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NEW AND UPCOMING IN SAGE 2025

Sage 300 2025 is now available. Here's a look at some of the top new features in the latest release that include updates to core functions that improve user experience.

General Ledger Updates

In the Sage 300 General Ledger module, you can now bring up transaction lists by double-clicking on an account in the General Ledger Chart of Accounts which provides faster and easier access. What's more, in addition to printing General Ledger transactions, you can also export them to an external program such as Excel.

These General Ledger features are available on web screen and Desktop.

Easy Access to Helpful Resources

Now available in web screens, Sage 300 2025 offers 1-click access to <u>Sage Information Center</u> right from within the System Manager. Sage Information Center provides helps you get the most out of your Sage 300 system by providing easy access to product updates and technical documentation, release notes, the customer portal, and the ability to share your ideas for product improvement.



In addition to new features highlighted above, other updates to U.S. and Canadian payroll are included in Sage 300 2025. <u>Watch this short video</u> for a quick overview.

PREVIEW OF SAGE FIXED ASSETS 2025.1

For customers using **Sage Fixed Assets**, the 2025.1 release is scheduled for mid-January 2025 and expected to include the following enhancements:

Brand New Asset Planning Application

The Planning module has been completely rewritten using modern technology that improves performance and security while delivering a new user interface that's sleek and responsive.

Workflow Improvements

Features like remembering the last group viewed in the Asset List and image rotation capabilities simplify daily tasks and improve efficiency.

Sage Fixed Assets Ally

This handy AI Assistant includes a new Chat button to connect directly with a live support agent for real-time assistance, bypassing automated responses for quicker issue resolution.



Be sure to get in touch with any questions or to request help with year-end processing.

6 TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR END CLOSE

- Back Up Your Data before you begin any year end process, be sure to execute a complete back up of your database. You should also test the back up to ensure it was successful and the data is readable. The only way to "reverse" year end processing is to restore your data from a backup. So do it now!
- Check Your Version Number closing procedures can vary depending on the version of Sage 300 you're running so check your version number and service pack before starting year end processing.
- 3. Create a New Fiscal Calendar Sage 300 allows you to begin entering transactions for the new year without closing out the current year. Simply create a new fiscal calendar in Common Services > Fiscal Calendar and then click the New icon. If the period date ranges are correct, then Save the year. Do this before entering transactions for 2025.
- 4. General Ledger Closing While it's a good idea to close modules in a timely fashion, your General Ledger can remain open as long as you need while awaiting final processing (or audit adjustments) in other modules.
- 5. Check Data Retention Settings Sage 300 will retain historical data based on your software version and the settings you've configured in each module. So it's a good idea to review all module and system settings to avoid the unintended loss/purge of important data during year end close. In particular, check GL Options to see how many years of history your system is set up to retain.
- Remember, We're Here to Help As you begin year end closing procedures and prepare to start fresh in the new year, be sure to contact us if you need help. As your software and technology partner, we're here for you.

HOW TO CREATE A DATABASE BACKUP IN SAGE 300

One of the most important things you can do before starting the year end closing process is to backup your data.

Here's how to do it in Sage 300:

- 1. Click the **Start** button, highlight **Programs**, then **Sage**, and click **Database Dump**.
- 2. Type the password for the Admin user in Sage 300, then click the **OK** button.
- Click to highlight the database that you want to Dump. Click the Set Directory button to enter the location where you want to save the files.
- 4. Click **OK**. You'll return to the Dump Sage 300 Data screen.
- 5. Click the **Dump** button to proceed. A confirmation message will appear. Click **OK** to continue.
- A Dataset Description screen will display in which an optional description of the database may be entered. Enter a description, then click **Done**.

Watch this <u>Sage 300 backup video demonstration</u> on YouTube to see the full process step-by-step.



SAGE 300 YEAR END CENTER

Sage has created a <u>Year End Center</u> that provides valuable resources that can help guide you through a smooth year end closing process in Sage 300 including:

- Year End Tips, Articles, and Checklists
- Video Tutorials
- Online Q&A and Discussion Forum
- Live Chat With Tech Support
- Tax Forms, Payroll, and Reporting Guidance
- Product announcements and year end tax updates

Take advantage of this free and valuable resource!

