage and grow your practice. Flexible pricing options, such as wholesale billing, give you the choice to pass the discount on to your clients, use the discount as an incentive to win new business, or keep the profit margin, giving you money in your pocket whenever you bill your client instead of in quarterly or yearly intervals.

QBOA is the one place you need to manage your practice and your clients.

QuickBooks Online security includes:

- An extensive array of features, including, but not limited to, encryption of data at rest and in transit
- Segregated data realms and swim lanes
- Multi-factor authentication
- Role-based logical access
- Layered network architecture using firewalls, intrusion prevention and detection mechanisms
- Real-time system and data replication
- Operational backups
- 24x7 security operations monitoring.

Intuit, the parent company of QuickBooks Online, uses a proprietary homomorphic encryption tool to encrypt QuickBooks Online data and to manage keys.

20. Customers will receive a response in one business day or less

SAGE Business Cloud Accounting	
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers and Group Companies.
Cost	Sage Business Cloud Accounting starts from R126 per month. Various training options provided, including free online training.[21] Other functions charged separately.
Website information	www.sage.com/za/accounting
Contact details	Contact: Sales Email: salesleads@sage.com Telephone number: +27 11 304 3333
After-sale Support	Telephonic and email support Mondays till Fridays between 07:30 and 17:00, and Saturdays between 09:00 and 12:00.

Overview

Sage Business Cloud Accounting is a VAT compliant, easy to use online invoicing and accounting software solution that supports small, growing businesses. It is simple and efficient, and makes managing business finances a breeze.

Extra modules include:

1. Time-tracking Module: Set up your projects, tasks, budgets, task rates and billing preferences for each project to easily invoice out time linked to your timesheets.
2. Multi-currency Module: Send invoices and make purchases in different currencies, get the latest end-of-day Exchange Rate automatically and easily manage currency fluctuations.
3. Mobile Application: Accounting mobile apps put your customer and accounting information in the palm of your hands.
4. Custom Report Designer: The Accounting Custom Layout Designer is a desktop tool that you can download and use to customise customer documents, customer statements, supplier documents and supplier statements.
5. Sage Intelligence: Sage Intelligence gives you the freedom to customise reports or create them from scratch to suit your business needs, and it offers you two options for creating reports – online using the Online Report Designer, and in Excel using the Excel Report Designer.

Sage Business Cloud Accounting uses PBKDF2 for password hashing, implemented TLS1.2, with external firewalls and database segregation on a separate virtual LAN to protect customers and their data. Sage Business Cloud Accounting is also protected against Denial of Service (DoS) attacks and the company is implementing Content Delivery Network (CDN), Web Application Firewall (WAF) and additional Disrupted Denial of Service (DDoS) protection.

21. Sage Business Cloud Accounting provides free online help guides, a free Getting Started e-learning course and nine paid-for classroom-based training courses.

SAP Business One	
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers, Manufacturing, Logistics and Group Companies.
Cost	Costing based on per user licence[22] Paid-for training can be provided.
Website information	https://www.sap.com/africa/products/business-one.html
Contact details	Contact person: Caesar Mhlanga Email: Caesar.mhlanga@sap.com Telephone number: +27 72 777 5547
After-sale support	Three-tier support structure: Client IT, Partner and SAP Support for 24/7 support across the globe.

Overview

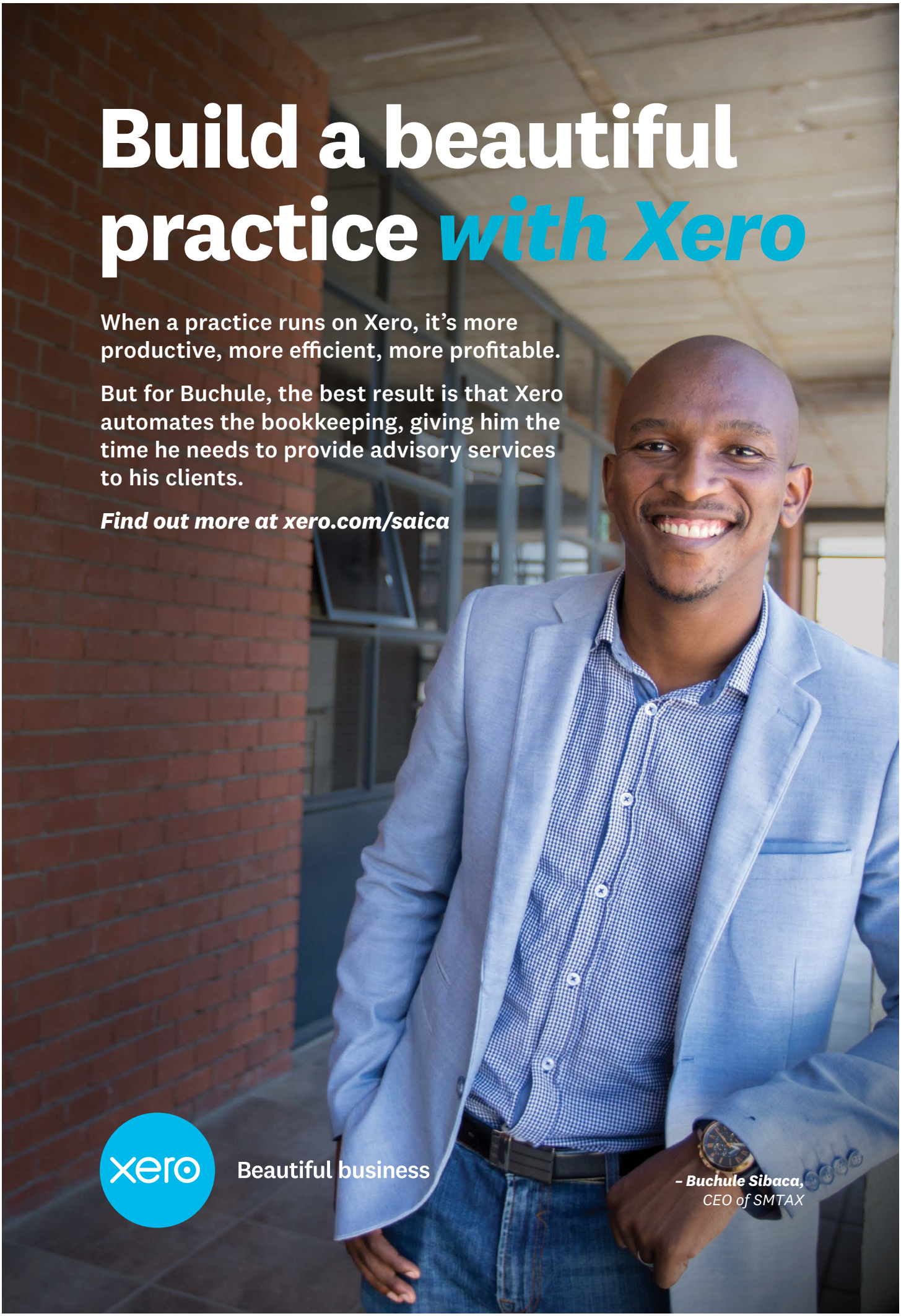
SAP Business One is the first streamlined in-memory product built with full integration of all business functions designed from the ground up specifically for SMEs while leveraging the SAP's HANA technology. This technology enables the system to be robust, secure, fast and with all modules seamlessly integrated, enables an increase in productivity by more than 20%. Built-in analytics enable a full 360-degree view of business and reporting. The ability to perform analytics with speed and agility on databases over 100GB.

Other modules included:

- Fixed Assets
- Project management
- CRM
- Resources
- Crystal reports

With a single sign-on for entry into database per user, HANA Database is based on Linux based on high compression and encryption high security standards following ISO standards. The system contains audit trails and change logs. Authorisations and user profiling with multilevel security at document level and row level for sales and purchasing documents within the system. Also user ownership to line/row level.

22. Different costing for cloud model


Build a beautiful practice with Xero
When a practice runs on Xero, it's more productive, more efficient, more profitable.
But for Buchule, the best result is that Xero automates the bookkeeping, giving him the time he needs to provide advisory services to his clients.
Find out more at xero.com/saica
xero
Beautiful business
– Buchule Sibaca,
CEO of SMTAX

XERO	
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers and Group Companies.
Cost	Partner products range from R40 p/m to R500 p/m (VAT incl.) [23] [24] Partner programme is free and includes free Practice Manager, Workpapers and Report Packs for growing partners. Xero provides a free data conversion service. Free training provided.
Website information	www.xero.com/za/partners/why-accountants
Contact details	Contact person: Colin Timmis Email: partnerteam@xero.com Telephone number: 082 788 9252
After-sale support	Free and unlimited support 24/7[25] together with online videos[26] and courses[27]

Overview

Xero's cloud software brings all the information accountants need together in one simple and easy-to-navigate space. Tools that put you in charge of clients' accounts and your own workflow to:

- Become more efficient,
- Boost revenue, and
- Grow your practice.

Unique features include:

1. Cash Coding: Reconcile bank statement lines in bulk, reduce time spent and increase accuracy.
2. Fixed assets: Track your fixed assets and easily reconcile to reports with automated depreciation.
3. Find and Recode: Fix client (or staff) mistakes fast and easily by seeing all potential errors in one report, and correcting them at the same time.
4. Files and Transactions in one place: Email supplier invoices into Xero to automatically create a draft invoice with the original invoice attached. Supplier ledgers always contain a picture of the original invoice.
5. Xero Expenses: Take a picture of the expense slip and Xero Expenses will capture the expense detail (supplier, date, amount, etc.) and send to your for approval.
6. Audit Trail: Easily control staff and client access with a full audit trail showing all user activity.
7. Xero HQ: View all your apps, control staff access, communicate with clients, and see whose work is behind on one single dashboard.

Xero produced a Service Organisation Control (SOC2) report to monitor uptime. This is the result of an independent auditor's examination of Xero's cloud-based accounting system relevant to the Trust Services Principles and Criteria for Security, Availability and Confidentiality. Xero encrypts all data that goes between the client and Xero using industry-standard TLS (Transport Layer Security) and data is encrypted at rest when stored on their servers[28].

Xero users can set up two-step authentication to provide an extra layer of security for their Xero account. There's also an Audit Trail of access and data changes. If your account is accessed from a new device or browser, Xero send you an email alerting you to the log in and you'll be automatically logged out of Xero after a period of inactivity. Xero users can also check the Security Noticeboard for details of the latest scams and security issues that may affect them.

