



For accountants and bookkeepers, it's time to embrace change

The accounting industry is changing rapidly, and technology has been one of the key drivers of this change. Accountants and bookkeepers today have more tools available to them than ever that help them reduce the margin of error. As a result, it's become increasingly important for accounting professionals to foster their IT skills in addition to their business expertise.

The cloud impact

Perhaps one of the most prominent instigators of change is cloud technology. Recent research from [RightScale](#) illustrates how businesses across all industries in the U.S. are making this important shift. According to the data, 93 percent of U.S. businesses leverage cloud technology. Additionally, 83 percent of businesses had a hybrid cloud strategy in 2015, up from 74 percent in 2014.

Businesses are shifting to real-time, cloud-driven accounting software because it reduces error, makes work more efficient and allows for easier collaboration. Additionally, as more businesses adopt this technology, they expect their accountants and bookkeepers to do the same.

The role of millennials

Millennials are also igniting many changes in the accounting world. According to [Pew Research](#), millennials surpassed Generation X as the largest generation in the workforce as of 2015. This means the expertise, expectations and values of Gen Y professionals will have a major impact across industries.

In fact, [Elite Daily](#) pointed out that more millennials are joining the accounting field in particular. As a result, many firms are working hard to become more millennial friendly. This translates to more technology in the workplace, improved benefits, office perks and more flexibility when it comes to hours and collaboration.

Agility and success go hand in hand

According to [Top Accounting Degrees](#), due to technology, accountants and bookkeepers are expected to play a more strategic role by delivering proactive, real-time advice to clients all year, deepening relationship with clients by turning data into actionable advice, and generating automated customizable reports so they have more time focus on what's most important: their clients. As formerly manual and time-consuming tasks become automated through technology, accountants and bookkeepers' roles are shifting tremendously.

At such a major turning point in technology across industries, the most agile accountants and bookkeepers who are willing and enthusiastic to embrace change will surely find themselves ahead of the curve.

Start embracing change today with [Sage Live for Accountants](#).