

Coating of Pipes and Other Items

State and local tax applies to amounts charged for coating, wrapping, and galvanizing of pipes and other types of tangible personal property that previously have not had these activities performed. Such actions are considered taxable fabrications. Taxes will also apply when the pipe or other items are re-coated, re-wrapped, or re-galvanized since those activities are generally considered to be taxable repair services. For additional information, see Louisiana Revenue Ruling 12-002 obtainable through the LA Department of Revenue website.

Resale Certificate Renewal Process

Dealers who have been issued Department of Revenue resale exemption certificates must now renew their certificates through the LATAP system at www.revenue.louisiana.gov/latap. Form R-1055 (Limited Resale Dealer Certificates) will no longer be issued by the department. Dealers are advised to consult Louisiana Revenue Information Bulletin 12-027 which supersedes the previous RIB 09-015, 06/23/2009.

Sales by Veterinarians

Professional services of veterinarians in examining, diagnosing, and treating animals are not subject to tax. Neither are the sales and use of pharmaceuticals administered to livestock used for agricultural purposes, except as otherwise provided under LA R.S. 47:301 (16)(f). Sales of feed and additives are also exempt from the tax if sold for the purpose of sustaining animals held primarily for commercial, business, or

agricultural use. Other pharmaceuticals, drugs, treatment devices, and tangible personal property used or furnished by vets to animal owners as part of the professional services are subject to tax. See LA Revenue Ruling 12-003 for further information regarding veterinarians on the Louisiana Department of Revenue website.

Online Filing at a Glimpse

It is not surprising that online payment of tax is a well-rooted process. There are no strings attached, no binding agreements, and the service is provided absolutely free to taxpayers. The only consequence, if any, comes during the initial setup where dealers fail to provide accurate account information or banking data. Currently, returns processed online average over 40% of the total returns filed each month.

Initially, our online service options were limited to processing ACH Debits through a third party provider. Today, the department has truly made online filing a versatile experience for the electronically astute dealer. The choices for paying online are expanded to include ACH Debit payments, ACH Credit payments, and Electronic Fund Transfers. Two providers of the three available offer each of the payment options mentioned. Those providers are Parische-file.com and salestaxonline.com Although BaileyLink offers fewer perks, dealers may find it to be a friendlier link to filing ACH Debits online.

Dealers who decide to explore online filing as a payment option are cautioned to include all eight (8) digits of the

sales tax account and the filing status where applicable in order to avoid having a return rejected due to an elaborate verification system. Other inaccuracies like an incorrect bank account or routing number can result in a rejection of payment by a dealer's banking institution. If for any reason payments are not received in a timely fashion (except when the 20th day of the month falls on a weekend or holiday), a dealer's account will be considered delinquent. Rejected payments will be treated as NSF as do returned checks which are subject to NSF fees, penalties, etc. Dealers are reminded, however, that returns with payment will be due on the next business day when the 20th (due date) falls on a weekend or holiday.

Credit Cards Accepted

As a matter of convenience, a little more than a year ago the department added credit card payments via the use of Visa and MasterCard to the host of online payment options. One major difference between credit card use and online filing is simply a matter of cost. Unfortunately, there is a cost associated with the use of credit card payments that translate into a convenience fee. That cost is \$10 per transaction. Since credit card payments have a three-day lag period between the day a transaction is processed and the time payment is actually received, dealers have to make timely compensation by paying days before the due date with a credit card so that a timely payment is received. Otherwise, as in all other instances when a return and payment has not been received by the due date under normal circumstances, the account

holder becomes delinquent. Although credit card payments have not soared as expected, the department has seen a noticeable increase in delinquent payments.



How to Contact Us

Our main number is **(337) 217-4280** and fax number is **(337) 217-4281**. Extension for general customer assistance is 3413; for administration dial extension 3423; for delinquent returns dial 3406; and for audit information dial 3404.

Local Office Holidays

Our offices will be closed on the following dates for the holidays mentioned:

- Independence Day...July 4, 2012
- Labor Day.....Sept. 3, 2012
- Election Day.....Nov. 6, 2012
- Veterans Day.....Nov. 12, 2012
- Thanksgiving....Nov. 18-23, 2012
- Christmas/New Year's.....

Dec. 20, 2012 – Jan. 2, 2013

In addition, our regular office hours through May are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Summer hours in June and July will be 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Our office

is open during the lunch hour throughout the year.



Reminder

When our office is closed on weekends or holidays, dealers may use the green drop box located under the breezeway to drop off returns. The box is strategically located for taxpayer convenience, so take full advantage of its availability.

Vertex – Geocodes: Inside or Outside the City Limits?

One of the items that field auditors most frequently encounter on audits of taxpayer's sales records is reporting sales in the incorrect column on the sales and use tax return. Many businesses use Vertex Geocodes for the charging of sales tax on customer purchases. This code is primarily based on the zip code of the purchaser. A majority of businesses that are affected by these geocodes are our industries. Even though a particular industry may have a municipal address or zip code, 99% of them are located outside the city limits or in the unincorporated areas of Calcasieu Parish (Column A – Police Jury on the sales and use tax return). The local sales tax rate for the unincorporated areas of the parish is currently 5.25%. Care should be taken when reporting sales tax to ensure that the correct taxing jurisdiction receives the local taxes collected.

Below is a listing of the Geocodes and the correct column on our sales and use tax return that the taxes should be reported in:

Geocode	City	Parish	State	Column on Return	Current Tax Rate
190190000		Calcasieu	LA	A	5.25%
190192337	Bell City	Calcasieu	LA	A	5.25%
190190001	Carlyss	Calcasieu	LA	A	5.25%
190190210	Dequincy	Calcasieu	LA	E	5.25%
190192339	Edgerly	Calcasieu	LA	A	5.25%
190192341	Hayes	Calcasieu	LA	A	5.25%
190191370	Iowa	Calcasieu	LA	D	5.25%
190190510	Lake Charles	Calcasieu	LA	B	5.0%
190192811	Moss Bluff	Calcasieu	LA	H	5.25%
190192345	Starks	Calcasieu	LA	A	5.25%
190190880	Sulphur	Calcasieu	LA	C	5.25%
190190930	Vinton	Calcasieu	LA	F	5.25%
190190970	Westlake	Calcasieu	LA	G	5.25%

If you are unsure of whether a customer is inside or outside a city limits, either contact your customer or contact our office at (337) 217-4280 ext. 3413, and we will be happy to assist you.