23. Unlimited users and free updates
24. All functions included
25. Access to Help Centre: https://help.xero.com/
26. http://tv.xero.com
27. http://www.xero.com/za/training
28. For more information visit www.xero.com/za/about/security/

ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS AND / OR ADD-ONS

AutoEntry	
Functionality	Automates data entry by capturing invoices, receipts, expenses and statements into accounting solutions.
Entity types supported	Accountants, Bookkeepers and Small businesses.
Website information	www.autoentry.com
Cost	Pricing based on credits and is billed as monthly subscription[29]. Advanced plans are available on request. Pricing plans (per month): • 50 credits (R150) • 100 credits (R285) • 200 credits (R535) • 500 credits (R1 250) How the credits work: • 1 credit: Invoices (purchases, sales or expenses), bills, receipts and credit notes. • 2 credits: Invoices (purchase or sales), bills, receipts and credit notes with line item extraction. • 3 credits: Bank and credit card statements, per page. A free trial is available for all new users. Free training and webinars provided.
Contact details	Contact: AutoEntry support[30] Email: support@autoentry.com Telephone number: +353 1 902 2618
After-sale support	24/7 Support

Overview

AutoEntry is a cloud-based solution for accountants, bookkeepers and small businesses. AutoEntry helps users to become more productive and profitable by automating the publishing of information from a broad range of paper and digital documents into accounting software; integrating with all major accounting solutions including QuickBooks, Sage and Xero.

AutoEntry enables businesses to work smarter and more efficiently due to its unparalleled range of built-in features. Here are just a few of them:

- Flexible document capture: Accurately capture key information from almost any type of paper document, including bank and credit card statements, bills, invoices, receipts and more.
- Expenses capture: Upload expense receipts, adding these to expense reports before posting this information into accounting software.
- Auto publish: AutoEntry 'remembers' how you process invoices and receipts, and can auto publish direct into a user's accounting solution if required
- Cloud storage: Securely store your data in the cloud, retrievable at the click of a button. once information has been posted.

AutoEntry supplies some of the biggest accounting practices in the world, and leverages best practice security policies to ensure data is captured and posted securely into accounting software. They enable their customers to operate with confidence, through robust data protection, user authorisation and authentication. Procedures and protocols include (but are not limited to):

- Encryption across the platform
- Network intrusion detection
- Host intrusion detection
- Server failover protection
- Point-in-time data replication

29. All functions included
30. Web chat built in Web App directly to support team

CaseWare - Audit International	
Functionality	Auditing solution
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Academic Institutions, Doctors, Farmers, Public Sector, Trusts, Close Corporations, Body Corporates, Share Blocks, State-Owned Entities, NGOs and Group Companies.
Website information	https://www.casewareafrica.co.za/our-solutions/all-solutions/assurance-engagements/
Cost	Competitive bundled pricing per user.[31] Free User and Firm Author manuals are available as well as User Videos.[32] User and Firm Author manuals are available as well as free User Videos.
Contact details	Contact person: Claire Jones Email: Info@casewareafrica.com Telephone number: 010 494 1006
After-sale support	Support desk accessible via client community, email or telephone during work hours, from 08:30 to 17:00. CaseWare Africa Success Community provides for afterhours support.

Overview

Audit International is primarily based on the International Federation of Accountants' (IFAC) Guide to Using International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) in the Audits of Small- and Medium-Sized Entities. Content for Audit International is primarily provided by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada). The content has been expanded to incorporate additional requirements for Audits of Larger Entities and transnational audit engagements.

Audit International provides for different profiles that can be used for different types of engagements. The "Out of the box" Audit International template provides for 6 profiles, of which 3 comply with the International Standards on Auditing. These three profiles will provide different levels of content and can be used for different size engagements. These profiles provides the opportunity to create industry specific templates, for example non-profit organisations, to allow for a focused audit approach based on the specific-industry issues: a dynamic tool to enhance efficiency.

Audit International makes the audit process more intelligent with the Audit Optimiser Feature. This ground-breaking tool works behind the scenes to build the most appropriate work programmes and checklists, automatically adjusting the work programmes and checklists. This results in peace of mind knowing that staff are performing "just the right" amount of work for a given area and to focus the audit team on relevant procedures. The Optimiser is intelligent and does not delete a procedure if a risk is associated with it or if it is signed off as completed.

Audit International provides improved visibility for Partners, Managers and Reviewers of the identified risk, related control(s), audit procedure(s), finding(s)/issues(s) and reportable item(s) in the audit file. It provides a clear thread between recorded risk, mitigating control(s), audit response (to work programme and audit procedure), conclusion and reportable items.

Additional modules include:

- CaseWare SmartSync
- Consolidations
- Connector (automating working papers)
- CaseWare time and billing
- CaseWare cloud
- CaseWare online
- CaseWare Q

31. Functions included in bundles based on client scenario/requirements available on request
32. All users have access to the CaseWare community that include a wide range of training options from free online training videos, guides, webinars and articles. There is also an option to attend class room training or onsite training that is billable

CaseWare Practice Management	
Functionality	Practice management tool
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers, Public Sector, Trusts, Close Corporations, Body Corporates, Share Blocks, State-Owned Entities, NGOs and Group Companies.
Website information	https://www.casewareafrica.co.za/
Cost	Competitive bundled pricing.[33] Free training provided.[34]
Contact details	Contact person: Claire Jones Email: Info@casewareafrica.com Telephone number: 010 494 1006
After-sale support	Support desk accessible via client community, email or telephone during work hours, from 08:30 to 17:00. CaseWare Africa Success Community provides for afterhours support.

Overview

Managing customer projects as well as staff time and fees just became easier with CaseWare's practice management tools. Utilising CaseWare Cloud you can sync all accounts and audit tasks connected to a client in one place.

Teams can work together more efficiently, whilst allowing partners an instant view for tracking who is working on what project, the ability to sign off files, along with simple options for reporting on time and billing.

The key benefits of our practice management solution:

- Timely decision-making: Access engagement information from anywhere to make timely decisions
- Accurate Timekeeping: Reduce administration overhead through automating draft timesheet creation based on calendar entries and time in specific engagement files.
- Integrated Client Management: Simplify client relationship management by integrating all aspects of the client relationship within a single solution rather than managing standalone systems.

CaseWare solutions also cover the entire Auditing and Accounting Ecosystem:

- From write-up to trail balance
- Financial statements
- Audit
- Independent reviews
- Monthly management accounting
- Analytics

Additional modules include:

- CaseWare SmartSync
- Consolidations
- Enterprise (disclosures for listed entities)
- Analytics (generalised audit software)
- Probe (audit, review and compilations)
- ATA (attorneys trust accounts - audit)
- Pension funds
- Connector (monthly management accounts)
- CaseWare cloud
- CaseWare online

33. Functions included in bundles based on client scenario/requirements available on request
34. All users have access to the CaseWare community that include a wide range of training options from free online training videos, guides, webinars and articles. There is also an option to attend class room training or onsite training that is billable

CaseWare - Probe Engagements	
Functionality	Auditing solution
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Charities, Academic Institutions, Doctors, Farmers, Public Sector, Trusts, Close Corporations, Body Corporates, Share Blocks, State-Owned Entities, NGOs and Group Companies.
Website information	https://www.casewareafrica.co.za/our-solutions/all-solutions/assurance-engagements/
Cost	Competitive bundled pricing.[35] Free training provided.[36]
Contact details	Contact person: Claire Jones Email: Info@casewareafrica.com Telephone number: 010 494 1006
After-sale support	Support desk accessible via client community, email or telephone during work hours, from 08:30 to 17:00. CaseWare Africa Success Community provides for afterhours support.

Overview

Probe Audit is an intuitive methodology that complies with the latest International Standards on Auditing designed to streamline your audit engagement by making it more efficient. It risk-based methodology[37] provides users with flexibility to choose the audit response that will best achieve a cost-effective and quality audit.

The product provides access to checklists, questionnaires and programmes which intelligently expand (or shrink!) according to the size and complexity of the client.

The Probe Small profile is specifically designed to reduce the extent of documentation for smaller engagements to be more efficient. It comes pre-packaged with work programmes and libraries of standard audit procedures for the majority of financial statement areas.

With the Probe Audit Recognition and measurement add-on, you will receive specific audit procedures that assists the auditor to verify that the recognition and measurement of relevant items in the financial statements is correct either in accordance with IFRS or IFRS for SMEs.

Probe Review is a powerful, built-in, automated solution which streamlines your entire review engagement. Compliance and control to ensure that you can perform a fast, well-organised paperless independent review that is compliant with the International Standards on Review Engagements. It takes the reviewer through a structured process during planning to assess the areas likely to be misstated. Checklists provide questions that assist the reviewer with gaining an understanding of the business and the entity.

Probe Compilation assists compilers of financial statements to cover all crucial steps in the compilation of Financial Statements. The compiler can prepare the financial statements to be submitted on their own, or to be sent for review or audit. The work programmes provides the preparer of the financial statements with steps to check the accuracy and completeness of items in the financial statements to help the user execute their responsibilities.

Additional modules include:

- CaseWare SmartSync
- Consolidations
- Connector (automating working papers)
- CaseWare time and billing
- CaseWare cloud
- CaseWare online

35. Functions included in bundles based on client scenario/requirements available on request
36. All users have access to the CaseWare community that include a wide range of training options from free online training videos, guides, webinars and articles. There is also an option to attend class room training or onsite training that is billable
37. Developed in South Africa

Confirmation.com	
Functionality	Manage external audit confirmation process
Entity types supported	Audit/Accounting firms, Banks, Law firms, Companies of all sizes.
Website information	www.confirmation.com/za
Cost	Sign up is free[38] and only pay for confirmations sent. Free training provided.
Contact details	Contact person: Ryan Mer Email: Confirmations@cqs.co.za Telephone number: (+27) 10 494 1001
After-sale support	Support from 08:30 - 17:00 SAST

Overview

Confirmation.com is a secure web-based platform, which allows both authenticated audit/accounting firms and responders (such as banks/law firms/companies), to effectively and efficiently manage and control every aspect of the external audit confirmation process electronically. This streamlines the process, improves efficiencies and reduces fraud risk for auditors/ accountants, banks/law firms/companies and their shared clients.

