

# Multiple-Role Setup

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TaxWise Setup for Computers  
Used in More Than One Role

# Roles Computers Play

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- TaxWise Online web browser
- TaxWise Desktop
  - Stand-alone
    - Preparing
    - Reviewing
    - Transmitting
  - Networked
    - TaxWise Server
    - Client Workstation
- Print Server

# A Single Multi-Role Computer Can Play ALL of these Roles:

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- A TaxWise server at its home site(s)
- A client/server network workstation
  - Attaches to other servers on different days
- A stand-alone return preparer
  - At other sites that do not network
  - For shut-in home visits
  - As a fall-back mode for network failures
  - For training, when the EFIN does not matter
- A TWO web browser at any TWO site
- A print server

# Why Multi-Role Computers?

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- ❑ For efficient use of available equipment
- ❑ For accuracy and consistency of setups
  - ❑ One District TC creates the clone disk
  - ❑ Others can then install the clone
- ❑ For interoperability
  - ❑ Any computer can be used anywhere in the District (except that there can be only one transmitter for an EFIN)
- ❑ For adaptability
  - ❑ People get sick or go on vacation
  - ❑ Computers break down

# Multi-Role Setup Options

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- Fixed vs Dynamic drive letter mappings
- **Fixed drive letter mappings** stay the same as the computer is used in different roles. Each local or remote installation of TaxWise is given its own persistent drive letter.
- With **Dynamic drive letter mapping**, only one drive letter (P:) is used for all Roles. What P: means is switched.

# Fixed Drive Letter Mappings

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- ❑ On stand-alone or server
  - ❑ TW08 on local hard drive launches from
    - ❑ C: for IRS depot computers
    - ❑ P: (or S:) TrueCrypt Volume for all others
  - ❑ TW08 on a removable drive launches from Q: (External) or R: (Traveller)
- ❑ On a workstation, each server's share is mapped to a unique network drive
  - ❑ Z:, J:, K:, L:, M:, etc.

# TW08 Multi-Drive Problem

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- ❑ TaxWise design change for 2008
- ❑ Requires \UTS08\TWTech\setup.exe to be run from any given drive letter and no other drive letter before TW08 can be launched successfully from that drive letter.
  - ❑ If not run, TW08 may crash or use the wrong data base
- ❑ Makes the fixed drive letter mappings option for Multi-Role Setups inconvenient
- ❑ Two mitigation approaches:
  - ❑ CCH non-transparent workaround
  - ❑ Dynamic drive letter mapping

# TW08 Multi-Drive Problem

## CCH workaround

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- ❑ On the Post Season Release CD for TaxWise 2008
  - ❑ x:\installs\AARP\tww08odbc.exe
- ❑ Copy this file into all \UTS08\ folders
- ❑ Leave tww08.exe in the target folders also!
- ❑ Change all shortcuts that launch TaxWise to execute tww08odbc.exe instead of tww08.exe.
- ❑ Run \UTS08\TWTech\setup.exe for each drive letter that will ever be used, ending with the drive containing the local installation of TaxWise.
- ❑ The drive containing the local installation of TaxWise must be accessible whenever TW08 is launched from any drive.
  - ❑ If it is not, TW08 will crash on launch.
- ❑ Now the data base on the launch drive will be used.

# Dynamic Drive Letter Mapping

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- ❑ Always launches TaxWise from **drive P:**
- ❑ Switches what **drive P:** means for each role
  - ❑ TrueCrypt Volume on the local hard drive
  - ❑ TrueCrypt volume on a USB drive
  - ❑ Local hard drive (C:\) for IRS depot computers
  - ❑ Network drive mapped to a TaxWise server's share on a client workstation
- ❑ Avoids re-running \UTS08\TWTech\setup when changing roles

# TaxWise Mapping Tools

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- ❑ **TWMapTools** can be used to switch the meaning of **drive P:**
- ❑ Available on the Technology page of the AARP Tax-Aide ExtraNet
- ❑ Provides desktop shortcuts and batch files
  - ❑ Run TaxWise Locally
    - ❑ Mounts a local installation of TW as P:
  - ❑ Run TaxWise from a Server
    - ❑ Maps a server's installation of TW as P:
  - ❑ Disable TaxWise
    - ❑ Dismounts and/or disconnects all Tax-Aide uses of drive P:
- ❑ Tax-Aide TrueCrypt Start/Stop shortcuts can still be used

# FL1 Clone Tools

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- TW Make Icons
- Multiple Separate EFINs without XMIT codes (XMIT codes are also supported)
- Version 8 - Stand-alone, no client/server
- Version 10 - Client/server or stand-alone
  - Works with fixed or dynamic drive mappings and TWMapTools
  - tww08odbc.exe is not supported
  - Read the Version 10 User Guide!

*A description of this tool is posted on the Technology page of the AARP Tax-Aide ExtraNet.*

# Multiple-Role Setup

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*Questions ???*