

PRESS RELEASE

The E&A CFO Group

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Changing Business Practices Helps the Environment While Benefiting Customers.

While many companies have undertaken “green” initiatives, few initiatives have impacts as pervasive and easily seen as the initiative at The E&A CFO Group—all while actually enhancing client service. Over the past five to ten years, E&A has made a concerted effort to reduce its environmental footprint—in some areas by as much as 80%.

What’s even more unusual is how the benefit to both client and firm is felt--in both obvious and subtle ways. The changes benefit the clients and E&A and the environment. Joseph Eckelkamp, E&A’s owner, noted, “Clients have more convenience, and E&A can reduce its overhead slightly while ‘going green’ helps everyone. It’s a win-win-win.”

E&A began its efforts long ago by pioneering the delivery of tax returns on CDs/DVDs. That simple change reduced E&A’s paper consumption from over 40 cases in tax season alone to under 20 cases per year. Mr. Eckelkamp adds, “To really achieve a mutual benefit, the firm has to begin with the clients’ convenience foremost in mind.”

More recently, many of E&A’s clients began using the firm’s secure, on-line Client Information Portals to receive tax returns and reports from E&A, submit source documents and other materials to E&A, and handle routine questions. Portals are also used for payroll and accounting services. Paper consumption fell again to under 10 cases per year and CD/DVD usage also went way down.

Portals work similarly to online banking. Clients can access their information on the Portals at a moment’s notice, at any time, from anywhere with internet access. Well over 50% of E&A’s clients are now using a Portal and E&A’s staff is quick to walk clients through the relatively simple learning curve. Once clients use the Portals, they love the added convenience and service Portals offer.

Less obvious environmental benefits from using Portals (beyond the paper savings) include:

- Reduced auto carbon emissions due to fewer client and courier trips to drop off/pick up documents.
- Reduced consumption of petroleum-based plastic CDs/DVDs and their cases.

- Reduced toxic waste entering landfills and reduced rare earth metal consumption due to longer computer lives now that more computing is done “in the cloud”.

With clients in/from 49 countries and over 40 U.S. states/territories, it's easy to see how Portals benefit everyone.

Joseph Eckelkamp is owner of The E&A CGO Group and can be reached at 314-849-7555

The E&A CFO Group, through its affiliated companies, provides Rent-A-CFOsm, audit, accounting, tax, payroll, financial management, and business planning services to small business owners and individuals. Its largest niches are expatriates, medical practices and technology companies. The company is located at 9109 Watson Road in Crestwood, MO.

The E&A Group's origins are in Eckelkamp & Associates CPAs, which was founded in 1996. While sister companies share common ownership and are affiliated, Eckelkamp & Associates, CPAs is the group's only licensed CPA firm and the companies are independent of each other.

For more information, please call 314-849-7555 or email Joe@eacfo.com

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