Confirmation.com has a unique validation process for any new requestor (audit firm) or in-network responder (bank/law firm/company) that signs up. This is to help create a closed environment whereby only legitimate parties are involved in the confirmation process.

Confirmation.com is committed to effective operational controls, privacy and security best practices, and therefore undergoes all three Service Organisation Control (SOC) examinations every six months, is ISO 27001 certified, TRUSTe Privacy Policy certified, and EU Privacy Shield certified.

In addition to organisation-wide super-user access, Confirmation.com also provides Application Programme Interface (API) offerings to both audit / accounting firms and responders.

38. No monthly / annual licence costs

Cync	
Functionality	Accounting Dashboard
Entity types supported	Sole proprietors, Partnerships, Private companies, Listed companies and Group companies.
Website information	www.cync.io
Cost	Cync View Only – Unlimited Companies - Free Cync Edit/Push Back – R10 per month per company Cync Creditor/Supplier Control recon/verification– R10 per month Cync Integration – 3rd party, volume licence, quote based
Contact details	Contact person: Earl Steyn Email: earl@draftworx.com Cellphone: 082 857 5690
After-sale support	Email support 24/7

Overview

Cync is a universal accounting dashboard that easily synchronises multiple companies' accounting data, irrespective of accounting system, into a single view.

Cync solves the problems of accounting data access for auditors and accountants. Clients use differing accounting platforms, some cloud, some desktop. Accessing this data is generally problematic as it requires the auditor or accountant to possess the accounting software for each package and in the case of desktop, often utilising file sharing like Dropbox, or physically collecting a copy of the accounting systems file to review.

Corporates who utilise differing accounting systems across a group can also benefit by having up-to-date views of accounts such as loans or debtors/creditors within the group, allowing for easy reconciliation.

Cync allows you to correct allocations directly from the dashboard, and have those corrections sync back to the source accounting system.

For developers, an extensive API allows for third party integration, removing the inherent complexity of developing across several accounting platforms. Draftworx is an example of one company that has integrated with Cync to allow ease of importing of financial data, as well as pushing back adjusting journals raised in Draftworx directly to their clients accounting system.

Cync makes use of the latest best practices to keep your data secure, and is protected using 256-bit SSL encryption. The Cync API provides security for your sensitive data, delegating and scoping access based on the requesting user or application. All event logs and alerts are constantly monitored by the security team.

Futrli	
Functionality	Forecasting and Reporting
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers and Group Companies.
Website information	www.futrli.com
Cost	From $149[39] USD a month.[40] Free training provided. Additional paid-for training available from $200 USD.[41]
Contact details	Contact person: Phil Hobden Email: phil.hobden@futrli.com Telephone number: 0044 7985684760
After-sale support	24/7 Support[42]

Overview

Futrli is the forecasting and reporting platform for businesses and their accountants. It brings together the key metrics and analysis that businesses need to make great decisions.

Forecasting, data visualisation and alerting tools will help you offer the latest advisory services. Quickly and easily produce management accounts and reporting dashboards, and project the future potential of a business up to 10 years into the future. Syncing with cloud accounting packages allows you to create unlimited forecasts and test scenarios from pre-built templates in real-time.

Futrli offers daily data syncs and fully customisable live dashboards. Client businesses can be monitored 24/7 with in-app or email alerts.

Futrli is secured via Regional Amazon Web Services (AWS) connection

39. Unlimited users
40. All functions included
41. CPD-accredited FUTRLI Advisory Certification will teach you everything you need to know about forecasting, reporting and rolling out advisory services.
42. Includes online in-app support

G Suite	
Functionality	Email, Documents, Calendars, Storage and Security
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies and Group Companies.
Website information	https://www.growthpoint.info
Cost	Cost: $5 upwards one-to-one training at $55 per hour. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Mark Houghton Email: mark@growthpoint.info Or sales@growthpoint.info Telephone number: +263773238664
After-sale support	Live support 08:00-17:00 CAT Monday to Friday

Overview

G Suite is a brand of cloud computing, productivity and collaboration tools.

Functionality includes:

- Use shared calendars to see when others are available and schedule meetings with automatic email invites.
- With one click, turn your meeting into a video conference from any camera-enabled computer, phone, or tablet.
- Share your screen to review your work as a team, and make decisions on the spot.
- Easily work on documents, spreadsheets, and slides across your devices, with or without internet.
- Work in a single document with teammates or people outside your company. See edits as others type, communicate through built-in chat, and ask questions in comments. Multiple people can work at the same time, and every change is saved automatically.

Keep all your work in one place with secure access from your computer, phone, or tablet. Quickly invite others to view, download, and collaborate on any file – no email attachment needed. File updates are automatically saved and stored in Drive, so everyone can always have access to the latest version.

Protect your company's data with security options like 2-step verification and single-sign-on, and use mobile management to keep your data safe in the case of a lost device or employee turnover. Archive email messages and on-the-record chats, and control how long they are retained. Easily configure security settings from a centralised administration console, and call or email Google support for help 24/7.

Greatsoft Cloud Document Management System (CDM)	
Functionality	Document Management System
Entity types supported	Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors and Group Companies. Any size firm due to its scalable nature. From small, two-man businesses to multi-national companies with staff all over the world.
Website information	www.greatsoft.co.za
Cost	The cost is scalable depending on the number of staff licences required. Training costs are scaled on a per day/per hour/per user basis depending on the duration of the session. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Lee Williams Email: leew@greatsoft.co.za Telephone number: 071 886 9625
After-sale Support	Call centre available from 8am to 5pm on weekdays.

Overview

GreatSoft CDM is a cloud document management system that provides a full document management system with a central client portal, which allows users to have one central document store and creates an easy way to securely share documents with clients. When integrated with GreatSoft CRM, secure client folders are automatically created and updated when client information changes in CRM. Staff access is revoked immediately when an employee record is terminated in CRM. Firms are able to customise security, themes, folder structures, and even create customised, branded landing pages for clients and staff. GreatSoft CDM can also be used as a stand-alone product.

GreatSoft CDM includes automatic versioning, digital signatures and secure document conversations. By providing folder-and-file-level level security across teams of employees, they give firms peace of mind that their staff only see what is relevant and permissible.

A secure client portal provides multiple ways for firms to interact with clients, including bulk emailing, customised questionnaires and tax compliance documents for signature.

Extra modules include:

- Client Portal
- Document Management
- Bulk Emailing
- Questionnaires
- Electronic signatures
- Appointments

GreatSoft CDM is available as a hosted solution allowing users to interact with the system through a Secure Internet Connection (SSL/HTTPS). Security Permissions are assigned to teams and access control and privileges can be assigned for folders and files. GreatSoft outsources certification of the application security to recognised third-party organisations to ensure that the solution is subjected to rigorous security testing. Firms that wish to restrict staff access for specific offices or specific clients can do so using the Secure Views feature.

Greatsoft Customer Relationship Management (CRM)	
Functionality	Practice management and customer relationship management
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Accountants and Auditors.
Website information	www.greatsoft.co.za
Cost	The cost is scalable and depends on the number of licences required. Clients are charged a monthly per user fee. Group Training at client offices is chargeable on a per hour basis. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Jean Pick Email: info@greatsoft.co.za Telephone number: +27 11 453 0693
After-sale support	Call centre available from 8am to 5pm on weekdays.

Overview

GreatSoft CRM is a cloud-based full practice management solution. This practice management and Customer Relationship Management (CRM) solution is much more than just a time and billing tool, it provides firms with an easy to use, browser-based solution that is specifically designed to help reduce costs and improve revenues. GreatSoft CRM uses a single database, thereby reducing the need to capture data multiple times. It can be fully integrated with GreatSoft's Tax, Secretarial and Cloud Document Management products, and is renowned for its powerful reports, which are easy to access and can be easily exported to Excel. GreatSoft CRM's user-specific alerts and reminders drastically improve task completion within firms.

Extra modules include:

- Tax, - Full ITR12 and 14 submission directly to SARS e- Filing
- Secretarial - all CIPC forms and reminders with annual duties
- Staff Planning – electronic planning board
- Budgeting - tracking job costing and budget reminders
- General ledger
- Payroll
- Cloud document management

GreatSoft CRM is available as a hosted solution allowing users to interact with the system through a Secure Internet Connection (SSL / HTTPS). Security permissions are assigned to user roles that are used to control access and privileges to functions, menus, command buttons, web controls and reports. Firms that wish to restrict staff access for specific offices or specific clients can do so using the Secure Views feature. GreatSoft outsources certification of the application security to recognised third-party organisations to ensure that the solution is subjected to rigorous security testing.

Greatsoft Payroll	
Functionality	Payroll management
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers and Group Companies.
Website information	www.greatsoft.co.za
Cost	Cost is scalable, based on the number of employees paid per month. Training costs are scaled on a per day/per hour/per user basis depending on the duration of the session. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Jean Pick Email: info@greatsoft.co.za Telephone number: +27 11 453 0693
After-sale support	Support centre can be contacted via telephone or email, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm.

Overview

GreatSoft Payroll is a powerful and easy to use web-based payroll solution that offers a multi-tenanted[43] product for any payroll environment. Whether you are a SME, a large enterprise with branches across Africa, or a bureau service provider, our multi-legal entity, multi-pay frequency, and multi-tax state solution, Greatsoft Payroll will allow you to manage all of your requirements in one single payroll application.

Greatsoft Payroll Employee Self-Service gives you total control over the data shared with employees, and provides employees with the option to view their payslips, submit business-related claims, and apply for various types of leave. The leave system adheres to the minimum requirements of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act (BCEA) on all leave types and can be customised to include company policies. Powerful leave management tools allow for bulk approvals of applications, warnings if leave is abused and allows administrators to plan workforce availability for any future dated projects.

Greatsoft Payroll's strict user access control system allows you to control access to your payroll, from an employee level (to submit leave), right through to your accountant, who may be responsible for IRP5/IT3(a) certificates and other high-level transactions.

Extra modules include:

- CRM and Practice Management
- Timesheets, Disbursements and Work in Progress management
- Taxation
- General Ledger
- Job Costing
- Leave Management
- Claims and Disbursements

GreatSoft Payroll is available as a hosted solution allowing users to interact with the system through a Secure Internet Connection (SSL / HTTPS). Security permissions are assigned to user roles that are used to control access and privileges to functions, menus, command buttons, web controls and reports. Firms that wish to restrict staff access for specific offices or specific clients can do so using the Secure Views feature. GreatSoft outsources certification of the application security to recognised third-party organisations to ensure that the solution is subjected to rigorous security testing.

