

Sunburst Software Solutions

2378 Dane Hill Road, West Charleston, VT 05872

Phone: (888) 348-2877 Fax: (866) 684-5157

Email: sales@SunburstSoftwareSolutions.com

Website: www.SunburstSoftwareSolutions.com or www.QB4Contractors.com

The Certified Payroll Solution Development Process

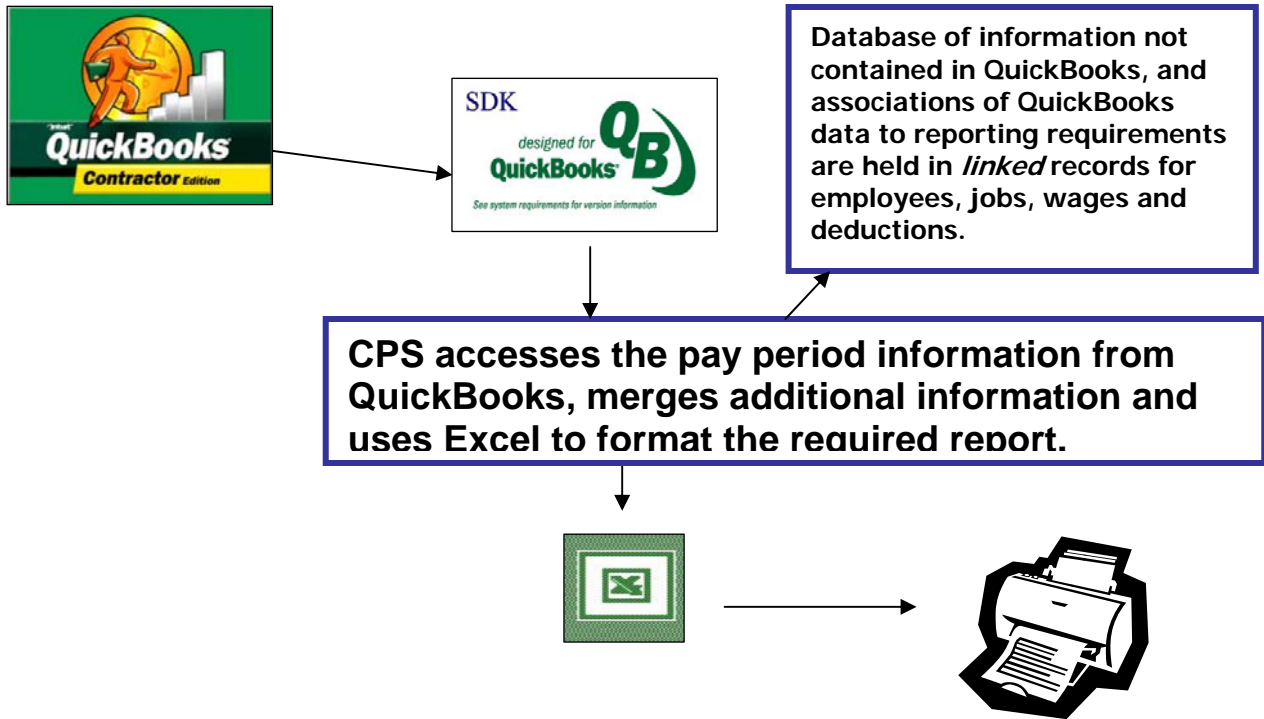
The thought process behind the design

- Certified Payroll Reports, Statements of Compliance, and "No Work" Performed Payrolls are required to be submitted by every contractor who performs work on any Federal or State funded construction project
- EEOC/Work Utilization and Union or "bona fide" Plan Fringe Benefit Reports may also be required
- There are 26 states with specific reporting formats and rules
- It takes hours each week to complete these forms
- QuickBooks contains 90% of the information required to complete these forms
- The original problem was how to access this information
- The SDK provides a direct method to **query** that information
- Certified Payroll Solution will have it's own database containing a link back to QuickBooks to hold information that QuickBooks provides no means of tracking
- Excel and Word have great formatting capabilities to produce the final reports

Program Design and Utilization of the SDK

Certified Payroll Solution utilizes the SDK to send a **query or read-only access request** to the QuickBooks file for information already entered by the user from

- Weekly timesheets
- Bill to/Ship to information in the Job record
- Name, Address, Social Security Number, Payroll Item(s), and Wage Rate(s) in the Employee Record. While these items may be queried, the Number of Federal Withholding Allowance cannot
- The requested information is then sent to Certified Payroll Solution and a linked record is created tying it back to the records in QuickBooks
- Missing information required by Certified Payroll Reporting mandates that QuickBooks has no means of holding is entered into a Linked record in Certified Payroll Solution's own database
- Certified Payroll Solution then merges the information and sends the Certified Payroll Report information to Excel where it is formatted to the correct layout and printed
- All of this is accomplished without adding, modifying, deleting or voiding any existing information in QuickBooks



