

System integration firms

Keeping much-needed IVU revenue flowing

BY CARLA LEWIS

If retailers were sure that all transactions involving the sales & use tax (IVU by its Spanish acronym) were being registered, would they risk not remitting those collections to the Treasury Department? That is the question Softek President & CEO Julián Londoño asked during a recent presentation of the company's latest product: TxPort, a new technology to solve the problems of IVU evasion.

TxPort allows IVU-related information to be registered automatically from every transaction that is made in every commercial establishment on the island.

we concluded that a solution that could end the tax evasion problem in Puerto Rico had become a priority," Londoño said. "More than 40 months since the IVU implementation, there was sufficient evidence to present a viable solution."

At a simple glance, TxPort looks like a normal modem. However, this sophisticated machine communicates with the central system at the Treasury Department, detecting disconnections, unusual numbers of transactions and interruptions in its functioning.

"If the receipt was printed out, the information is at the Treasury Department," Londoño said.

Meanwhile, because of its auto-

TxPort allows IVU-related information to be registered automatically from every transaction that is made in every commercial establishment on the island.

"We understand the importance to the island's economy of earning as much public revenue as possible from IVU. We were committed to seeking a solution to this problem, and we found it," Londoño said.

He explained that TxPort is the main component of a fiscal network that captures, stores and sends all of the information on sales to the Treasury Department.

Londoño cited a recent study by local economist Gustavo Vélez that pegged IVU tax evasion on the island at around 48%, representing around \$800 million that citizens pay to merchants but the Treasury Department never sees.

"After an extensive analysis,

automatic nature, no manual entry is required, eliminating the possibilities of errors in data entry or fraud.

"We are sure that our technology will be part of the economic recovery that our island needs so much," Londoño said.

Moreover, TxPort also has the capability of inserting textual data on the consumer's receipt, which would allow inserting the proposed IVU Lotto information at the same time that the sales receipt is printed.

Importantly, mobile merchants can also have this system adapted to their businesses with the remote option Softek offers.

"The system allows us to be honest," Londoño said.



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Londoño assured that TxPort wouldn't change the original system merchants have at their locations.

"We want this to have the least impact possible," he said. "The merchants will not have to invest a cent."

According to Londoño, 84% of the IVU money that is charged but not remitted to the Treasury Department is generated in 18 commercial

segments representing about 20,000 merchants.

Hato Rey-based Softek has specialized in the design, development and implementation of information systems for the government, education, manufacturing, telecommunications, banking and pharmaceutical industries for more than 23 years. The company also offers consulting and training services. ■

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TxPort
Remote Data Capture

System integration firms

As Ranked by **CARIBBEAN BUSINESS**®

PUERTO RICO'S LARGEST SYSTEMS-INTEGRATION FIRMS

(Listed According to Number of Consultants as of May 2010)

Current/ Previous Ranking	Company Name Telephone/Fax Internet Address	Physical Address	No. of Consultants in P.R.	Main Services Offered	Year Est. in P.R.	Top Executive Title
1/1	Truenorth Corp. (787) 706-3033 / (787) 775-5980 www.truenorthcorporation.com	Corporate Office Park Cortec Bldg., Suite 302 Guaynabo 00966	92	IT consulting, technology project management, business transformation, outsourcing/out-tasking, system integration, technology facility management, software development	2001	Gabriel Fernández CEO/Partner
2/2	Softek Inc. (787) 754-0400 / (787) 754-0463 www.softekpr.com	650 Muñoz Rivera Ave. Suite 601 Hato Rey 00918	70	IT consulting & systems integration	1991	Julián Londoño President
3/-	Rock Solid Technologies Inc. (787) 620-5595 / (787) 620-5596 www.rocksolid.com	BDE Bldg., Suite 104 638 Aldebarán St. San Juan 00920	57	Software development, CRM & ERP implementation, business intelligence, IT consulting, software development	1997	Ángel L. Pérez Vice President
4/4	Integration Technologies Corp. (787) 273-0000 / (787) 273-0003 www.intechpr.com	Global Plaza, Suite 208 322 John Albert Erndt St. San Juan 00920	50	Networks, telephony systems, contact center, unified communications solutions, security systems, 24 hours desk service & operations center	1992	Henry S. Gordillo President
4/5	Netxar Technologies Inc. (787) 765-0058 / (787) 756-5362 www.netxar.com	17 Ponce St. Hato Rey 00917	50	Advanced networking, cabling, information security, IP telephony, contact center, indoor/outdoor wireless	2001	Frank Santiago CEO/President
6/3	P.R. Computer Services Corp. (787) 641-7727 / (787) 789-3075 www.prcomputer.net	Bo. Los Frailes Hwy. 1, Km. 18 Guaynabo 00965	40	IT consulting, systems integration, software development, web services, high-end-solutions	1973	Luis F. Arabia President
7/6	IBM Corp. (787) 766-7600 / (787) 766-8777 www.ibm.com	654 Muñoz Rivera Ave. Hato Rey 00918	39	Hardware & software integration, IT & business consulting, strategic outsourcing, application management services, core application implementation	1937	Luis E. Amadeo Territory Manager
8/8	Advanced Computer Technology (787) 756-5620 / (787) 756-5150 www.actpr.com	1058 Muñoz Rivera Ave. 5th Floor Rio Piedras 00927	38	Information systems consulting, systems integration, document management	1994	Jaime Romano President
9/7	Oracle Caribbean Inc. (787) 999-3100 / (787) 641-0460 www.oracle.com	Eurobank Bldg., Suite 1001 270 Muñoz Rivera Ave. Hato Rey 00918	31	IT consulting, training & support, systems integration, database management, network products, application development	1992	Miguel A. Ralat General Manager
10/10	Rochet Consulting Group Inc. (787) 625-9191 / (787) 625-9199 www.rochet.com	San Francisco Urb. 108 De Diego Ave. Rio Piedras 00927	17	ERP implementation, information technologies for medium and small business, IP telephony & security	1988	Jean-Phillippe Rochet President
11/9	SAP Puerto Rico GMBH LLC (787) 775-3100 / (787) 775-3110 www.sap.com	City View Plaza, Suite 301 48 Rd. 165 Guaynabo 00968	10	System integrated software solutions, consulting, training & support	1999	Ricardo Anjel Country Manager
12/15	ITS Systems Integrators Co. (787) 764-5858 / (787) 764-5860 www.itssystem.com	College Park Urb. 1858 Glasgow St. Rio Piedras 00921	8	Systems integration, IT consulting, software development, electronic banking	1991	Iván Torres Navedo President
13/14	Rafael Rosario & Associates Inc. (787) 622-6000 / (787) 622-6013 www.rr-a.com	1764 Ponce de León Ave. Santurce 00909	6	IT consulting, systems integration, software development	1996	Rafael Rosario President
14/12	Helvetia del Caribe Inc. (787) 750-3300 / (787) 762-1693 www.helvetia-pr.com	Villa Fontana II Urb. 11th & Viviana St. Carolina 00983	4	Software development, IT consulting, systems integration, document management, financial software, surveillance systems	1986	Juan Morales President
14/11	Rockwell Automation P.R. Inc. (787) 300-6200 / (787) 706-3939 www.pr.rockwellautomation.com	Metro Office Park I St., Suite 304 Guaynabo 00968	4	IT consulting, systems integration, industrial automation control & information solutions	2005	Juan F. Lagos Regional Director

Number of consultants may vary depending on the number of projects during the year and may include full-time subcontracted personnel. Unless otherwise noted, all information was provided by the companies.

Research by Eduarda Mejía
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