Xero News August 2020

The latest in product, ecosystem, partnerships and business at Xero

What we’re working on

Deep dive: Introducing Xero On Air, the online experience designed to connect, inspire and share information with partners and customers

Global

Xero will host a free to watch content series called Xero On Air from 14–17 September 2020.

Themed Behind Small Business, Xero On Air will bring new insights, announcements and inspiring customer stories from Xero, our customers, guests and community members to help advisors and their small business clients.

Each day, Xero will release new ‘episodes’, allowing viewers to tailor their viewing schedule to their interests with around 30 episodes being released over the week.

People tuning into Xero On Air will hear from experts about the impact of COVID-19 on small businesses globally, what the advent of open banking means for business financial services, and how artificial intelligence will augment the way businesses operate today, along with other topics important to technology, accounting and small business.

The content schedule and free pre-registration is available now.

See the schedule

Xero On Air

14 - 17 September
We’ve made a number of other updates on the Xero platform over the past month, including:

**Global**

**Accounting**

**Automate your marketing with Mailchimp:** Those on a Xero Premium plan can now sync their Xero smart lists to Mailchimp in real time, and send pre-populated emails based on set triggers, such as overdue invoices and payment confirmations.

**Search for formula components:** Some reports and templates have a long list of components which can be used to create formulas. Instead of scrolling through the list, you can now use the search functionality to quickly find the option you want. This makes it faster and easier to create the reports you need.

**Stay safe while using Xero:** We’re continuing to roll out our new security platform called Identity. This includes a new-look login page, which will roll out to Xero Expenses and WorkflowMax apps first, with all other Xero users to receive updates in the months to come.

**Xero Projects**

**See your project profitability at a glance:** We’ve introduced a new dashboard in Xero Projects to provide at-a-glance visibility of the profitability of each project. Subscribers can now see total profit margin, all work invoiced and costs associated with the project. The dashboard also shows any outstanding invoices, as well as how they’re tracking against your project estimate.

**Track time based on your location:** Location-based time tracking is now available for Xero Projects Android users so businesses can suggest entries for a project, based on the time spent at a particular location. This means no more manual entries or forgotten hours that staff have spent on the job, so invoices are more accurate.

**Partners**

**Export staff list and certifications in Xero HQ:** Our new ‘export staff list’ button in Xero HQ gives practice admins fast access to staff information, to ensure they’re staying up-to-date with certifications and security measures (such as enabling two-factor authentication). The new functionality is available in the overflow menu on the staff list page in Xero HQ.

**Manage custom reports in WorkflowMax and XPM:** We’ve released a new feature that allows partners to search and filter custom reports in WorkflowMax and Xero Practice Manager. Find and assign custom reports, and quickly take bulk actions such as removing old and duplicate reports.

**Payments and bank feeds**

**Attach a file to receive money:** Attach files when reconciling ‘receive’ money transactions in the Xero Accounting app. This helps improve record keeping and makes it easy to trace the original source of bank transactions.

**Set up Stripe in a few clicks:** We’ve made it faster and easier to accept payments through Stripe, reducing the time it takes to get up and running to just a few minutes.

**Manage duplicate transactions in bank feeds:** We’ve built a new report to identify and fix duplicate transactions in Xero, a big time saver to ensure balances in Xero accurately reflects the business’ bank account.

Read more about our product updates »
Americas

Xero and TriNet provide full-service HR solutions to U.S. small businesses

We’re thrilled to announce a new integration for Xero customers in the United States with TriNet. Designed to support small and medium sized businesses, TriNet is a full-service HR solution that allows businesses to focus more time on their people and growth. TriNet provides access to industry-tailored human capital expertise, benefits, risk mitigation, payroll and a technology platform to manage HR needs in real-time.

Xero’s integration with TriNet helps businesses save time and maintain accuracy through a seamless configuration of payroll and HR data between the systems. After running payroll, TriNet creates journal entries based on mapped accounts, and allows businesses to push them into the Xero general ledger.

New Zealand

Kiwibank launches Fast Capital

Kiwibank has launched Fast Capital, a digital platform that enables automated decision-making for lending to companies. By linking Xero company accounting data to Kiwibank, companies can apply for up to $100,000 of capital for a business overdraft, a business loan or even a credit card and get a decision in just five minutes.

Find more updates here, on the Xero blog
Global

Sharing Xero’s Ecosystem Principles
Xero launched our Ecosystem Principles, designed to provide a level of transparency for our app partners, and ensure customers can continue to connect to a vibrant ecosystem of the best apps in the world. Read more via the links below.

Principles:
- Focus on solving for customers
- Be an open platform
- Be responsible & responsive
- Invest in our shared success
- Always take a human approach

North America

Bolstering our global product teams with a new tech hub in Toronto
We announced Toronto as our North American product and technology hub, strengthening Xero’s investment and commitment to Canada. The hub will be home to product and technology specialists including developers, data scientists, engineers and designers to support Xero’s global payments, billing and automation and artificial intelligence, data and machine learning teams.

Read more ➔

New Zealand

A Business Finance Pack for New Zealand businesses
Solving customer problems in simple and beautiful ways has always been an important part of what we do at Xero. During COVID-19, this focus has become more critical than ever.

The Xero Business Finance Pack is one of the latest solutions we’ve rolled out in response to COVID-19 and is now available free of charge for Xero customers based in New Zealand. Available on the Xero app marketplace, the app is currently being offered as a trial and is designed to help small businesses better access finance by collating relevant reports commonly requested by lenders in New Zealand.

Get the app ➔

Introducing our first US Forward Fund scholarship winners
Xero announced the inaugural winners of the Forward Fund scholarship in the United States to support aspiring accounting students. The three student winners — Jinhua Johnson, Brody Mandelbaum and Mwaka Namfukwe — each received a USD$10,000 scholarship to apply to tuition or other costs associated with earning their accounting degree. The scholarship winners represent the next generation of accountants, and were judged based on their video or essay submission that addressed why they chose to pursue a career in accounting, and how they believe the profession will evolve in the future.

Learn more about our winners ➔