43. One login gives access to multiple entities

Greatsoft Secretarial	
Functionality	Secretarial management
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, NPOs, Group Companies, Close Corporations, Trusts and Co-Operatives. Suitable for small, medium or large organisations with one or multiple offices.
Website information	www.greatsoft.co.za
Cost	The cost is scalable depending on the number of licenses required. Training: Costs are scaled on a per day or per hour or per user basis depending on the duration of the session. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Support Email: support@greatsoft.co.za Telephone number: 021 531 7180 or 0861 GREAT1
After-sale support	Call centre available from 8am to 5pm on weekdays.

Overview

GreatSoft Secretarial is an all-in-one secretarial solution in the cloud. GreatSoft Secretarial is a powerful administration tool used by accountants, attorneys and company secretaries to reduce the workload of managing company secretarial administration. The software is browser-based, which means that you can log into your secure portal and manage your client's secretarial affairs from anywhere, on any device, at any time.

Automated reminders can be set up to ensure that all important alerts land on your desk at the right time and that no queries or late submissions slip through the cracks. Staff can also create alerts to track outstanding information for follow-up. Letters and billing can be generated in bulk and letters can also be distributed using the CDM integrated secure client portal.

GreatSoft Secretrial is part of the integrated GreatSoft CRM cloud solution that provides one platform and uses one central database for staff to access clients, contacts, work in progress, debtors, company secretarial and tax information. It includes a public interest score (PIS) calculator and the annual return system assists users in maintaining control of any returns. Relevant forms and documents are automatically generated in the register workflow while blank forms are available for ad-hoc use in the form filler.

Extra modules include:

- CRM and practice management
- Timesheets
- Disbursements and work in progress management
- Billings and debtor management
- Taxation
- General Ledger
- Creditors
- Payroll
- Cloud document management
- Secure client portal
- SARS automation
- Task centre alerts

GreatSoft Secretarial is available as a hosted solution allowing users to interact with the system through a Secure Internet Connection (SSL / HTTPS). Security permissions are assigned to user roles that are used to control access and privileges to functions, menus, command buttons, web controls and reports. Firms that wish to restrict staff access for specific offices or specific clients can do so using the Secure Views feature. GreatSoft outsources certification of the application security to recognised third-party organisations to ensure that the solution is subjected to rigorous security testing.

Greatsoft Tax	
Functionality	Tax compliance system
Entity types supported	Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities and Group Companies
Website information	www.greatsoft.co.za
Cost	Cost depends on the number of licences required and is related to the number of users. [44] Training: Costs scaled on a per day or per hour or per user basis dependent on the duration of the session. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Lee Williams Email: leew@greatsoft.co.za Telephone number: 071 886 9625
After-sale support	Call centre available from 8am to 5pm on weekdays.

Overview

GreatSoft Tax is a cloud-based tax compliance system that delivers tax calculators for ITR12, IT14 and ITR12T with direct submissions to SARS e-Filing for income tax and provisional tax. It provides customisable workflows for income tax returns with a useful review and approval process before submission of tax returns to SARS. SARS correspondence is automatically downloaded when issued on e-Filing; including assessments, audit letters, statement of accounts.

Automated reminders can be set up to ensure that you receive all your important alerts timeously, and that no queries or late submissions slip through the cracks. In addition, staff can create alerts to track outstanding information for follow-up. It has a powerful query-management and entry-capturing tool. The SARS automation service allows for the collection and submission of tax return data and documents. Letters and billing can be generated in bulk, and distributed using the CDM Integrated Secure Client Portal.

GreatSoft is a SARS certified independent software vendor (ISV) which allows us to keep up with the latest SARS changes and keep our calculator at the cutting edge of the software market.

As a cloud product is part of the integrated GreatSoft CRM solution which provides a single platform and uses one central database for staff to access clients, contacts, work in progress, debtors, company secretarial and tax information. The solution offers a secure integrated document management portal allowing for documents to be easily shared with clients.

Extra modules include:

- CRM and practice management
- Timesheets
- Disbursements and work in progress management
- Billings and debtor management
- Secretarial
- General Ledger
- Creditors
- Payroll
- Cloud document management
- Secure client portal
- SARS automation
- Task centre alerts.

GreatSoft Tax is available as a hosted solution allowing users to interact with the system through a Secure Internet Connection (SSL / HTTPS). Security permissions are assigned to user roles that are used to control access and privileges to functions, menus, command buttons, web controls and reports. Firms that wish to restrict staff access for specific offices or specific clients can do so using the Secure Views feature. GreatSoft outsources certification of the application security to recognised third-party organisations to ensure that the solution is subjected to rigorous security testing.

44. Clients charged on a monthly per user basis.

Inflo	
Functionality	Analysing client data bases
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies and Group Companies.
Website information	www.inflosoftware.com
Cost	£975 per month Bespoke subscription from as little as £499[45]
Contact details	Contact person: Kathryn Woolgar Email: Kathryn.woolgar@inflosoftware.com Telephone number: +44 (0) 7946 512752
After-sale support	24/7 Support Dedicated support from Inflo's Customer Experience team, consisting of ex practitioners and former finance directors. Comprehensive suite of training, templates and system monitoring to enhance value.

Overview

Inflo is a data analytics software system that empowers accounting firms of all sizes with cutting-edge computing capabilities.

The next-generation software puts emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning at accountants' fingertips. Inflo digitally collaborates with clients to import client data, analyses large datasets through whole-population data analytics and visualises results in intuitive dashboards. Inflo automates significant levels of manual accounting work and makes it easy to identify anomalies and opportunities to improve organisational performance.

Inflo is transforming the accounting profession and providing international, national and regional accounting firms with the tools and guidance they need to thrive in the digital age.

Inflo works in real time and can ingest data from 100% of client accounting systems and be seamlessly integrated with existing methodologies, processes, and software in accounting firms.

Extra modules include:

- Request and Share: Request and Share is used by the accounting firms to easily and securely extract complete transactional detail from any clients' accounting systems in order to perform analysis on 100% of the clients' transactions. The prepared-by-client management aspect of Request and Share allows both the engagement team and the client team to securely collaborate and exchange files while allowing both parties to monitor the status of every request in real-time.
- Assess and Scope: Assess and Scope provides the auditors with capabilities to view complete transactional details as if they were within their client's accounting system. The module also provides powerful visualisations to easily spot anomalies in client data, as well as the ability to create discussions with their client on any items.
- Verify and Review: Verify and Review automates audit testing procedures by leveraging a built-in sampling and analysis tool and Inflo's complete access to financial data. This significantly streamlines testing procedures, eliminating the time consuming and fragmented manual approach used traditionally by auditors.
- Interrogate and Evaluate: Interrogate and Evaluate instantly provides a suite of complex routines run on every single transaction and provides valuable visualisations, giving accounting firms a powerful view of transactions that pose a heightened risk of fraud or error. Because Inflo performs the testing automatically with no scripting required, teams can focus on identifying trends and investigating anomalies. Teams can also leverage Inflo's Hybrid Intelligence to use built-in machine learning, RPA, and AI for a more advanced approach to error detection.
- Focus and Assure: Focus and Assure provides accounting firms with a unique way to visualise the relationships across an entire population of transactions, giving them an instant analysis of the ledger. This helps them quickly identify exceptions to key business processes such as the revenue and receivables cycle, reducing or replacing alternative accounting procedures.

45. All inclusive

- Insights: Insights gives the engagement team a comprehensive report of over 50 KPIs and financial statement ratios for their client, as well as benchmarking the results against the client's peers. This gives accounting firms the ability to discuss the results with their clients and provide additional value-adding services.

With Inflo, all data is stored within Microsoft Azure data centres which hold ISO 27001, 27017, 27018, HIPAA, FedRAMP, SOC 1 and SOC 2 compliance standards and certifications. Public-facing web systems are protected with dedicated firewalls, load balancers, DDOS & HTTP DOS mitigation, and IP reputation filtering.

Kounta	
Functionality	Hospitality Based Point Of Sale
Entity types supported	Hotels, Cafés, Shops, Fast Food places, Restaurants and Bistros
Website information	https://www.growthpoint.info
Cost	Cost: $50 upwards 1 on 1 training at $55 per hour. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Mark Houghton Email: mark@growthpoint.info or sales@growthpoint.info Telephone number: +263773238664
After-sale support	Live support 08:00-17:00 CAT Monday to Friday

Overview

Kounta provides an easy-to-use point of sale system with everything a hospitality business needs to grow.

Functionality include:

- Customise point of sale to work exactly how you need it. Easily set up multiple sites and registers, add products and variations, set prices, taxes and surcharges and link up your payment systems and printers.
- Take orders at the counter, at the table or via online ordering apps. Easily handle variations and add notes, names and tables to orders.
- Quickly take payments at the counter, at the table or via online ordering apps. Split bills, add tips or apply surcharges and accept cash, credit cards, account sales and more.
- Assign orders to tables, takeaway or delivery and instantly print production dockets in the kitchen, bar or wherever it needs to be produced.

New GX Advisory	
Functionality	Business management software
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies and Group Companies.
Website information	www.newgxadvisory.co.za
Cost	Cost is client specific Training based on an hourly rate depending on the complexity of training required. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Anja Goosen Email: anja@newgx.co.za Telephone number: 083 736 3934
After-sale support	24/7 Support call centre

Overview

New GX Advisory provides small- to medium-sized businesses with big company solutions and efficiencies. A suite of market-leading solutions to address the complete business management and processing needs made easily accessible. Further constraints and costs are eliminated by providing all solutions in a hosted environment.

New GX Advisory offers a broad range of products[46], providing customers with a variety of software and management solutions perfectly suited to their particular business system requirements to achieve business growth and success.

The various business management software solutions cover the following areas:

- Accounting
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
- Business Intelligence (BI)
- Electronic Document Management

New GX Advisory enables businesses to refocus on core competencies and creating value to all stakeholders by freeing key staff members from the burden of systems and process management. In addition, it provides insight and leadership to help reach the next level.

Security features include:
Password protection, authorisations and security levels set based on roles, back-up and recovery procedures and two-factor authentication.

