PROADVISOR *review*

Time Guardian®

Overall Rating	9.00

Product Name

Time Guardian® by Amano

AMANO.

Reviewed By

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Time Guardian® ® is an employee time tracking system designed to minimize payroll management. Amano the company specializes in time management products to help its customers accurately, simply and cost-effectively track time. Amano's products are used to automate day-to-day time and attendance tasks, meet regulatory requirements, reduce paperwork, and realize greater efficiency.

Time Guardian® ® is an economical time clock system that interfaces with most common payroll applications. This product enables you to automate the collection, calculation, and preparation of employee time data thereby providing you with a complete turnkey solution to accurately and efficiently manage your payroll.

Strengths

Time Guardian® is not a time keeping application with limitations. Both small and large companies can benefit from this product by simply sizing the number of required units to the facility size. Time Guardian® seamlessly interfaces with major payroll companies and will save a ton of time in your back offices by reducing manual calculation errors, eliminating calculation of costly time cards, and will reduce payroll management time, all of this resulting in better management of your workforce.

Limitations

Time Guardian® was a bit difficult to initially set up. They have lots of documentation so I followed the steps to integrate the unit with QuickBooks, but just could not make it work. I notified the company of my difficulty and they responded immediately to my problem. Here's the story, the documentation represents the set up of earlier integration steps to older versions of QuickBooks. It took about 10 minutes for them to correct my problem and I was off and running. The support department has documentation of the necessary steps to integrate with the most current version, and I would highly recommend that this be incorporated as an add-on to the existing documentation. Other than this slight blip on the radar, I found no additional limitations; this product does exactly what it is supposed to do.

Wish List

None other that what was stated as a limitation.

Product Ratings	Rating
Setup and Installation: Set up and installation was a bit difficult. However, I am not going to give a low rating, the company was immediately responsive, set up a remote work session, identified my set up issue, corrected it, and had me up in no time. If they simply add the new support documentation as an additional document to the user documentation, this issue would go away	8.5
Interface: The interface is completely seamless.	9.5
Features: Time Guardian® will capture, manage and total hours for 100 employee per unit. The unit has two punch options available: Keypad or magnetic swipe card, There's no excuse for not using the time clock if you lose your swipe card, all that is needed is for you to enter your assigned number and you're clocked in. Time Guardian® supports weekly, bi-weekly, semi-monthly, and monthly pay periods, and will round totals to meet company policy. You can have unlimited number of departments, pay policies, schedules and holidays, and tracks and report wages, tips and bonuses	9.5
Ease of Use/Service and Support Once the product was set up and properly configured, I had absolutely no issues. Amano product service and support is available Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm Eastern time. I cannot see support being a big requirement in the utilization of this product since once this product is configured and exchanging information with your payroll systems, the only other really obvious issue that may arise is the unit not actually working.	9.5
Data Security / Privacy There are three possible levels of Access Rights, controlled by the two check boxes marked **Administrator** and **Read-Only**. The Administrator grants the full ability to add, modify and edit any data contained in the system, including all employee and Time Guardian® user login data. **No Checkboxes Selected** has the same access as an Administrator with regard to employee data, but cannot access or modify the Time Guardian® user login data, while **Read-Only c**an view all data in the system but cannot modify any data or add any new data. The company has a well-documented privacy policy on the Amano website.	9.5
Integration with QuickBooks Simple, it is strictly a transfer of time entries and sync of employees. This is not a complex QuickBooks integration The QuickBooks integration supports QuickBooks Pro and Premier 2002 and above, and Enterprise 2004 and above	9.5

Ratings Definitions

10.0 (Perfect):
This exceedingly rare score is reserved for a product that is as perfect as it could be.

9.0 to 9.9 (Spectacular):
A product that receives a rating in this range succeeds at meeting all of its intended users' needs and has no meaningful drawbacks.

8.0 to 8.9 (Excellent):
A product that receives a rating in this range is superior in so many ways that its relatively few drawbacks are not very important.

7.0 to 7.9 (Very good):
While the strengths of a product scoring in this range certainly outweigh its weaknesses, it has some minor faults that certain users should be aware of.

6.0 to 6.9 (Good):
This range represents a product that is above average. Its strengths slightly outweigh its weaknesses, making it good for most uses but not a standout.

5.0 to 5.9 (Average):
A product that scores in this range is functional but unremarkable.

4.0 to 4.9 (Mediocre):
Products in this range are below average. They fall in the middle of the pack for most features, but suffer from a few additional major flaws.

3.0 to 3.9 (Poor):
A customer should probably not consider purchasing a product in this range or lower. There may be one or two specialized circumstances, however, that could justify the purchase of this product for a very low price for a specific demand.

2.0 to 2.9 (Terrible):
A product that receives a rating in this range does not satisfy any of its intended users' needs and has no meaningful strengths.

1.0 to 1.9 (Abysmal):
A product in this range should never have been produced. This product has no redeeming qualities and worse, may actually harm the user or the user's productivity.