Visit Year End Center!

REVIEW YEAR END CHECKLISTS

Checklists are great for helping you keep things on track and to ensure processes are executed in the right sequence. Here's how to access year end processing checklists that are built right into Sage 300:

Newer Versions of Sage 300:

- 1. Logon to your Sage 300 system
- 2. From the Task Ribbon, click Help then Product Documents
- 3. Browse the version of your product, then select Checklists
- 4. Click the link called Year-End Procedures

Older Versions of Sage 300:

- 1. Logon to your Sage 300 system
- 2. From the menu bar, click Help and then Documentation
- 3. Browse the ENG folder
- 4. Find the PDF called Sage300ERP_Checklist_YearEnd.pdf

SAGE 300 PAYROLL FAQS AND TUTORIAL VIDEOS

For companies running the payroll module, here are answers to frequently-asked questions along with some helpful instructional videos to help prepare for year end.

When do I close the payroll year?

You never close the year. Continue processing payrolls as you do all year long, entering period-end dates in the new year as you cross the calendar year boundary.

After you have completed all of the previous year's yearend processing and made backup copies of the data, you can run **Delete Inactive Records** to remove terminated employees and other obsolete information from your data.

Can I produce W-2s (U.S.) or T4s (Canada) after processing payrolls for Jan 1?

Yes. The program allows you to start processing payrolls for Jan 1 and later produce W-2s/T4s for the previous year without any additional procedures. When you produce W-2s/T4s, select previous year as the Payment Year.

Is there a limit to the number of W-2s or T4s that can be printed?

No. You can print the W-2 forms or T-4 slips as many times as you need.

Helpful Links and Videos:

<u>Download Sage 300 Payroll Updates</u> (U.S. and Canada) <u>How to Download and Install Payroll Tax Updates</u> <u>How to Print W-2 Forms</u> (U.S.) <u>How to Print T4 Forms</u> (Canada)



YEAR END PROCESSING

RECOMMENDED REPORTS TO PRINT FOR YEAR END

After year end closing is completed, it's a good idea to print and keep the following recommended reports that provide an overview of year end closing transactions as well as your company's financial status:

Batch Status

Shows all of the activity that has taken place during year end closing, including the number of transactions and the total debits and credits posted.

Posting Journals

An audit trail of all the transactions posted for year end.

Balance Sheet

This critical report shows the company's assets, liabilities, and shareholder's equity, and opening balances carried over from the previous year.

Trial Balance

Shows all the opening balances for the new year. Note that all the income statement accounts should display as zero.

Transactions Listing

This report reveals all entries posted to the G/L, including all net changes, balances, and transaction details for all accounts within the range of the fiscal year.

Video: Instructions for Printing These Year End Reports



HOW TO START A NEW YEAR IN SAGE 300

Here's an overview of the process for starting a new year in Sage 300 which includes several steps as follows:

1. Users log out

Verify that all users are logged out of the system.

2. Create a backup of your data

Refer to the instructions on <u>page 2</u> of this newsletter.

3. Create a new fiscal year

Creating a new year in Common Services allows you to start posting transactions to the new year. **If desired**, you can also <u>lock fiscal periods</u>.

4. Check data integrity

Use the <u>Data Integrity tool</u> to check for errors in your data.

5. Complete year end in A/P (Optional)

If you want to reset the batch number for Accounts Payable, you'll need to perform a year end in A/P after posting all transactions for the current year, and before posting transactions for the new year.

6. Complete year end in A/R (Optional)

Similar to A/P, you'll need to perform a year end in A/R if you want to reset the Accounts Receivable batch number.

Video: Instructions for Starting a New Year



YEAR END PROCESSING

How to Change GL Accounts That Were Set Up Incorrectly

During year end processing, some companies discover that certain GL accounts were incorrectly set up using the wrong **Account Type**.