46. Any module covering business-specific needs

PayFast	
Functionality	Payment processing service
Entity types supported	Sole proprietors, Partnerships, Private companies, Group companies, Academics, Charities, Attorneys and Doctors
Website information	www.payfast.co.za
Cost	Sign up and set up is free with no monthly fees. Small fee payable for every successfully completed transaction[47]
Contact details	Colleen Harrison Email: colleen.harrison@payfast.co.za +27 (0)21 300 4455
After-sale support	Telephone and email support during office hours on weekdays. Email support over weekends between 9am and 3pm.

Overview

PayFast enables individual, Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs) and South African businesses of all sizes to accept payments online. PayFast enables easy, secure and instant transfer of money from online buyers to sellers. Choose from individual, business or cause accounts for any type of South African business or NPO no matter the size. Merchants can accept funds from local and international customers from anywhere in the world in South African Rand.

A variety of payment methods to suit all customers include:

- Instant EFT
- Credit cards
- Masterpass
- Mobicred
- SCode
- Debit cards
- Bitcoin

Over 80 shopping cart integrations[48] including Xero cloud accounting software.

PayFast allows merchants to accept multiple payment methods through a single platform integration. By integrating PayFast with Xero, users can send invoices with a "pay now" link that gives customers the ability to settle accounts via credit card, instant EFT, Masterpass, and more. Invoices automatically reflect as paid in Xero.

PayFast is a PCI DSS Level 1 service provider which is the highest possible security standard.

47. All functions included
48. No development skills needed

PaySpace Payroll Software	
Functionality	Payroll management
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Private Companies, Listed Companies and Group Companies.
Website information	www.payspace.com
Cost	Competitive pricing per payslip[49] based on edition of choice. Classroom[50] and online training options are available for beginners and advanced users at a cost.
Contact details	Contact person: Marcelle Webb Email: sales@payspace.com Telephone number: 087 250 2500
After-sale and support	Online Customer Portal 24/7. Live phone support between 8am and 5 pm on weekdays.

Overview

PaySpace is a leader in true cloud-based Payroll and Human Capital Management Software and Services providing new, improved solutions to help businesses operate in the modern era where managers and employees have access to information at the touch of a button.

The cloud-based payroll and HR design anywhere, anytime and any device access. PaySpace is developed to provide multi-country, multicurrency and multi-language Payroll and HR solutions to organisations of all sizes and industry with an unrivalled footprint in 39 African countries. PaySpace payroll offers customers automated product and legislative updates, niche expatriate functionality and country-specific legislative reporting for the African continent, supporting national and multi-national corporations to overcome complex challenges, improving their business efficiency and compliance.

Unique features include:

- ISO 27001 certified
- POPI and GDPR compliant
- Pay-As-You-Go payments
- No annual licence fees
- Save on infrastructure
- Payroll specialist available for support, training, consulting, and outsourcing services
- Employee and manager self-service on any device
- Intelligent workflow and guidance
- No back-up processes required
- Seamless edition migration when required
- Expatriate management and international compliance
- 100% Cloud-based Payroll HR software and services
- API integration
- Automatic legislative and feature updates
- Cloud analytics
- Visual OrgCharts

Standard Built-in Features include:

- Leave management
- Employee self service
- Organisation structures
- Position management
- Succession and talent management
- Training and skills management
- Business process workflow

Add-ons:

- Workforce planning
- Performance management
- OrgChart
- Recruitment
- Cloud Analytics
- White label

PaySpace's cloud security offers the latest firewall protection, SSL encryption, and proprietary security products. PaySpace requires transport layer security - TLS 1.1 and later encryption protocol to maintain the highest security standards and promote the safety of customer data.

49. All functions included
50. Classroom training from R2 150 excl. VAT per delegate

"Practice Ignition completely removes the friction from the engagement process — we can see our conversion rates improving daily!"

Shaye Thyer, BDO

Practice Ignition turns your proposal, terms of service and invoicing into a single smart contract. It's fast, efficient and your clients will love it!

PRACTICE Ignition

Practice Ignition	
Functionality	Automate and streamline client on-boarding. Practice Ignition turns proposals, terms of service and invoicing into a single smart contract.
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Attorneys Trusts and Group Companies. Any company that would like to automate the creation and sending of contracts and proposals.
Website information	www.practiceignition.com
Cost	Pricing[51]: $79 up to 25 clients, $149 up to 250 clients, $375 up to 1000 clients. Both free[52] and paid training and setup provided.
Contact details	Contact person: Maria Lauring Email: maria@practiceignition.com Contact for support: Practice Ignition Support Email: support@practiceignition.com
After-sale support	24/7 Online Support

Overview

Practice Ignition helps firms streamline their client on-boarding process. With Practice Ignition, you send digital proposals in minutes to win more clients, faster. Proposals include formatted engagement letters and direct integration with Xero and QuickBooks Online for automated invoicing. Using Practice Ignition's Zapier Integration you can connect with a wide suite of applications, CRM and marketing tools to automate your work. Practice Ignition allows you to gain insights into your firm's growth and profitability with their business intelligence dashboard.

Features include:

- Automated proposals, letters of engagement and signatures.
- Client management: with an oversight of client data (address, contact info), client communication, contracts, proposals sent and invoices.
- Integrations: Integrations with Xero, Quickbooks Online, Xero Practice Manager, Workflow Max, Xero HQ and Zapier to automate client on-boarding.
- The Business insight dashboard allows you to forecast your success and make better decisions.

Practice Ignition's production systems run on Heroku, a popular cloud computing platform. All customer interaction with Practice Ignition servers is encrypted through the use of SSL. Practice Ignition SSL certificates use 256-bit encryption to protect data and are provided by Digicert. All data is backed up offsite daily for disaster recovery. Practice Ignition stores the minimum amount of data required in order to provide their services. Credit card details are never stored by Practice Ignition as credit cards are transmitted directly to their payment providers over SSL connections and are not logged or stored in Practice Ignition systems.

Software libraries used by Practice Ignition are actively kept up to date. Any security fixes or patches are treated as top priority and are applied as quickly as possible - normally within 24 hours of public release.

51. All functions included
52. Include online educational materials (all in-app guided tours, help articles and customer support)

ProfitQube®	
Functionality	Financial planning
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers and Group Companies.
Website information	www.crownapplications.com
Cost	Desktop Versions: [53] Services € 899 Trade € 1 199 Production € 1 399 Production PRO € 1 599 Payment in ZAR or USD accepted. User manual includes scenario and input data files for training. Additional Training and quotation available on demand.
Contact details	Contact person: Gian Paolo Avanzo Email: info@crownapplications.com Telephone number: +27 (0)71 025 4286
After-sale support	Free technical support provided during office hours based on emails received.

Overview

ProfitQube® is an enterprise integrated financial planning software powered by Excel/VBA®. ProfitQube® enables top managers, CFOs, entrepreneurs, bank managers, auditors, chartered accountants, tax advisers, financial analysts and business professionals to formulate integrated plans and verify company profitability over a period of 5 years.

Benefits include:

- Provide comprehensive financial deliverables to plan and monitor strategic goals
- Enable planning of profits and cash flows
- Manage sales planning
- Facilitate cost control and pricing
- Optimise assets and funds planning
- Streamline and optimise capacity planning and supply chain

ProfitQube® is a professional application designed to adopt best business practices.

ProfitQube® is suitable for services, trade and production companies. It can be used by both SMMEs and corporations as a management decision support application.

Each version is comprehensive of all relevant modules and further releases will add other modules depending on the market requirements.

ProfitQube® is MS Office PW protected (OfficeProtect Windows 3.0.2) and is XLSM encrypted.

53. All functions included

ReceiptBank™

SAICA
THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

MAKE BOOKKEEPING EFFORTLESS

All your clients' transaction records .
No paper, no chasing, no data entry.

WORK SMARTER
Easy automation for the collection, processing and publishing of receipts and invoices.

GROW FASTER
Use the time saved on manual tasks to take on more clients, offer new services and stay competitive.

GO FURTHER
Offer your clients the best experience, while advising them with accurate, real time data, and become their trusted advisor.

Request your personal consultation at **receiptbank.com**

ReceiptBank	
Functionality	Capture of transaction data
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Attorneys Trusts, Academic Institutions, Medical Aids, Pension Funds, Debt collectors, Doctors, Farmers and Group Companies.
Website information	www.receiptbank.com
Cost	Monthly subscription, cost depended on size of firm.[54] Bank statement extraction available for an additional cost per statement. Free training provided.
Contact details	Contact person: Alex Clark Email: alex@receipt-bank.com Telephone number: 020 3699 5006
After-sale support	24/7 email support and phone support within office hours.

Overview

Receipt Bank provides an easy way to get your clients' transaction data into your accounting system with no paper, no chasing and no data entry.

Clients can send receipts and invoices anytime, anywhere via app or email, and the system will extract[55] the key details. All you as a practitioner need to do is review the information and publish it to your accounting software. The information is stored securely in the cloud, accessible anywhere. And, with payment records digitised you can take your whole practice paperless. Since clients are sending you paperwork instantly, you can advise them with accurate, real-time data as their trusted advisor.

Users can upgrade to increased automation to take more of the workload off their hands. Features include automatic publishing to cloud software, automatic categorisation and hands-free matching with bank statements.

Receipt Bank offers an all-in-one dashboard for tracking your firm's internal activity and workflows. Monitor workloads, track client behaviour and manage automation levels to improve the efficiency of your firm and your processes.

Data is stored in secure servers with bank level encryption at rest and in transit. All servers are backed up regularly, and data can be retrieved even if you are no longer a customer.

54. All functions included and cover unlimited usage
55. 99.9% data extraction accuracy

SAGE Business Cloud Financials	
Functionality	Reporting
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies, Charities, Academic Institutions, Group Companies, Professional Services, Financial Services, Educational companies, NPOs and Property Management.
Website information	www.sage.com/za/financials
Cost	R 6 325 for 10 users[56] per month. Training prices dependent on implementation and certification courses. End-user courses dependent number of delegates and can happen on-site. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Mohammed Mosam / Liezel White Email: salesleads@sage.com Telephone number: 011 304 3000 / 012 420 7201
After-sale support	Digital self-help is available 24/7 via the customer portal and web chat available during office hours and with certified partners.

