

Expanding Tools for Business Growth

Administrative Solution Helps Small IT Business Thrive

accent®

Name: Jona Thompson

Title: Owner

Company: Accent Business Services

Industry: IT Consulting

Employee Count: 17

"We looked at the Aliat program and decided the cost savings was enough to make a huge change to how we run and manage our business."

-Jona, CEO

Background: Established in 1994, Accent Business Services is a software consulting firm specializing in utilities and public agencies. They help organizations find, purchase and implement the optimal solution for their unique needs and budget. Accent Business Services is a company that's been with Aliat from the beginning.

Challenge: The ever-rising cost of healthcare was beginning to make affordability of employee benefits for Jona's small business, Accent Business Services, a formidable task. Not only was the issue of health benefits on her mind, but she also wanted to offer her employees other desirable benefits, such as 401K. Since managing healthcare alone was a big enough hurdle, Jona had put thoughts of additional benefits on the backburner (that "we're just not there yet" feeling is all too familiar to many small businesses). As the owner and "all-hat-wearer" of her company, another big pain point was dealing with taxes. Jona had been using proprietary software to help calculate her taxes for her, but she found

A Program for Business Owners Who Wear Multiple Hats

When running a small business with under 20 employees, it's often normal for the owner to also carry the responsibilities of an office manager, HR and payroll administrator. All categories of questions – from benefits, employee conduct, time off requests, taxes – are thrown their way. It can be time consuming to organize and manage these responsibilities on top of running the business. Aliat takes the administrative burden of payroll, HR, compliance and benefits off the small business owner's plate, so they can focus on doing what they love.

"Now I work closely with Aliat on all tax related tasks. It's a streamlined and easy thing."

-Jona, CEO

that this still took substantial time away from her work schedule. When Jona heard about Aliat, she wasn't necessarily looking for everything Aliat offered. She was primarily interested in health coverage: "I wasn't a small business owner who was going nuts having to do HR administration and payroll." However, she soon began to consider how streamlining her company's administrative tasks could be a game-changer.

Solution: Jona decided to team up with Aliat. Since her organization is one of Aliat's first clients, they have a keen ability to see the changes and improvements made as they've grown together. Jona knew the team at Aliat had a passion for small businesses from the very beginning, and knows firsthand the amount of work it takes to run a business. Through their partnership, Jona enjoys having more tools to help her with the tasks she was handling on her own before. She not only receives exceptional health benefits for her employees at a reduced rate, but other benefits, such as a 401k, as well as reduced legal risk, a professional HR team, tax assistance and other valuable healthy-business resources, all at her disposal. Best of all, Jona is able to put her many hats aside, and focuses solely on growing the business.

Results:

New IT Software Launches!

Accent Business Services has developed a highly configurable and proven software system, "Varasset," that helps businesses truly understand the status of their assets, forecast project costs, schedule preventative maintenance and monitor productivity. A *verifiable asset* for any company!

