

Online BAS Check overview

Our intent:

To drive an improved lodgment experience for tax professionals and clients by leveraging analytics, providing real time messages and reducing inadvertent errors and anomalies prior to electronic BAS lodgment.

Background

- New Policy Proposal funding received
- Key drivers
 - Increase accuracy of GST reporting
 - Prevention before correction
 - Issuing of refunds in a timely manner
 - Reduce reverse workflow and compliance costs
 - Reduce manual checking and reconciliation
- The online BAS check concept



The concept

What if you could complete your BAS online and a 'smarter' system automatically checks for inconsistencies compared to your previous BAS lodgments?



How it might work

As you complete your BAS, checks are automatically carried out behind the scenes to identify entries outside of your previous range. If something comes up outside those 'normal' parameters a message will appear.



Benefits

- Faster processing of your BAS
- Reduce likelihood of post lodgment audit
- Greater certainty allowing you to spend more time running your business

The main benefits of the OBC concept:

- Provide a comprehensive and personalised BAS lodgement service
- Allow prevention before correction (at audit) by prompting users when an amount entered is outside of their normal range.
- Predictive modelling used to help you get it right the first time, including taking into account seasonal and cyclical fluctuations
- Currently the ATO only review a percentage of BAS's. OBC will scan 100% of PLS and ATO online electronic lodgments. This will result in:
- Reduced:
 - revised BAS lodgements as OBC will reduce the likelihood of inadvertent errors
 - interaction with the ATO in relation to anomalies
 - record keeping. For example, spreadsheets that contain client lodgement history data.
 - manual checks, such as reviewing a clients previous 24 month lodgement history
 - compliance costs.
- Improved:
 - accuracy of reporting as errors will be prevented before lodging
 - refund process. Currently inadvertent errors can delay refunds the introduction of OBC will ensure refunds are issued in a more timely manner.
 - Transparency by providing real-time messages based on specific client data
 - client satisfaction and trust
 - client and intermediary experience
 - Promotion of level playing field
 - community confidence

Concept acceptance and suggestions

- Concept acceptance and design
 - Presentations at external and internal forums
 - User research testing conducted

The OBC project has recently undertaken user research with end user groups from metropolitan and regional areas. Co-design has also commenced with tax professionals and digital service providers. From these discussions a number of ideas and suggestions have been made and are listed below:

- Include a dropdown box and/or a free text field to respond to prompt messages
- Provide 24 month lodgement history when lodging BAS electronically
- Client wants to know the message is from the ATO and not a software system generated message

