

The premier UKG partner + HCM & WFM strategy and advisory experts

### Best Practices for UKG Pro Quarterly Balancing & Reconciliation for Canada

April 9, 2025









# Our mission is to enhance user knowledge through functional and thought leadership sessions, and to provide networking opportunities for the user community.



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#### **2025 Canadian User Group Series**

- April 9 Quarterly Balancing & Reconciliation for Canada
- June 18 Administering Terminations
- September 17 Managing Records of Employment
- October 29 Year-end and New Year Activities

### **Meet the Sability Team**



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### Agenda

**Understanding Balancing & Reconciliation** 

Timing: When Should It Be Done?

**Steps to Balance & Reconcile** 

**Importance of Accuracy & Compliance** 

Who Should Be Involved?

Final Step - Year-end

**Risks** 

Resources

**External Resources** 



### **Understanding Balancing & Reconciling**

Payroll is one of the largest organizational expenses

Routine financial processes help to identify discrepancies

Ensures values are recorded in the correct accounts

Verifies payments are received as intended

Maintains the integrity of financial reporting

Accurate payroll data is critical for financial decision-making

Supports reliable financial statements for stakeholders



## Tracking Payroll in Financial Statements

Consolidated Statements of Income Dollar amounts in millions, except per share										
	Year Ended December 31,									
		2023	2022		2021					
Net sales	\$	2,581	\$ 3,854	\$	3,915					
Cost of sales		(1,988)	(2,355	)	(1,952)					
Gross protit		593	1,498		1,963					
Selling, general, and administrative expenses		(257)	(264	)	(223)					
Loss on impairments		(30)	(1)	)	(6)					
Other operating credits and charges, net		(19)	16		1					
Income from operations		287	1,250		1,734					
Interest expense		(14)	(11)	)	(14)					
Investment income		18	14		1					
Other non-operating items		(43)	(97)	)	(22)					
Income before income taxes		248	1,155		1,700					
Provision for income taxes		(74)	(274)	)	(402)					
Equity in unconsolidated affiliate		3	4		4					
Income from continuing operations		178	885		1,302					
Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes		_	198		71					
Net income	\$	178	\$ 1,083	\$	1,373					
Net loss attributed to noncontrolling interest		_	3		4					

Consolidated Balance Sheets Dollar amounts in millions		
	Decemi	ber 31,
	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 222	\$ 36
Receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$2 million at December 31, 2023, and \$1 million at December 31, 2022, respectively	155	12
Inventories	378	33
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	 23	2
Total current assets	778	85
Timber and timberlands	32	4
Property, plant and equipment, net	1,540	1,32
Operating lease assets, net	25	4
Goodwill and other intangible assets	27	3
Investments in and advances to affiliates	5	
Restricted cash	_	1-
Other assets	20	2
Deferred tax assets	 11	
Total assets	\$ 2,437	\$ 2,35
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 254	\$ 31
Income taxes payable	5	1
Total current liabilities	259	33
Long-term debt	347	34
Deferred income taxes	162	11
Non-current operating lease liabilities	25	4
Contingency reserves, excluding current portion	25	2
Other long-term liabilities	61	5.
Total liabilities	880	91



### When do we Balance & Reconcile?

#### **Quarterly Reconciliation**

Begin first-quarter balancing and reconciliation after the final March payroll.

#### **Monthly Best Practice** Pensionable & Insurable Earnings Review Reconcile payroll register to the general ledger, Prepare a system-generated or internally developed bank account, and remittance account. report. **Ongoing Balancing General Ledger & Tax Code Verification** Each pay period should include balancing Review earning and deduction codes for correct and reconciling. GL, T4, and RL mapping. **Draft Year-end Reports Year-End Starts Early** Begin drafting year-end in early Preparation beings on January 1. April and continue each quarter.



