

Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release
Aug. 16, 2000

Electronic Filing Now an Option for Business Taxes

Montgomery—“Electronic filing is now a reality for businesses that file state sales tax returns,” said State Revenue Commissioner Michael L. Patterson. “In 1998, the department first offered the electronic return filing option to Alabama individual income taxpayers. Since that time, we have been looking for ways to offer the same advantages and conveniences of electronic filing to our business taxpayers.”

“Simple, quick, and easy were the key points underlining Alabama’s success with the individual income tax e-filing program, and we anticipate equal success with our sales tax electronic filing program,” said Patterson.

The online Internet filing service will be provided by approved electronic return originators (EROs), whose online filing programs have met specifications set by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Beginning with the July return due August 20, businesses can prepare, file and pay their state sales tax and many of their local sales taxes online. By logging onto the department’s Web site at www.ador.state.al.us, business taxpayers can access the sales tax electronic filing option and select the ERO of their choice.

Once a selection is made and the ERO registration process is completed, the taxpayer can then begin to prepare the return. The online filing services calculate the taxes due for the reporting period, electronically submit the tax return information to the Alabama Department of Revenue, and provide confirmation to the business taxpayer that the return information has been received. The actual payment of the taxes will be handled through electronic funds transfer—a process that allows tax payments to be electronically debited from the taxpayer’s bank account, upon approval, and electronically transferred to the Alabama Department of Revenue.

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The online filing option also includes all county and city sales, consumer's use, seller's use, lodgings, and rental taxes administered by the Alabama Department of Revenue. Additional local tax-filing options are available through the EROs.

For more information concerning the state and local sales tax online filing option, contact the department's Sales, Use, and Business Tax Division at (334) 242-1491, or visit the department's Web site at www.ador.state.al.us.

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