Overview

Sage Business Cloud Financials provides a progressive platform that helps empower employees, delight customers, and optimise business operations. Sage Business Cloud Financials allows you to act on key insights from the single version of the truth and accelerate business performance. Start automating processes, collect data accurately and use powerful forecasting capabilities so you can anticipate changes before they affect your business.

Financials from Sage, built on Salesforce™ powerfully connects your back office to your front office on one intelligent customer success platform. Financials combines innovation in intelligence, speed, productivity, mobility and connectivity to transform your business in moments and a scalable platform that grows with you. Unleash the power to grow with mobile, multi-dimensional, multi-company and multi-legislation accounting in the cloud.

Sage Business Cloud Financials provide an affordable scaled-up accounting product that is mobile and cloud-ready and includes the following features:

- Multi-dimensional
- Multi-currency
- Multi-legislation
- Multi-lingual
- Company consolidation
- Built-in business intelligence and analytics
- Workflows
- Time and billing
- Extensive reporting

A connected ecosystem to run your entire business.

A large variety of vertical apps and built-in modules are also available such as:

- Property management
- Document management
- Business intelligence
- Productivity (time and billing)
- Inventory management and fixed assets.

Security features include:

- Platform security
- User authentication security
- Network-based security
- Session security
- Data auditing security
- Security tokens
- OAuth

56. Additional users can be purchased at R1 495 per business user per month and R489 per operating user per month

Shopify eCommerce & POS (Point Of Sale)	
Functionality	E-commerce and POS
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies and Group Companies.
Website information	https://www.growthpoint.info
Cost	Cost: $29 upwards one-to-one training at $55 per hour. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Mark Houghton Email: mark@growthpoint.info Or sales@growthpoint.info Telephone number: +263773238664
After-sale support	Live support 08:00-17:00 CAT Monday to Friday

Overview

Shopify allows you to sell online, on social media, in store, or out of the trunk of your car.

With Shopify you can establish your brand online with a custom domain name and online store. With access to hundreds of themes, Shopify allows you to have complete control over the look and feel of your business.

Shopify allows you to sell your products in many places by simplifying it as if it's selling in one. With Shopify's e-commerce software, you get one unified platform to run your business with ease.

Spotlight Reporting	
Functionality	Integrated reporting and forecasting
Entity types supported	Private companies, Group Companies and Accounting Firms.
Website information	www.spotlightreporting.com
Cost	Advisor pricing starting from R 1 500 – R 3 000 per month[57] Free Training Provided.
Contact details	Contact person: Eugene Scheepers Email: eugene@spotlightreporting.com
After-sale support	24/7 Support[58]

Overview

Spotlight Reporting provides integrated reporting and forecasting that allows you to create insights to inform better business outcomes. Designed by accountants for accountants, their cloud-based financial and non-financial reporting, dashboards and forecasts allow accountants to expand their service options, revenue and client satisfaction. By focusing on what really matters to your client's business and delivering valuable insight in an interesting and creative way, you become part of their success story. From leading sources of financial data like Xero, to other non-financial data from Google Analytics, they bring useful data together in a highly visual format. Their PDF, email and online options make sharing reports with your clients super easy.

Comprehensive suite of reporting offerings include:

- Dashboards
- Management reporting
- 3-way forecasting
- Multi-entity consolidation available individually or 'all in one'.

Extra modules:

- Spotlight dashboards
- Spotlight reporting
- Spotlight forecasting
- Spotlight Multi

Spotlight Reporting is committed to protecting customers' data from unauthorised access, modifications or disclosure. They comply with legislation covering security and privacy of customers' data in all major countries where Spotlight Reporting is available. They make use of a world-class network, data and physical security environment to ensure that the highest level of security is maintained.

57. Client number dependent and all functions included
58. Email support: support@spotlightreporting.com first instance of priority

Syft Analytics	
Functionality	Reporting add-on for cloud accounting software that automates management accounting
Entity types supported	Accountants
Website information	www.syftanalytic.com
Cost	Business[59] - Free Growing Accountant[60] - $49 per month Pro Accountant[61] 30-day free trial on paid packages[62] Free Training provided
Contact details	Contact person: Vangelis Kyriazis Email: van@syftanalytics.com Telephone number: +27109004349
After-sale support	24/7 Support

Overview

Syft Analytics is a reporting add-on for Xero, Sage Business Cloud[19] and QuickBooks Online that automates management accounting. Syft visualises financial data across a business's profit, cash, customers and suppliers whilst providing live ratio and variance analysis on the income statement and balance sheet. Syft's array of graphs and reports can be combined into a professional, branded PDF report pack that can be downloaded or scheduled to be periodically sent to your clients.

Unique features include:

- Instant Xero, Sage Business Cloud (formerly Sage One) and QuickBooks Online integration
- Data visualisation across profit, cash, customers and suppliers
- Branded PDF report packs
- Automated commentary
- Scheduled email reporting
- Forecasting
- Exception or anomaly reporting

59. Unlimited companies and single user
60. Unlimited companies and users
61. Unlimited companies and users
62. No credit card required
63. Formally SAGE One

TallOrder Point of Sale (POS)	
Functionality	Cloud Point of Sale solution
Entity types supported	Private Companies.
Website information	www.tallorder.mobi
Cost	Standard version: R500 pm[64] per licence (all inclusive) Lite version: R250 pm per licence Paid for training can be provided [65]
Contact details	Contact person: Anna Groenewald Email: anna@cloudone.mobi Telephone number: 082 499 9355
After-sale support	24/7 Support as well as access to extensive FAQs Support contact details: info@cloudone.mobi Telephone number: 072 863 0116

Overview

TallOrder is a fully integrated cloud Point of Sale solution built to improve speed and accuracy. TallOrder POS will help grow your business with a powerful, affordable and easy-to-use cloud POS solution.

Top TallOrder POS features include:

- Xero Integration: Line-level integration with Xero accounting software.
- Sage Integration: Deep, order-line integration to Sage One and Sage Pastel accounting systems.
- Cloud Benefits: We take care of security, backups, updates and integration.
- Smart Reporting: Fast, secure reporting on any device, anywhere.
- Payment Agnostic: Integrated with all leading payment providers.
- Inventory Management: Help customers track and manage stock, making sure that the system will provide the correct data about the stock levels.

TallOrder is a CloudOne.mobi[66] product. ToGo, TallOrder's online ordering app, allows customers to order and pay directly and remotely from their personal devices.

64. Volume discount applicable
65. Per hour depending on size of firm
66. www.cloudone.mobi

Unleashed	
Functionality	Advanced Inventory Control
Entity types supported	Sole Proprietors, Partnerships, Private Companies, Listed Companies and Group Companies.
Website information	https://www.growthpoint.info
Cost	Cost: $99 upwards one-to-one training at $55 per hour. Other functions charged separately.
Contact details	Contact person: Mark Houghton Email: mark@growthpoint.info Or sales@growthpoint.info Telephone number: +263773238664
After-sale support	Live support 08:00-17:00 CAT Monday to Friday

Overview

As a cloud-based platform, Unleashed software creates an enterprise-level business management solution to streamline your business. Synchronising your data to the best-of-breed applications you need to run your business.

Real-time stock visibility that maximise control, allowing you to understand product margins and assist in better decision-making based on real-time, accurate profit reporting.

Xero Practice Manager (XPM)	
Functionality	Practice Management tool
Entity types supported	Accounting practices
Website information	www.xero.com/za/features-and-tools/practice-tools/practicemanager/
Cost	From R650 per month[67] Other functions charged separately Free training provided
Contact details	Contact person: Colin Timmis Email: partnerteam@xero.com Telephone number: 082 788 9252
After-sale support	Free and unlimited support 24/7[68] together with online videos[69] and courses[70]

Overview

Reduce administrative overheads using Practice Manager to record time, monitor work in progress, and run invoicing and powerful reports.

Features include:

- Build practice templates for recurring jobs and processes to automate workflows and reporting.
- Streamline client invoicing by converting work-in-progress records to invoices, and bill clients directly from within Xero Practice Manager.
- Keep tabs on progress - define your own jobs to manage workflow, create tasks and monitor staff performance and client profitability.
- Manage staff, client work, time, deliverables and new leads easily and efficiently on any device, from anywhere.

Additional features:

- Create a job once, and allow it to recur at set time.
- Attach documents, time, emails and notes to jobs.
- Manage your entire sales funnel and sales process.
- Build job Templates with tasks, budgets, milestones and deliverables.
- Create custom reports on any field on any job or client.
- Group companies, shareholders and directors for easy reporting.
- Add custom fields as necessary to a contact.
- Use Open API to push and pull data between XPM and other systems.
- Add Practice Manager to your website, and have leads automatically created in XPM

Xero produced a Service Organisation Control (SOC 2) report which is the result of an independent auditor's examination of Xero's cloud based accounting system relevant to the Trust Services Principles and Criteria for Security, Availability, and Confidentiality; to monitor uptime. Xero encrypts all data that goes between the client and Xero using industry-standard TLS (Transport Layer Security) and data is encrypted at rest when stored on their servers.

67. Free for growing Xero Partners
68. Access to Help Centre: https://help.xero.com/
69. http://tv.xero.com
70. http://www.xero.com/za/training

Xero Workpapers	
Functionality	Working papers solution
Entity types supported	Accounting practices
Website information	www.xero.com/za/features-and-tools/practice-tools/workpapers/
Cost	From 650 per month[71] Other functions charged separately Free training
Contact details	Contact person: Colin Timmis Email: colin.timmis@xero.com Telephone number: 082 788 9252
After-sale support	Free and unlimited support 24/7[72] together with online videos[73] and courses[74]

Overview

Take control of your compliance workflow with Xero Workpapers.

Unique features:

- Share and work anywhere: your team can prepare, review and approve workpapers from any device. Easy to work remotely, share data, and export workpapers as zip files or PDFs, with or without source files.
- Create custom workpapers: in addition to the suite of preformatted workpapers, you can create your own to suit your practice's compliance and financial reporting needs covering any period up to 366 days.
- No adjustment double-handling: post draft or approved adjustment journals from Xero Workpapers directly into a Xero organisation, so the financials remain up to date without duplicate work.
- Store source documents in the logical place: drag and drop files so they sit with the relevant data line.
- Provide personalised service through the secure client query portal: clients can answer queries and upload documents straight to the relevant workpaper.

