Reminders and Changes
for Tax Year 2015 Reporting

AccuWage

- AccuWage is free software from the Social Security Administration (SSA) that allows you to check Electronic Format W2 (EFW2) and Electronic Format W2C (EFW2C) reports for correctness before you send them to SSA.

- The link to download the software is located at www.ssa.gov/employer under **W-2 Filing Assistance**.

- We strongly encourage you to use Accuwage to check your wage files before you submit.

- If we detect an error during the file upload process, you will be directed to AccuWage to determine the problem.

BSO Registration

- Remember to update your password so you are ready for the filing season. If it has been over 90 days, you will be required to change your password. You can update your password by entering your expired password then selecting a new password.

Opening of Filing Season

- SSA's Business Services Online (BSO) will open the tax year 2015 W-2/W-2c filing season on 12/07/2015. All electronic wage reporting services will be available including Wage File Upload, W-2 Online, W-2c Online, SSNVS and the Special Wage Payment utility.

- W-2/W2c Online allows you to prepare your W-2's (50 per submission) and W-2c's (25 per submission) online and print copies on plain paper.

- Files submitted in December and early January will begin processing in mid to late January.

- Be sure to check the status of your submission to determine if the wage file processed. Refer to the Electronic W-2/W-2C Filing Handbook for the full list of submission statuses.

Tax Year 2015 Changes – SSA's Earnings Redesign Effort
SSA is in the final phases of a multi-year effort to enhance its systems for processing wage files. Using modern technology, we have simplified the processing of earnings reports, ensured efficiency in service, and improved the speed of earnings processes.

Below are processing changes you should be aware of:

- Previously, there was a short time period for you to delete an incorrectly submitted file before SSA processed it. With SSA's new redesigned system, the time for SSA to return or delete an incorrect file before is it processed, will be less than 24 hours.

- SSA will reject Electronic Format W2C (EFW2C) wage files if the contents of the money fields are inconsistent with the reported tax year or type of employment code.

- During the wage file upload process, SSA will now perform formatting checks to identify invalid record identifier codes, invalid record sequence, invalid record length and extraneous data following the Final Record (RF/RCF Record). Any errors detected will be an unsuccessful upload attempt and not considered officially filed with SSA. You will not receive a Wage File Identifier (WFID) and should use AccuWage to identify the problem.