### **How do we Balance & Reconcile?**

#### Upon completion of each pay period, generate payroll reports.

- The organization could create and use a single report within BI, or
- Use the Available Standard Reports

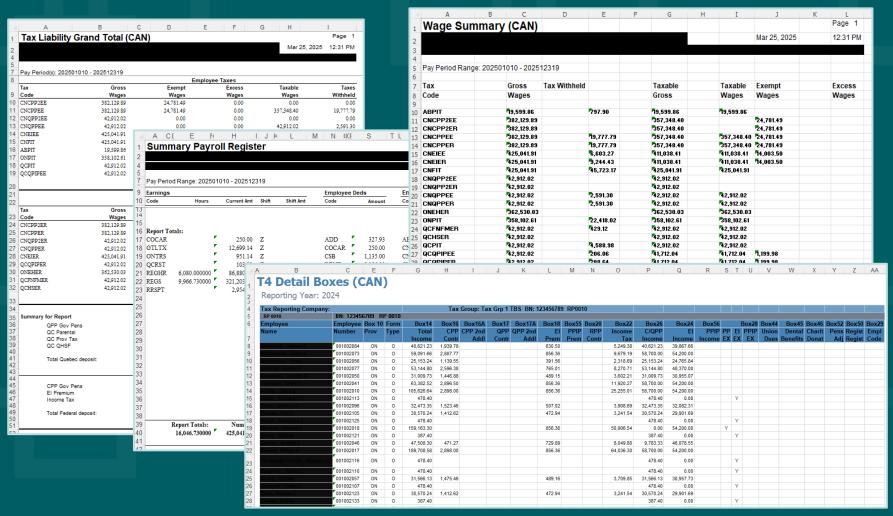
#### The **intent** is to "balance" the payroll to the:

- General Ledger or the Trial Balance, if provided
- Federal Government Remittances (statement of accounts & the general ledger)
- Provincial Government Levy Remittances (statement of account & the general ledger)
- Workers Compensation Remittances (statement of account & the general ledger)
- 3rd party liabilities for RSP/Pension, Unions, etc. (statement of account & the general ledger)
- Benefit providers (statement of account & the general ledger)

Some organizations have financial analysts dedicated to this task; if not, it is assumed the payroll department is handling it.