1. QuickBooks with some fine tuning – specifically the use of the Weekly Timesheet function, an expanded payroll item list based on various worker classifications, and utilization of the “Ship To” Address Block in the Job record to hold the project number, project name, and physical location – holds **roughly 80-90% of the required information**.
2. The Intuit Software Development Kit (SDK) provides access to Job records, employee records, weekly timesheets and payroll data on a **read-only basis** (which means your data is totally safe because **nothing** is written back to the QuickBooks file).
3. Certified Payroll Solution would contain in it’s own database, through the one-time creation of **“linked records”**, missing information about employees, jobs, payroll wage items, and payroll deduction items; that QuickBooks either provides no means of tracking or cannot be reliably tracked and read due to limitations of the SDK.
4. The information from both programs would then be “merged” and formatted into the correct layout using Microsoft Word and Excel and printed.

How Certified Payroll Solution Utilizes the Intuit QuickBooks Software Development Kit (SDK)

Introduction:

This overview will describe how Sunburst Software Solutions, Inc. has utilized the Intuit QuickBooks SDK in the development of Certified Payroll Solution. It is written for ProAdvisors, Consultants, other Professionals, and end-users that are interested in the development process of Certified Payroll Solution, which integrates with QuickBooks.

The purpose of this document is to provide you with a better understanding of the high-level concepts relating to the components of the QuickBooks SDK and how they are utilized in Certified Payroll Solution.

Why an SDK for QuickBooks?

The Intuit Software Development Kit (SDK) was created for technical professionals interested in developing applications that share data with QuickBooks® to help small business owners during times when QuickBooks® data must be managed in ways that are unique to a specific industry and cannot be accomplished within QuickBooks itself.

Through development of 3rd party applications using the SDK such as Certified Payroll Solution, the small-business owner no longer needs to enter the same payroll information twice, once in QuickBooks and once in a stand-alone program or an Excel spreadsheet. Because Certified Payroll Solution was created with the SDK, it can directly share this QuickBooks data, giving the small-business owner the best of both worlds – the power, ease, and comprehensiveness of QuickBooks combined with the benefits of an application tailored to the reporting mandates of contractors performing work on federal and/or state funded construction projects.

The SDK provides a common method for integrating an application with QuickBooks: once a developer creates an application for one QuickBooks product, modifying that application to support any (or all) of the other QuickBooks products is a straightforward task. This shared SDK approach is based on qbXML, which is a version of XML (eXtensible Markup Language) that has been designed specifically for QuickBooks.

The QuickBooks SDK was designed with the following principles in mind:

- **Keep the small-business owner in control.** The business owner or the administrator for the business *must authorize* the connection between the 3rd party application and QuickBooks. They also set up *permissions* for authorized users and access rights for each 3rd party application. The SDK supports the user privilege structure established within QuickBooks, wherein, for example: certain users can access only certain types of information. If Certified Payroll Solution has not been authorized to access the QuickBooks file the user will receive the following error message:
Error Code: 0x8004041A Error Message: This application does not have permission to access this QuickBooks company data file. The QuickBooks administrator can grant access permissions through Edit→Preferences→Integrated Applications→Company Preferences.
- **Provide robust mechanisms to protect QuickBooks data.** The SDK provides strong error recovery, data logging, and synchronization facilities to ensure that data is not lost or destroyed and that 3rd party application data remains synchronized with QuickBooks data. Additionally the Inuit SDK enforces all the QuickBooks business rules no matter what the 3rd party application does.

Through the use of the **qbXML Validator utility** we verify that a given qbXML document conforms to the qbXML specifications before it is sent to QuickBooks. All Certified Payroll Solutions requests for employees, jobs, wages, timecards and transactions have been validated.

The **SDKTest utility** is used to test the request/response cycle; which accepts a qbXML request, sends it to QuickBooks, and returns the response to Certified Payroll Solution.

The qbXML specifications are built into QuickBooks and the SDK provides methods for querying which version of the qbXML specification is supported by the version of QuickBooks that is currently running on the user's system – having written “smart” code that checks the version and responds accordingly, Certified Payroll Solution can run with multiple versions of QuickBooks

- **Use existing programming standards.** The QuickBooks SDK uses standard interfaces and XML formats, and as a result is compatible with most software programming languages such as Visual Basic, C, C++, and Java. Sunburst Software Solutions, Inc. utilizes Microsoft Visual Basic for the development of Certified Payroll Solution.
- **Adhere to a single specification for the entire SDK.** The QuickBooks products, except for the On-line version, all use the same qbXML specification, therefore, the content and behavior of the request and response messages between QuickBooks Pro, Premier, Premier Accountant, Enterprise Solutions, etc. and Certified Payroll Solution is consistent across all products.

Certified Payroll Solution utilizes the SDK to:

- **Query** or read information contained in the QuickBooks file from:
 - Weekly timesheets
 - Bill To/Ship to information contained in the job record
 - Name, Address, Social Security Number, Payroll Items, and Wage Rates contained in the Employee Record
 - Payroll Transactions