



BillQuick Subscribes to “Time is Money” Philosophy

Add-on products provide a Web interface for remote users

—By Susan Barnett

According to BQE Software, Inc., “Time is Money.” BillQuick 2004 (version 5.0) provides a complete, easy-to-use, highly customized solution for time tracking, project accounting and service billing. With more than 350 standard invoices and reports, it provides in-depth analysis tools to help manage your practice.

Features and Functions

The software can be customized to suit the needs of multiple types of service professionals, each with its own lexicon. For example, BillQuick tracks employees’ time and bills for services

for nearly any type of contract, including hourly, hourly not-to-exceed, fixed fee, percent complete, recurring, percentage, phased contract types,

expense and sub-consultants. I found the product to be intuitive to use, with a navigator screen featuring colorful, descriptive icons. BillQuick also comes with an excellent tutorial that gives a broad view of its features; this shortens the learning curve and leaving users with a good perspective of available functions.

BillQuick is available in three versions: BillQuick Lite for the sole practitioner or very small firms, BillQuick 2004 for

medium-sized firms, and BillQuick 2004 Enterprise, the SQL-enabled client/server edition. The latest release features seamless, real-time integration with QuickBooks. Add-on products provide a Web interface for remote users, an automated scheduler for administrative tasks, such as sending reminders to delinquent employees, data entry via PDAs (Palm Pilot or Pocket PC), and other tools to increase productivity.

Setup is quick and easy, with wizards to guide the first-time user. Company, Employee and Client data, Activities, Time Entries and Expenses, Invoices and Payments, and Reports all have a similar user interface and are easily accessed from the home navigator screen. Employee data is displayed in a split screen, so that the employee can be highlighted to the left and all their information is displayed to the right. Tabs indicate billing and cost rates for the employee, tax data, historical information and more.

E-mail can be sent directly from the address book feature located in the client database. The Activity screen allows you to use standard codes or to create your own, with unlimited descriptions and indications of which ones are or are not billable. Invoicing and payment functions are equally flexible, with various features, including the ability to apply a single payment to multiple invoices and apply retainers.

Summary

BillQuick’s user interface is excellent, with easy-to-read fields, drop-down menus, right-click capabilities and explanatory descriptions. More than 100 new features were added in the 2004 edition, an indication of BQE’s commitment to listening to their clients. Many of the enhancements are in the user interface area, with significant gains in performance. A 30-day free evaluation copy of the software is available through the company’s Website. BillQuick offers a wide breadth of customized functions in an intuitive, easy-to-use package.

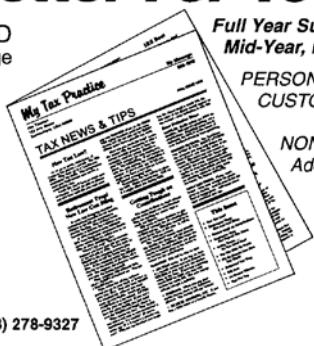
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