



Data Transfer Utility

By Irvin Software Corporation and Karl E Irvin, CPA

Clients are just amazed by what we can do using this tool. Data they thought was locked in their old file can be moved to the new file!

Bonnie Nagayama, CPA
President
McWilliams & Associates Inc.

SUCCESS STORY

McWilliams & Associates Inc

AT A GLANCE:

Customer:
McWilliams & Associates Inc

Location:
Moraga, CA

Industry:
CPA firm

Business Challenge:
Dealing with a wide variety of QuickBooks data file issues from size and integrity to client operational needs for multiple locations with separate files.

Solution:
The Data Transfer Utility provides the flexibility to handle all these types of issues with only one tool.

Results:
Quick and cost effective solution to enhance our productivity and that of our clients.

Customer Profile

As a CPA with Controller experience, Bonnie understands the importance of accurate accounting data while providing operational flexibility to clients. Her business focuses on solutions and out of the box alternatives that provide unexpected benefits to her clients. Utility type tools are critical to be able to “work the magic” clients expect. No matter what happens to their QuickBooks file, they expect we will deliver results.

Business Challenge

Client’s do all manner of things to their QuickBooks data files. Some challenges are the result of not exercising enough care in the back up and restore process; specific processes being completed in one office (for example, invoicing in the client office) while the remainder of the bookkeeping functions are handled somewhere else (like the owner’s home office); or files that become too large or too damaged to use effectively any more. The expectation of clients is that you can waive a magic wand and fix all the transactional data woes they encounter.

Solution Overview

Lists are pretty easy to transfer between data files; moving transactional data is much more complicated. An easy, step-by-step solution that is cost effective accurately describes the Data Transfer Utility. By going through the menu-type user interface, with little or no training even novice users can be moving transactions within a few minutes complete with reports to identify any errors. As an added bonus, lists can also be transferred using the tool.

Business Benefits

- My position as a QuickBooks expert is solidified by being able to offer solutions to tough situations.
- The Data Transfer Utility is a cost effective alternative
- For specific client situations, being able to suggest this tool provides options not previously available.



Here are two very different client stories to show the versatility and power of the tool.

In the first, the owner of a small business wants to keep most of the QuickBooks data confidential from the Administrative Assistant. All he wants is to have the invoices and receive payments entered at his office. All other bookkeeping functions including payroll, bill pay, etc. will be handled by the CPA firm.

The Accountant contacts McWilliams & Associates Inc to see if there is a better way than either a) pulling totals from the Administrative Assistant's file and doing a journal entry into QuickBooks which will eliminate the ability to create cash versus accrual reports or b) re-key all the invoices and payments that had been entered in the other file.

I explained that there is an add-on tool called the Data Transfer Utility which is perfect in just such a situation. You can transfer the list information for those customers and items that have been added recently, transfer the actual invoices, and then transfer the payments. The Accountant's QuickBooks data is complete so reports can be run in any way as if the invoices and receive payments were re-entered and the Administrative Assistant never needs to see anything else. This was definitely the best of both worlds for the business owner.

The second example is how we actually use the tool internally. With the change in the data base structure in 2006 which has resulted in larger files, clients who have been using QuickBooks for 5-10 years without any on-going data base management, clients who change the legal form of the business, and the occasional damaged file, it is common to need to start a new QuickBooks data file.

Starting a new file is a quick and easy process, even transferring the lists is not typically too tough, but the problem is that most new files are not created as of the first day of the fiscal year. To keep the file complete for the current fiscal year means transactional data in the new file is critical. With the Data Transfer Utility we can transfer all of the posting and non-posting transactions that are supported by the SDK.

In addition, for each transfer, there is error checking with reports available. The result is a list that states specifically what was imported and if there was a problem, an explanation of what was wrong. If errors are found, once the condition has been corrected, those transactions can be easily marked from the "choose items" option and imported.

In both situations, countless hours of tedious data entry was no longer necessary and I came out looking like the hero.

This tool is the "magic" when clients come to us with QuickBooks transactional challenges. We could not do what we do without it!

Bonnie Nagayama
CPA
McWilliams & Associates Inc

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

Irvin Software Corporation
www.g2g.us

QuickBooks
www.quickbooks.com

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