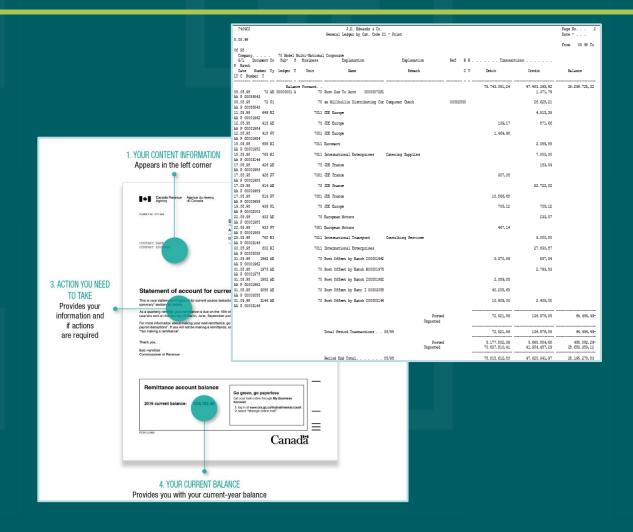


### **UKG Pro Standard Reports**





## **Additional Reports**



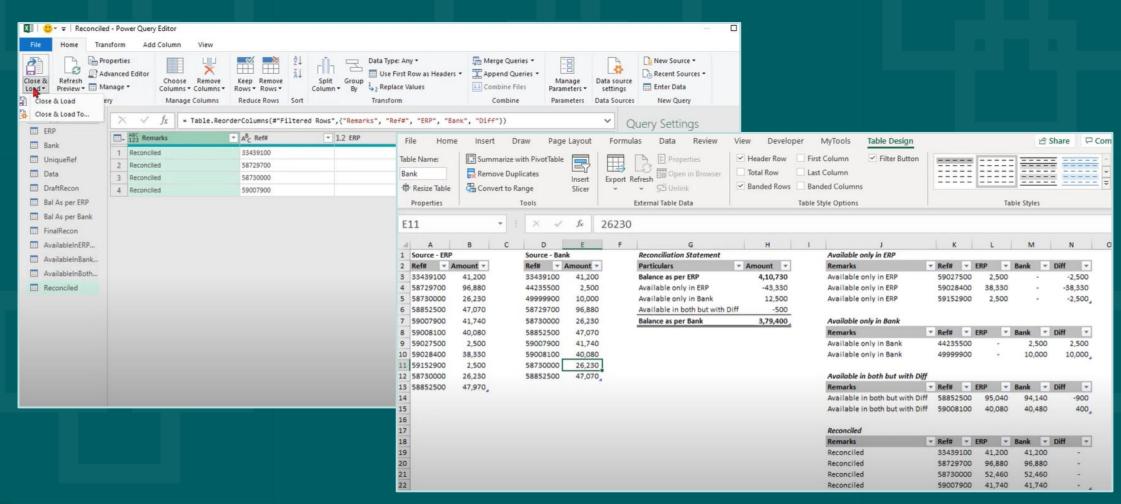


# **Balancing Spreadsheet**

	В	C	D	E	F	G	Н	1	1	E.		М	N	0	Р	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Υ	Z	AA	AB
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				29-Feb	15-Mar	Wage Summ					3-Jun	28-Jun	13-Jul	28-Jul	12-Aug	27 Aug	11-Sep	26-Sep	11-Oct	26-Oct	10-Nov	25-Nov	10-Dec	25-Dec	YTD	T4 Totals	RL1 To
By Month - Reports and Remittance 1	2-1011 2	U-Jan J	L4-FED	25-1-60	13-Ividi	JU-IVIGI	14-мрі	29-Apr 1	L4-IVIDY 2	o-ividy 1	io-jun	20-1011	15-101	20-Jul	12-Aug	Z/-Aug	11-эер	20-эер	11-Oct	20-UCL	10-1404	25*1107	TO-Der	25-Dec	III D	14 Totals	KLI IU
NFIT																											
ABPIT																											
SCPIT																											
MBPIT																											
ONPIT						20000000	1000		1000000					-		-											
Total Federal/Provincial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
EE CPP																											
EE CPP2																											
ER CPP				*****	******	******Ent	er a form	nula to ca	alculate t	he EMPI	LOYER	Cost****	*****	*****													
ER CPP2		-					Carlo Car																				
Total CPP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
EE EI																											
ER EI		-					100	11000																			
Total El	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
BC ER Health Tax							_							-													
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EE QPP2																											
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TLGT Totals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Wage Summary (key in)																											
Variance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Payroll Register (key in)																											
Employee Totals																											
Employer Total																											
Variance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
PD7A /CRA Remittance																											



### **Automate with Excel Power Query**



### Why do we Balance & Reconcile?

### Proactive Approach

 Helps prevent year-end surprises by addressing issues early

#### **Fraud Detection**

 Identifies potentially fraudulent activities through regular reconciliation

### **Process Optimization**

 Uncovers inefficiencies and leads to improved processes

# Financial Statement Accuracy

 Ensures a clear and accurate financial picture which is essential for effective financial management

# Regulatory Compliance

 Avoids penalties, interest, and compliance issues, including regulations from Collective Bargaining Agreements

### Operational Efficiency

 Frees up time to concentrate on managing other strategic priorities

# Error Prevention & Improvement

Reduces the compounding effects of errors and highlights areas for technology and training improvements



### Who should Balance & Reconcile?

### Cross-training & Documentation

 Include balancing and reconciliation in your standard operating procedures and payroll checklists

### **Shared Responsibility**

 Distribute tasks among team members for greater team success

#### **Team Involvement**

 Involve your team in the entire process to create greater understanding, reduce errors, and help to identify potential problems

### **Segregation of Duties**

 Assign different roles in the reconciliation process to enhance checks and balances

## Collaboration Between Departments

Involve Finance and HR teams to ensure alignment and accuracy

### **Approval & Oversight**

To ensure proper management and accountability, make sure there is an approval process in place that oversees management of the balancing and reconciliation process



