



MID-RANGE ACCOUNTING

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Adagio Accounting was launched in 1999 to attract former ACCPAC Plus for DOS users who had not yet made the move to Windows, offering such users a straightforward migration to the Windows environment. It is targeted at small to midsize businesses with over \$1 million in sales/revenue, particularly former ACCPAC Plus for DOS users or those looking



to move upscale from an entry-level package.

Trudi Orr of Beaverton, Oregon-based Seals Unlimited Inc. (www.sealsunlimited.com) is a former ACCPAC Plus for DOS user that made the transition to the Adagio Accounting system in favor of their alternative. Her company makes rubber gaskets ranging from the very small kind that would go around doors to very large ones that go around dams. "It took about two hours to install Adagio and have it up and running," she says. "The reports are a slam dunk, and it prints checks." Orr adds that if you have ACCPAC Plus for DOS, "You need to switch to Adagio."

EASE OF USE/ TRANSACTION ENTRY

Each Adagio module is separately installed and actually runs as a separate program with its own Windows start menu item. Each module also maintains its own data for each company, and data from the individual modules is ultimately imported into the GL. This provides a loose type of integration that is not precisely "real time," but it does allow the company the flexibility to purchase only the applications that are needed and grow into other features later on.

I found the data-entry screens to be user-friendly and well designed. Data-entry is keyboard-driven and utilizes batch entry processing. A tiered drill-down system allows for editing and adding transaction data. Primary fields provide lookups as well as the ability to access related information on the fly, such as customer and payment history. ★★★★★

MODULES & NOTABLE FEATURES

The core financial suite includes GL, AR, AP, Invoices and Bank Reconciliation. Additional modules include Order Entry, Inventory, Sales Analysis, Job Cost, Contacts, and Time & Billing (with TimeKeeper). Softrak also offers Adagio GridView for read-only access to accounting data for management reporting and analysis. Adagio modules are appropriate for up to 250 users. The licensing scheme utilizes LanPaks that are used to manage multi-user access to each module. Additional LanPak licenses are

only necessary if multiple people will be accessing the same module simultaneously.

The latest versions of the Adagio modules include numerous enhancements. Nearly all modules now have multi-currency versions available, as well as a MultiCurrency module. Recent additions also include the BankRec, DataCare (data integrity), and Contacts (customer management) modules. The financial statement designer has also received a significant upgrade. The program also now offers the ability to e-mail invoices, statements, order confirmations and credit notes. The Payables module added Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) capability, and pop-up alerts were added for customers, vendors, inventory items and GL accounts. ★★★★★

INTEGRATION/IMPORT/EXPORT

Modules are integrated through a process of importing batch information. As noted earlier, transactions created in individual modules are ultimately imported and processed for posting and reporting through the GL.

For data export and analysis, Adagio offers a read-only OLEDB interface that can be used to access virtually any data within the accounting modules for export to popular formats such as ASCII or Excel. The Financial Reporter module also provides built-in one-click export to Excel. ★★★

REPORTING

Adagio utilizes Crystal Reports for extending its standard reporting features, allowing businesses to insert graphics, logos and various graphs as well as providing drill-down capability. This allows users to modify standard Adagio reports and add custom-designed reports to the Report menu in the various financial modules.

Softrak also provides its own flexible drag-and-drop spreadsheet-based forms designer through its Financial Reporter, which is included with Adagio Ledger and Adagio FX. With the Adagio Financial Reporter, users can create presentation-quality financial statements with customized for-

matting for performance tracking and comparisons. Statements can be prepared in summary or detail with the ability to drill down to the transaction level. ★★★★★

SUPPORT/TRAINING/ HELP SYSTEM

Softrak offers live telephone and e-mail-based support. Business partners are also available for demo purposes as well as training and specialized, local assistance with the program. Adagio offers an online users' group that meets for live online sessions approximately 10 times per year. The vendor also provides a technical tips page on its web site in addition to a technical user discussion forum, which is monitored daily by the technical support team. For training purposes, the vendor offers scheduled webinars and its Adagio Academy, which is available as a full-day training session in various cities around the United States and Canada, online as a set of five webinars or in express format for half a day.

Professionally printed manuals are provided for each module, with quick-start sections and short tutorials that help to shorten the learning curve. Adagio also includes a traditional built-in Help utility with links to related topics. ★★★★★

RELATIVE VALUE

Softrak offers an easy-to-use program that runs comfortably on any machine that can run Windows 2000 or XP, with a 300MHz Pentium processor and 512MB of RAM. The modest hardware requirements should be attractive to nonprofit organizations or companies looking to move up from an entry-level program. Modules are priced at \$950 each, with multi-module bundles available at reduced prices. Upgrade/maintenance plans are approximately 20 percent of the original purchase price. Multi-user LanPaks are priced from \$140 to \$280 per unit depending on quantity. ★★★★★

2006 OVERALL RATING

