

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

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Maryland Launches Online Business Personal Property Return Service Filing Deadline April 15

ANNAPOLIS, Md. – February 10, 2015 – The Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) recently announced the ability for businesses and tax preparers in Maryland to submit annual business personal property returns online. The Business Personal Property Return Filing Service is the latest addition to Maryland's Central Business Licensing and Registration Portal (CBL Portal) which was created to make it easier to conduct business in Maryland. Businesses and tax preparers can access the CBL Portal through the State's official website, www.maryland.gov or by visiting www.maryland.gov/easy to file their personal property return with SDAT.

"We are excited to offer this new business-friendly service as another step toward efficient government operations, said Michael Griffin, Associate Director with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. "By enhancing this already popular service, we are providing businesses with the tools they need to file their personal property returns quickly and more efficiently."

Business owners and tax preparers can submit their business personal property return filings electronically to SDAT in three easy steps. Filers register for an account, enter the required information and upload documents, and then submit payment. Registering for an account allows users to save their filing information to reference year after year. Tax preparers can also file multiple returns for different customers

under one login. The online system accepts all major credit cards and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with immediate filing confirmation once the filing has been submitted.

A Maryland personal property return must be submitted by April 15, 2015 for all businesses that are incorporated, qualified or registered to do business in the State of Maryland. This includes corporations, sole proprietors, limited liability partnerships, limited liability companies, limited partnerships, business trusts, and real estate investment trusts. The state fee for filing business personal property returns in Maryland is \$300 for most legal entities.

Other services available through the Central Business Licensing and Registration Portal include the ability to register a new business, establish tax accounts, order certified copies, and register a trade name. Entrepreneurs who use the CBL Portal are not required to know which specific agencies they must interface with to successfully complete the process for starting or managing their business all while avoiding the hassle of submitting redundant applications in-person at multiple agencies. To date, over 32,000 business filings or 28% of all new business entity filings have been submitted through the CBL Portal and were approved in less than two business days.

"We are creating and promoting a more business-friendly climate. The addition of this service is the latest step to make it easier to conduct business in Maryland, which ultimately attracts more companies to the state," said Greg Urban, Maryland's Chief Technology Officer. "We are committed to delivering eGovernment services that make it easier for the citizens and businesses in Maryland to engage with their government."

The CBL Portal was developed at no charge for the State of Maryland by <u>NIC Maryland</u>, through the self-funded eGovernment services contract with the <u>State Department of Information Technology</u> (DoIT).

About NIC Maryland

NIC Maryland builds, operates, maintains, and markets the official website of the state of Maryland, www.maryland.gov and its eGovernment services. NIC Maryland is a collaborative public/private partnership managed by the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) and NIC Maryland. NIC Maryland helps Maryland state and local government entities web-enable their services and operates without tax funds through a Self-funded eGovernment Services contract. NIC Maryland has developed nearly 50 eGov services for the state of Maryland since the contract was awarded in August 2011.

About NIC

Founded in 1992, NIC (NASDAQ: EGOV) is the nation's leading provider of <u>official government websites</u>, online services, and <u>secure payment processing solutions</u>. The company's innovative <u>eGovernment services</u> help make government more accessible to everyone through technology. The family of NIC companies provides eGovernment solutions for more than 3,500 federal, state, and local agencies in the United States. Forbes has named NIC as one of the "100 Best Small Companies in America" five times, most recently ranked at No.11 (2013), and the company has been included four times on the Barron's 400 Index. Additional information is available at http://www.egov.com