



The Accounting Library

Top-Ranked Business Management Systems

2008

Executive Summary

As a result of an analysis performed in August 2008 utilizing *The Accounting Library*, one of the most respected software selection tools serving the needs of middle market companies, **Microsoft Dynamics GP** was determined to be a much more functionally rich product than Peachtree by Sage Quantum and Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting. In addition **Microsoft Dynamics GP** was ranked higher in terms of functionality than Sage MAS 90 ERP, Sage MAS 200 ERP and Sage MAS 500 ERP.

Specifically **Microsoft Dynamics GP** met 84% of a typical user's requirements vs. 36% for both Peachtree by Sage Quantum and Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting. In the same analysis **Microsoft Dynamics GP** met 84% of a typical user's requirements vs. 79% for Sage MAS 500 ERP and 72% for Sage MAS 90 ERP and Sage MAS 200 ERP.

When compared against all leading business management systems in the database of *The Accounting Library*, **Microsoft Dynamics GP** at 84% Percentage of Needs Met was substantially higher than the average of approximately 70%.

| <i>The Accounting Library</i> Overall Product Ranking | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Product Name | Version | Percentage of Needs Met |
| Microsoft Dynamics GP | 10.0 | 84% |
| Sage MAS 500 ERP | 7.2 | 79% |
| Sage MAS 90/200 ERP | 4.3 | 72% |
| Peachtree by Sage Quantum | 2009 | 36% |
| Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting | 2009 | 36% |

While it is not possible to gauge how well **Microsoft Dynamics GP** might meet a particular firm's unique requirements, this study does indicate that across the board **Microsoft Dynamics GP** offers users a greater depth of functionality from which they can build an effective platform for business success.

Competitive Analysis: Microsoft Dynamics GP vs. Peachtree by Sage Quantum, Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting, Sage MAS 90 ERP, Sage MAS 200 ERP and Sage MAS 500 ERP

The Accounting Library is a software-based tool that allows users to define their accounting and business management requirements and then rank each of the 100+ accounting products in its database according to how well each product meets the user's unique requirements.

The Accounting Library contains a list of up to 3,500 questions regarding functionality typically found in accounting and business management systems.

A typical user would select those features that best described their unique requirements and indicate their relative degree of interest in each feature selected. The analysis program will then rank each product against this needs definition. The tables on the following page represents one such analysis where **Microsoft Dynamics GP** met 84% of the user's requirements while Peachtree by Sage Quantum and Peachtree by Sage Premium Accounting met 36%, Sage MAS 90 ERP and Sage MAS 200 ERP met 72% of the user's requirements and Sage MAS 500 ERP met 79%.

While the whole product ranking is important, a user may be more interested in one or more specific modules and that is why the ranking of each module has been presented as well.

| <i>The Accounting Library</i> Overall Product Ranking | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Product | Microsoft Dynamics GP | Sage MAS 500 ERP | Sage MAS 90/200 ERP | Peachtree Quantum | Peachtree Premium |
| Version | 10.0 | 7.2 | 4.3 | 2009 | 2009 |
| Entire Product | 84% | 79% | 72% | 36% | 36% |
| General Ledger | 89% | 86% | 80% | 52% | 52% |
| Accounts Payable | 81% | 76% | 67% | 36% | 36% |
| Accounts Receivable | 84% | 79% | 77% | 44% | 44% |
| Payroll | 91% | 76% | 89% | 51% | 51% |
| Inventory | 86% | 90% | 78% | 36% | 36% |
| Job/Project Costing | 82% | 81% | 73% | 37% | 37% |
| Fixed Assets | 72% | 72% | 74% | 38% | 38% |
| Order Entry | 88% | 82% | 77% | 26% | 26% |
| Budgeting | 89% | 97% | 95% | 43% | 43% |
| General Questions | 78% | 69% | 70% | 38% | 38% |
| Multi-National Accounting | 84% | 17% | 17% | 2% | 2% |
| Manufacturing | 84% | 36% | 36% | 4% | 4% |

Background

The Accounting Library, developed by Solutions, allows companies to compare business management system requirements against a wide range of accounting solutions. By utilizing this tool, companies can define their functional requirements in as much detail as required and determine which of the products in the database of *The Accounting Library* are best suited to their specific functional requirements. Analyzing the functional strengths and weaknesses of several products that most closely match these criteria can help in the system selection process.

About the Company

Solutions was founded in 1987 to assist organizations increase their profitability through improved organizational effectiveness. As the accounting software industry began to grow, so did Solutions. *The Accounting Library*, a natural outgrowth of our business improvement specialty, was first published in 1990 as a DOS-based software selection program. A Windows version was introduced in 1995, and this powerful software selection tool has been expanded and improved significantly each year. Currently 100+ products are featured in our databases with new products being added each year. While our initial thrust was directed at the PC accounting industry, we have expanded our product line to include the entire industry from QuickBooks to Oracle, PeopleSoft and SAP.

Solutions will be launching in September/October 2008 an On-Line Edition of The Accounting Library. This web-based tool will enable firms to utilize a meaningful subset of the functional questions contained in the CD-Based Edition to identify products of interest. The On-Line Edition will also give users the ability to learn more about each product of interest, learn more about significant ISV products that integrate with each accounting and business management system, find a reseller of a product and even find an unbiased software selection consultant.

About the Author

Charles Chewning, Jr., the founder of Solutions, is a nationally recognized expert in the field of software selection. He has written articles for a number of magazines, is quoted in software selection reviews, and presents workshops to end-users, consultants and resellers.

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