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ELECTRONIC FILING
 by GEORGE WAGNER, C.A.

As an authorized agent of Revenue Canada approved to electronically file (EFILE) 1992 personal income tax returns, I think the best way to explain the process is to answer the most commonly asked questions I am getting.

What is Electronic Filing (EFILE)?

Electronic Filing is an automated system in which individual income tax information is sent electronically to Revenue Canada, Taxation via communications lines. In short, EFILE is "computer to computer" communication.

What are the benefits of EFILE?

- faster refunds (less than 3 weeks)
- improved service and increased accuracy
- faster processing, including 3 hour acknowledgement to your transmitter of the receipt of your return
- reduced postage, handling and processing costs
- reduction of paper burden (environmentally friendly)

What type of returns can be filed electronically?

- Up to 95% of current year T1 individual income tax returns can be filed electronically. Returns may not involve some of the more complex tax issues such as bankruptcy, non-residents status, etc.

Will EFILE eliminate the necessity of filing a paper return?

Yes. EFILE is a "paperless" filing option. The authorized agent will provide the taxpayer with a data summary of the return. Later, should the Department require any receipt, or other document to support claims made on the electronic return, the taxpayer will be contacted.

What are the requirements for the taxpayer's signature?

The taxpayer must sign Revenue Canada, Taxation form T183, *Taxpayer Authorization and Understanding with Respect to Electronic Filing of the 1992 Individual Income Tax Return*. The form authorizes your agent to transmit electronically your return. The form is retained by the EFILE agent as well as the taxpayer.

How do I file my return electronically?

- complete your own return and have it sent electronically by using the services of an authorized agent who has been tested and approved by Revenue Canada, Taxation.
- have your return completed by a tax preparer who, as a part of their services, will electronically file for you.

George Wagner is a chartered accountant providing a full range of services to the small business community and individuals. His office is located at 2 Guelph Street, Georgetown, Ontario, 873-8100. This is the first of a bi-weekly series of articles of general interest to private businesses and individuals



The staff at M & M Meats (left to right) Salvador, Alison, Glenda, and Clarita proudly display some of the fine products they carry.

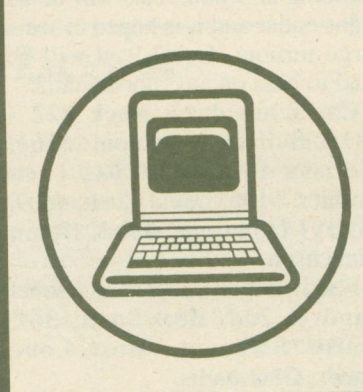
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M & M Meat Shop wins first national award of excellence

Kitchener-based retailer M & M Meat Shops has won the first annual Award of Excellence in Franchise Relations, as presented by the Canadian Franchising Association during the Third Annual CFA Convention in Toronto.

From 150 nominations, M & M Meat Shops won the award in a unanimous decision by judges, over finalists mmmmmarvellous muffins and Molly Maid. The Canadian Franchising Association recognizes M & M Meat Shops as the franchiser who has developed and continues to maintain an outstanding relationship with its franchisees and is a shining example to the franchise business community in Canada.

"I feel like we've won an Oscar", says an elated Mac Voisin, President of the retail chain. "M & M has a total team-play philoso-

phy. We have all worked hard at developing a thorough communication network between all franchisees and our head office, and we had a bit of fun while we were at it. We're all truly honored to be recognized for something we believe in and achieve daily."

The Canadian Franchising Association is the governing body that sets standards for the industry and represents the interests and investments of both franchisees and prospective franchisers. The new Award of Excellence in Franchise Relations is sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada. CFA Vice-Chairman Clifford Horwitz identified the award as "the most important recognition possible for a franchise company. We applaud M & M Meat Shops on their achievement."

M & M Meat Shops are retailers of quality flash-frozen and specialty foods. There are currently 109 franchises in Ontario, four in Winnipeg and one in Gatineau, Quebec. The Halton Hills franchise is owned and operated by the Salinas family and is located at 211 Guelph St., Georgetown. 873-2151.

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