Xero produced a Service Organisation Control (SOC 2) report which is the result of an independent auditor's examination of Xero's cloud based accounting system relevant to the Trust Services Principles and Criteria for Security, Availability, and Confidentiality; to monitor uptime. Xero encrypts all data that goes between the client and Xero using industry-standard TLS (Transport Layer Security) and data is encrypted at rest when stored on their servers.

71. Free for growing Xero Partners
72. Access to Help Centre: https://help.xero.com/
73. http://tv.xero.com
74. http://www.xero.com/za/training

SUMMARY

Accounts Production Software

Product	Cloud / Desktop	Offline option with automatic upload	Multi-user access	Training included in price	24/7 Support	SARS compliant	Compliance with ECT[75] Act	Windows (W), Linux (L) and Mac (M)	Import function (supported files)	Export function Excel, Word, PDF, Other	Integration	Scalable	Data encryption and SSL security
CaseWare Working Papers	Both	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	W/M	Yes[76]	Yes Excel Word PDF Other [77]	Yes	Yes	Yes
CaseWare Cloud	Cloud	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	W/L/M	Yes	Yes Excel Word PDF Other[78]	Yes	Yes	Yes
Draftworx	Both	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[79]	Yes Excel Word PDF	Yes[80]	Yes	Yes

75. Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 2002
76. 98 Accounting Packages are supported through a direct import. Simple Excel and ASCII imports expand this integration to unlimited packages. Caseware local team also customise integration with other large ERP's through their API.
77. XBRL, iXBRL, HTML, RTF, and many others
78. XBRL, IXBRL, HTML, RFT and many others
79. Microsoft Excel, Word and PDF
80. Draftworx integrates with FNB Instant Accounting, all Sage and QuickBooks products, Excel, WebAccounting, Tally and much more

Accounting Software

Product	Cloud / Desktop	Offline option with automatic upload	Multi-user access	Training included in price	24/7 Support	SARS compliant	Compliance with ECT[81] Act	Windows (W), Linux (L) and Mac (M)	Import function (supported files)	Export function Excel, Word, PDF, Other	Integration	Scalable	Data encryption and SSL security
Microsoft Dynamics 365	Both	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes[82]	No	W	Yes[83]	Yes Excel Word PDF	Yes[84]	Yes	Yes
Palladium	Both[85]	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	W	Yes[86]	Yes Excel Word PDF	Yes[87]	Yes	Yes
QuickBooks Online	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[88]	Yes Excel Word PDF	Yes[89]	Yes	Yes
SAP Business One	Both	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	-	W/L/M	Yes[90]	Yes Excel Word PDF	Yes[91]	Yes[92]	Yes
Xero	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	W/L/M	Yes[93]	Yes Excel Word Pdf Other[94]	Yes[95]	Yes	Yes
Sage Business Cloud Accounting	Both	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No[96]	W/L/M	Yes[97]	Yes Excel Word Pdf	Yes[98]	Yes	Yes

81. Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 2002
82. Via partner add-ons.
83. Multiple import methods including Excel file import, direct import from other database and custom file import is possible with Dynamics 365.
84. Dynamics 365 uses REST API / Service based integration patterns to integrate with variety of line of business or custom applications developed on industry standard platforms.
85. Works via desktop application with on premises or cloud hosted data
86. Most files from Excel to the traditional CSV or TXT file
87. Palladium integrates with Vodacom Switch for Retailers, Dawn Wing Couriers, various websites through API, Promtek Production planning as well as various scales
88. CSV, XLS, XLSX, Desktop data
89. QuickBooks Online integrates with Draftworx and AutoEntry. Other integrations include Chaser, Receipt Bank, Hubdoc, TSheets, Spotlight Reporting, Tradify, and many more.
90. CSV, PDF, Excel and Word
91. SAP Business One integrates with VIP Payroll, Fourthshift Manufacturing, other SAP Products, Altura Pledge, Enterpryze, Coresuite, and over 100 other systems.
92. Limitation to system after 1500 users
93. Xero offers free conversions from Sage, QuickBooks and Smartedge with www.cloudconvert.co.za. Users can manually import data using either CSV, OFX, QIF or TXT files or import data using the open API. Xero also offers custom data conversion services from other accounting products or sources.
94. TXT, XML, XLS, CSV, PDF, Google Sheets and via API
95. Over 600 apps connect with Xero
96. ISV integration
97. CSV
98. Sage Business Cloud Accounting integrates with a vast range of applications including auditing & financial software, business process automation, business reporting, cashflow management, CRM systems, debt management & collection, e-commerce, inventory management, job cards, asset management, marketing systems, POS, practise management, project management, time tracking systems, warehousing, and workflow management systems.

Accounting Software Applications and / or Add-ons

Product	Cloud / Desktop	Offline option with automatic upload	Multi-user access	Training included in price	24/7 Support	SARS compliant	Compliance with ECT[99] Act	Windows (W), Linux (L) and Mac (M)	Import function (supported files)	Export function Excel, Word, PDF, Other	Integration	Scalable	Data encryption and SSL security
AutoEntry	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/M	Yes[100]	Yes Other[101]	Yes[102]	Yes	Yes
CaseWare Audit International	Both	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	W	Yes[103]	Yes Excel Word, PDF, Other[104]	Yes	Yes	Yes
CaseWare Practice Management	Both	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	-	W/L/M	Yes	Yes Excel Word, PDF, Other[105]	Yes	Yes	Yes
CaseWare Probe Engagements	Both	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	W	Yes[106]	Yes Excel Word, PDF, Other[107]	Yes	Yes	Yes
Confirmation.com	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[108]	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes[109]	Yes	Yes
Cync	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[110]	Yes Pdf, Other	Yes	Yes	Yes
Futrli	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	-	W/L/M	Yes[111]	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes[112]	Yes	Yes
G-Suite	Cloud	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[113]	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes	Yes	Yes
GreatSoft CDM	Cloud	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/A	Yes	W/M	Yes[114]	Yes Excel Word, PDF	Yes[115]	Yes	Yes

99. Electronic Communications and Transactions Act.
100. PDF, TIFF, JPEG, DOC, DOCX, XLS and XLSX for invoices, PDF, JPEG and TIFF for bank statements
101. XLS, CSV and mapped CSV files specific to individual accounting packages
102. AutoEntry integrates with all leading accounting software providers, including QuickBooks Online, QuickBooks Desktop, SageCloud, Sage Accounting, Sage Financials, Sage50, Xero, AccountsIQ, ClearBooks, FreeAgent, KashFlow and Exact.
103. 98 Accounting packages are supported through a direct import. Simple Excel and ASCII imports expand this integration to unlimited packages. CaseWare local teams also customise integration with other large ERP's through their API.
104. XBRL, iXBRL, HTML, RTF and many others.
105. XBRL, iXBRL, HTML, RFT and many others
106. 98 Accounting packages are supported through a direct import. Simple Excel and ASCII imports expand this integration to unlimited packages. CaseWare local teams also customise integration with other large ERP's through their API.
107. XBRL, iXBRL, HTML, RTF and any others.
108. Excel CSV files, PDF, Word and certain images such as PNG
109. Various API web service offerings available.
110. Accounting data (Xero / Sage / QuickBooks, etc.)
111. CSV, Accounts data from Xero and QuickBooks Online
112. Futrli integrates with Xero, QuickBooks, Sage, MyOb and CVS
113. CSV, XLS and XLSX
114. Microsoft Excel
115. Greatsoft CDM integrates with GreatSoft CRM, Xero XPM / WorkflowMax, APS, CCH, HandiSoft, HowNow, MYOB and Paper Buster.

Product	Cloud / Desktop	Offline option with automatic upload	Multi-user access	Training included in price	24/7 Support	SARS compliant	Compliance with ECT[99] Act	Windows (W), Linux (L) and Mac (M)	Import function (supported files)	Export function Excel, Word, PDF, Other	Integration	Scalable	Data encryption and SSL security
GreatSoft CRM	Cloud	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[116]	Yes Excel Word, PDF	Yes[117]	Yes	Yes
GreatSoft Payroll	Cloud	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[118]	Yes Excel Word, PDF	Yes[119]	Yes	Yes
GreatSoft Secretarial	Cloud	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/A	Yes	W/L/M	No	Yes Excel, Word, Pdf	Yes[120]	Yes	Yes
GreatSoft Tax	Both	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	W/M	Yes[121]	Yes Excel, Word, PDF	Yes[122]	Yes	Yes
Inflo	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[123]	Yes Excel, Word,PDF, Other[124]	Yes[125]	Yes	Yes
Kounta	Cloud	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[126]	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes	Yes	Yes
New GX Advisory	Cloud	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	W/L/M	Yes	Yes Excel, Word, Pdf	Yes	Yes	Yes
PayFast	Cloud	No	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	W/L/M	No	Yes Other[127]	Yes[128]	Yes	Yes
PaySpace Payroll	Cloud	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[129]	Yes Excel, Word, Pdf	Yes[130]	Yes	Yes
Practice Ingnition	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes[131]	Yes	Yes[131]	N/A	W/L/M	Yes[132]	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes[133]	Yes	Yes

116. Microsoft Excel and Microsoft SQL Database data
117. GreatSoft CRM integrates with their tax, secretarial and cloud document management products
118. XLSX and CSV type files can be imported to update new salary packages as well as manage any ad hoc changes to the current salary or wage system
119. Greatsoft Payroll integrates with various HR specific systems where the need for advanced HR functionality is a requirement. Various accounting software packages to allow Costing and GL integration, various time and attendance systems to allow timesheet integration
120. Greatsoft Secretarial integrates with Nimbus Portal Solutions and Orbis Task Centre
121. Microsoft Excel
122. Greatsoft Tax integrates with GreatSoft Cloud Document Management, Nimbus Portal Solutions and Orbis Task Centre
123. All accounting systems and any data format.
124. CSV, TXT, and .ZIP and any original upload format
125. Inflo has API integration with the Accounting Software Products (e.g. Xero, SAGE, QuickBooks). They also have PUSH and PULL APIs developed with customers to help integrate with their other internal systems (such as practice management, compliant or advisory dashboarding).
126. CSV, XLS and XLSX
127. XERO format and CSV separated
128. PayFast integrates with more than 80 popular platforms, including Xero, Shopify, WooCommerce and Magento
129. Microsoft Excel
130. PaySpace Payroll integrates with all accounting software e.g. Xero & Sage
131. Both free and paid training and setup provided. Free training includes online educational materials, whereas paid training is done with a member of the team to help ensure a successful setup. As part of the paid setup, PI work together to implement practices with the correct templates and settings, complete their account setup and have access to ongoing training and support
132. Client and proposal data via CSV
133. Practice Ignition integrates with Xero, QBO, Xero Practice Manager, Workflow Max, Xero HQ and Zapier