# **Overcoming Common Challenges**

Common Challenge	How to Overcome It							
Missing Transactions Payroll deductions or payments not recorded	Perform regular reconciliations, automate alerts, and cross- check third-party payments							
Timing Differences Payroll recorded at different times in GL vs. payroll system	Establish clear cut-off dates, update transactions promptly, and conduct regular reviews							
Incorrect GL Mapping Payroll expenses coded incorrectly	Regularly review GL codes, align Finance and Payroll teams, and provide training							
Duplicate Entries Errors from manual entry or system issues	Use automation to flag duplicates, conduct regular audits, and centralize data entry							



### Final Step to Quarterly Balancing

The next step in quarterly balancing is a 'trial run' of the year-end balancing process to ensure everything is aligned and ready for the actual year-end process.

Reduces common challenges faced at the end of the year:

- Tax filings
- Reporting requirements
- Reconciling deductions
- Final pay



# Advantages of **Quarterly Year-end Balancing**

### **Processing year-end quarterly is a best practice:**



#### **Proactive Approach**

Prevents year-end surprises by regularly tracking year-end totals, minimizing the risk of errors

#### **Audit Readiness**

Being prepared for audits or reviews throughout the year



# **Key Steps for Quarterly Year-end Balancing**

1

#### Follow a checklist

Use your UKG's checklist and Sability's Best Practices Year-End checklists



Run and analyze reports (T4/A, RL1/2 Detail Boxes Columnar (CAN), T4A, RL1/2 Detail Footnotes Columnar (CAN)



Verify earnings and deduction benefit plans to ensure tax compliance (tax categories)

4

#### **Tax Categories**

Drive statutory withholding and reporting

5

#### Verify all payroll earnings and deductions

Ensure employee year-to-dates are accurate (taxable benefits, pension contributions, union dues, etc.)



#### Reconcile employee statutory withholdings

Check employee contributions on tax slips are accurate (C/QPP, QPIP, pension contributions, etc.)



### Risks

#### Failure to balance and reconcile can:

Result in continued errors that are "non-compliant" in nature, leading to penalties and interest if detected in an audit

Create opportunities for possible fraudulent activity by allowing discrepancies to go undetected

Damage trust and create lack of confidence among employees and finance

Lead to inaccurate financial reporting causing unusual "peaks and valleys;" making decision making challenging

Trigger a domino effect, impacting multiple areas of the business

Lead to additional time and cost required for corrective actions



### **Additional Information**

#### **More Best Practices:**

Automate your checklists using Google Sheets or Smart Sheet applications

Maintain a log report of errors and resolutions so any repeated errors are reduced and ultimately eliminated

Maintain logical naming and filing conventions of your reports and spreadsheets

Maintain proper security of confidential information (test your results often)

Prepare Standard Operating Procedures with screenshots or using an applications – develop "how to" video and make them available to users

Ensure you have a backup or business continuity plan in place for unscheduled interruptions



### Sability Strategy & Advisory Resources



### Canadian Configuration Expertise

Before, during, and after implementation/go-live to ensure the organization meets legislative compliance



#### **Business Strategy**

Support, develop, and implement business strategies to transform and improve business success



#### **Resource Constrains**

Optimize your workforce with occasional external resourcing focused on detecting compliance risks



#### **Data Analysis**

Provide insights to support decision-making and drive operational improvements



### Canadian Payroll Alert Newsletter

The Canadian Payroll Alert Newsletter runs outside of the UKG Community and is emailed directly to you!

 10 issues are published every year and cover a variety of payroll and HR topics

The March Newsletter included a Quarter-End Best Practice Process & Checklist!

Next publication: End of April

To be placed on the mailing list, email your contact information to <a href="mailto:customersuccess@sability.com">customersuccess@sability.com</a>





# Thank you!

#### **Stay Connected!**

Become a member of our User Group by joining us on LinkedIn at "Sability UKG User Group"

Stay up-to-date on upcoming sessions and request topics that you would like to see in 2025!



#### What's next?

 April 30 – Tips for Transitioning from UKG Pro Backoffice to Web