Is Your Statutory Reporting Holding You Back?

A 6-Point Diagnostic for CFOs and Controllers

Statutory reporting may feel like a back-office obligation—but for many mid-market companies, it's a silent drain on strategic capacity. Teams are buried in spreadsheets. Deadlines creep closer with each close cycle. And inconsistencies between jurisdictions lead to growing audit risk and rework.

But how do you know if your statutory reporting process is merely inefficient—or dangerously outdated?

Use this quick diagnostic to spot red flags and identify where automation and harmonization can unlock value:

1. Are you manually rekeying data into statutory templates?

If your team is manually pulling trial balances, translating them into local GAAP, and formatting them by jurisdiction, you're at risk of errors, duplication, and lost time. Automation-ready teams centralize data flows and leverage pre-built templates to streamline this process.

Watch for: Heavy spreadsheet use, inconsistent formats, and frequent reconciliation issues.

2. Do local finance teams apply different accounting treatments for the same transactions?

Inconsistent application of policies across countries or even entities makes automation nearly impossible and increases reliance on exception handling.

Watch for: Policy "tribal knowledge," unclear GAAP alignment, and last-minute adjustments.

3. Are you using group-level consolidation tools for statutory reporting?

Most consolidation tools lack the flexibility to meet local statutory filing requirements. Forcing them to do both jobs often results in complex workarounds.

Watch for: Repetitive manual adjustments, use of shadow systems, and resistance from local teams.

4. Does your statutory reporting process scale with growth?

As you enter new jurisdictions, can you extend your reporting framework—or are you reinventing the wheel each time?

Watch for: Custom builds for each country, slow onboarding of new entities, and rising compliance costs.

5. Is your reporting cycle time increasing—even with more tools?

More tools don't always mean more efficiency. Without harmonization and end-to-end workflows, automation stalls and reporting delays compound.

Watch for: Growing dependency on consultants, increasing audit fees, and fatigue around year-end.

6. Are you clear on what "good" statutory automation looks like?

Best-in-class automation frees teams from formatting and validation so they can focus on insight. But too often, teams get stuck automating bad processes instead of rethinking them.

Watch for: Customizations that mirror legacy workflows, low reuse of scripts/templates, and lack of training.

The Bottom Line

If you answered "yes" to 2 or more of these, your statutory reporting process likely needs attention. But the fix doesn't require an enterprise ERP overhaul. With the right blend of policy harmonization, scalable tools, and workflow design, mid-market companies can achieve global compliance—without multiplying headcount or complexity.

Ready to assess your automation potential?

Let's walk through your current statutory landscape and define a roadmap that fits your size, structure, and jurisdictions.

About Kebla

Kebla is a boutique advisory firm founded by former Big Four and industry finance executives. We partner with growth-stage and mid-market companies across technology, media, entertainment, and fintech, to help leaders address complex finance, accounting, and operational challenges through practical, execution-focused advisory.

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