Product	Cloud / Desktop	Offline option with automatic upload	Multi-user access	Training included in price	24/7 Support	SARS compliant	Compliance with ECT Act	Windows (W), Linux (L) and Mac (M)	Import function (supported files)	Export function Excel, Word, PDF, Other	Integration	Scalable	Data encryption and SSL security
ProfitQube®	Desktop	Yes	No	Yes	No	N/A	Yes with exceptions	W	No	Yes Excel, Word, Pdf	No	Yes[134]	No
ReceiptBank	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	W/L/M	Yes[135]	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sage Business Cloud Financials	Cloud	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	W/M	Yes[136]	Yes Pdf, Other[137]	Yes[138]	Yes[139]	Yes
Shopify	Cloud	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[140]	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spotlight Reporting	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	W/M	Yes[141]	Yes Pdf	Yes[142]	Yes[143]	Yes
Syft Analytics	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	No	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes[144]	Yes	Yes
TallOrder Point of Sale	Both	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[145]	Yes Excel, PDF	Yes[146]	Yes	Yes
Unleashed	Cloud	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	W/L/M	Yes[147]	Yes Excel, PDF	Yes[148]	Yes	Yes
Xero Practice Manager	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	-	W/M	Yes[149]	Yes Excel, Pdf Other[150]	Yes[151]	Yes	Yes
Xero Workpaper	Cloud	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	-	W/M	Yes	Yes Excel, Pdf	Yes[152]	Yes	Yes

134. ProfitQube® is not aimed to manage massive data such as transactional applications. The scope is to simulate integrated business processes and analyse the "What-if" impact of different scenarios. Further releases will manage a business size increase. ProfitQube® manages 100 service items, 100 production items and 300 trade items.
135. JPG, PNG, TIFF, DOC, PDF, CSV and XLS
136. CSV file formats
137. CSV file formats
138. SAGE Business Cloud Financials integrates with Salesforce CRM and many other verical applications on the Salesforce Ecosystem.
139. Company employee size between 20 - 199
140. CSV, XLS and XLSX
141. Directly via API or CSV
142. Spotlight Reporting integrates with Xero, QuickBooks, MYOB, Excel, Google Analytics, WorkflowMax, Sage (coming soon)
143. Consolidation of up to 500 companies
144. Xero, Sage Business Cloud and QuickBooks Online
145. CSV and Microsoft Excel
146. TallOrder Point of Sale integrates with Xero, Pastel , QuickBooks , MailChimp, Sage Accounting, Sage Financials (Sage Pastel and Sage One)
147. CSV, XLS and XLSX
148. Growth Point Solutions integrates with Shopify, Vend, Xero, Magento, Salesforce, Lodad, Wink Reports, Neatly.io, OneSaas, ZEALD, GeoOp, 135. Shiptheory, CrossfireEDI, PlanIT, Neto, StarShipIT, Unleashed and CyberWorkshop
149. CSV and there is an Open API
150. Open API available
151. Practice Ignition, Box, Dropbox, Google Drive, Suite Files, Spotlight Reporting, Zendesk, OneSaaS, Xero Workpapers and more...
152. Xero and Xero Practice Manager

PRODUCT FUNCTIONALITY

Software	General ledger	Accounts receivable	Accounts payable	Payroll	Reporting	Annual financial statements production	Working papers	Mobile Access (tablet or phone)	Time Tracking	Inventory	Multi-currency	iXBRL	Audit trail	Additional
AutoEntry	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	
CaseWare Audit International	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	Audit International (AI) provides firms with a robust, automated risk-based auditing solution.
CaseWare Cloud	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	Caseware cloud solution deals with all aspects of the CaseWare ecosystem as well as storage and security of data, providing large and small firms a new way to collaborate. This cloud offering allows you to take control of your firm with unprecedented visibility into your engagements, helping you to increase efficiency and productivity.
CaseWare Practice Management	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	Managing customer projects as well as staff time and fees just became easier with CaseWare's practice management tools. Utilising the power of CaseWare Cloud, sync all accounts and audit tasks connected to a client in one place.
CaseWare Probe Engagements	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	Probe Audit is an intuitive methodology that complies with the latest International Standards on Auditing designed to streamline your audit engagement by making it more efficient. It is a unique risk-based methodology developed in South Africa that provide users with flexibility to choose the audit response that will best achieve a cost effective and quality audit.

Software	General ledger	Accounts receivable	Accounts payable	Payroll	Reporting	Annual financial statements production	Working papers	Mobile Access (tablet or phone)	Time Tracking	Inventory	Multi-currency	iXBRL	Audit trail	Additional
CaseWare Working Papers	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	A hybrid solution that works on and offline and integrates seamlessly with their Secure Cloud Storage and Collaboration solution. Two Audit Methodologies (Probe and AI), Management Reports, connector enables direct linkage for reporting from the CaseWare Data Base, automatic documents that is easily customizable to produce Ratio analysis, working papers, reconciliations in the Working Papers solution, consolidation capability with audit trail across engagement files, "Review on the Go" in the cloud facilitate collaboration between CaseWare and non-CaseWare users.
Confirmation.com	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	The system facilitate online, electronic audit confirmations. This includes amongst others: bank, legal, accounts receivable and accounts payable audit confirmations. The system has audit trails, reporting and various user profile types and functionality.
Cync	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	
Draftworx	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	
Futrli	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	Up to 10 year scenarios & forecasts, Innovative PDF Report building engine, KPI Library, Market leading certification program, global reach, use of non-financial information, customisable formula building, full bespoke white labelling
G Suite	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	

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GreatSoft CDM	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	A Cloud Document Management System that provide organisations with a secure and centralized place to store documents. A Secure Client Portal for document sharing and collaboration with clients.
GreatSoft CRM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	Automated email reminders/alerts and reporting; multi office/branch/entity support; budgets and staff planning event and task management; bulk billing from completed tax returns and period specific recurring billing.
GreatSoft Payroll	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	UIF Electronic submission, IRP5/IT3(a) Certificate and E@syfile submission, COIDA returns, Employment Equity and reporting, leave management, bulk processing and approvals, generate EFT files for employee's and 3rd party payments. Can be easily adapted to work in other tax jurisdictions.
GreatSoft Secretarial	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	Corporate governance and company secretarial practice document generation, annual return maintenance, public interest score calculator, form filler, corporate register maintenance.
GreatSoft Tax	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	Tax Compliance and tax calculations for ITR12, IT14 and ITR12T with direct submissions to SARS e-Filing for income tax and Provisional Tax. Customizable workflows for income tax returns with a review and approval process before submission of tax returns to SARS. SARS correspondence is automatically downloaded when issued on e-Filing; including assessments, audit letters, statements of account. Automated reminders can be set up. Staff can also create alerts to track outstanding information for follow-up. It has a powerful Query management and Entry capturing tool. Letters and Billing can be generated in bulk. Letters can also be distributed using the CDM Integrated Secure Client Portal

Software	General ledger	Accounts receivable	Accounts payable	Payroll	Reporting	Annual financial statements production	Working papers	Mobile Access (tablet or phone)	Time Tracking	Inventory	Multi-currency	iXBRL	Audit trail	Additional
Kounta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	
Inflo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	Assurance – audit, financial statement preparation, compilations and reviews, outsourcing, Agreed upon Procedures Tax – audit assist, corporate tax consulting Consulting – forensics, internal audit, due diligence
Microsoft Dynamics 365	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Microsoft partners provide localized payroll in the country due to unique local legal requirements.
New GX Advisory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Palladium	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	Warehousing with multi-bins. Distribution. Assembly and process manufacturing. Projects. Point of Sale.
PayFast	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	
PaySpace	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	Provide payroll and human capital management software.
Practice Ignition	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	Streamline and automate client on-boarding, management, proposals and billing.

Software	General ledger	Accounts receivable	Accounts payable	Payroll	Reporting	Annual financial statements production	Working papers	Mobile Access (tablet or phone)	Time Tracking	Inventory	Multi-currency	iXBRL	Audit trail	Additional
ProfitQube®	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	A Management Accounting application for planning with enhanced functionalities such as: Sales; Overheads; Personnel; Price / Quantity variance analysis; Discrete/ Continuous Production Processes; Capacity Planning; Product Cost and Inventory calculation; Bill of Material; Production Overheads Absorption Methods; Previous Financial Year link; Charts, IFRS Reporting, Breakeven point calculation (single and multiproduct /service), Dashboard, Ratios & KPI's and more.
QuickBooks Online Accountant	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Receipt Bank	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	
Sage Business Cloud Accounting	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Integrate with Sage Business Cloud Payroll to provide accurate, compliant payslips for each pay period. Absence, attachments, bonuses, expenses, holiday pay, hourly payments, overtime, PAYE, pensions, salaries and student loans.
Sage Business Cloud Financials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	To record sales and receipts, track cash flow. Create, edit and send invoices. Connect to bank accounts. Manage VAT and submit online returns to SARS. Integrated multi-country legislation. Powerful, multi-dimensional reporting. Cloud solution with customisable user roles. Full Salesforce CRM integration

Software	General ledger	Accounts receivable	Accounts payable	Payroll	Reporting	Annual financial statements production	Working papers	Mobile Access (tablet or phone)	Time Tracking	Inventory	Multi-currency	iXBRL	Audit trail	Additional
SAP Business one	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Inventory, Project management, analytics, fixed assets, CRM, production, material resources planning, services and resources.
Shopify	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	
Spotlight Reporting	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Syft Analytics	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	
TallOrder	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	
Unleashed	X	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	
Xero	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	Tool in managing accounting practice. Easily manages jobs, captures time spent and gives access to client details from anywhere, at any time and on any device.
Xero Practice Manager	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	
Xero Workpaper	X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	

KEY SOURCES CONSULTED IN COMPILING INTRODUCTION SECTION INCLUDE (NOT EXHAUSTIVE):

ICAEW Accounts production Software, 2017 Edition

Top five advantages of software as a service (Saas), Written by: Marcos Sylos, September 2013

Computer software for business: Advantages and disadvantages of Software as a Service