For instance if Income Statement accounts were set up as Balance Sheet accounts, these accounts would not close to Retained Earnings after running Create New Year. In other words, the accounts would still have a beginning balance in the new year.

If you find yourself in that situation, here's how to resolve it.

- 1. Ensure the option **Allow Posting to Previous Years** is selected.
- 2. Create a new GL account with the correct Account Type (Income Statement).
- Create a GL entry to transfer the balance from the old account (Balance Sheet) and into the new Income Statement account.
- 4. Select period 12 and the fiscal year in which the entry is intended to be posted.
- 5. Mark the old Balance Sheet account as **Inactive** so no additional entries can be posted to this incorrect account.
- 6. Repeat steps 2 through 5 for each account that was set up incorrectly as a Balance Sheet account.

NOTE: Do not run the Create New Year function again. The system will recognize the entry is posted to a prior year and will update the Retained Earnings account.



Be sure to get in touch if you need help with this or any other issue with your Sage 300 software.

HOW TO EDIT 1099 VENDOR CODES OR AMOUNTS

At some point during year end processing, you may discover that the 1099 codes or amounts you've recorded for a vendor need to be edited or adjusted.

To Change a 1099 Code:

- 1. Go to A/P Vendors and select Vendors
- 2. Select the vendor with the issue
- 3. Click on the Invoicing tab
- 4. Choose the *correct* 1099 code
- 5. Click on Save and then Close

To Allow Editing of 1099 Amounts:

- 1. Go to A/P Set Up and select Options
- 2. Select Transactions Tab
- 3. Check of Allow Edit of 1099/CPRS Amounts
- 4. Click Save and then Close

To Update a Vendor's 1099 Amount:

- 1. Go to A/P Vendors and choose A/P 1099/CPRS Inquiry
- 2. Filter to Vendor(s)
- 3. Filter to the incorrect 1099 Code
- 4. Click on the double arrows (Go option)
- 5. Note the information for all entries listed
- 6. Filter to the correct **1099 Code**
- 7. Click on the double arrows (Go option)
- 8. Press the Insert key to add a new line
- 9. Enter the appropriate information for the detail line
- 10. Repeat the previous 2 steps for each detail line
- 11. Filter to the incorrect 1099 Code
- 12. Click on the double arrows (Go option)

13. Press the **Delete** key to remove the incorrect detail lines individually



INTRODUCING SAGE AR AUTOMATION

GET PAID FASTER AND IMPROVE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

Designed to streamline your AR collections process and automate customer communications, **Sage AR Automation** for Sage 300 can speed up your invoice to cash process while significantly improving staff productivity.

Let's take a look at key features of Sage AR Automation to determine whether it's a good fit for your business.

What is Sage AR Automation?

Sage AR Automation is a collection of tools and features that work together to reduce Days Sales Outstanding (DSO), increase accounts receivable staff productivity, and improve cash flow. You'll convert invoices to cash more quickly with key features like automated customer communications, collections activity management, customer self-service, and detailed forecasting and reporting.

Key Features

A few key features of Sage AR Automation include:

Collections Activity Management

Alert your AR team to critical customer issues that help to convert trapped receivables into cash with an automated activity list and a comprehensive view of each customer's account and collections status. You'll easily stay up to date to quickly resolve payment issues and reduce DSO.

Customer Self-Service

Connect customers directly to their accounts to accelerate payments and enhance their experience with secure online access to review invoices and account statements, manage payment options, and send messages.



Automated Customer Communications

Simplify your invoice communication workflow by leveraging a proven library of templates and rules that can easily adapt to match your specific business.

Cash Application Management

Connect customer remittances to the matching invoices automatically in order to fast track cash application and put money in your accounts faster.

Works with Your Sage 300 Data

Sage AR Automation seamlessly retrieves all your customer data directly from Sage 300 at the customer invoice, payment, and contact level. Highly configurable to work with your specific Sage business rules and workflows, you can customize data push and sync frequency with full support for multiple entities.

Ready to Get Paid Faster?



<u>Go online</u> to "take a tour" of Sage AR Automation or arrange a demo to see it in action. Feel free to contact us with your questions.

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