

In the first two days of the Income Tax campaign 17,924 refunds have been agreed, more than triple the number in the same period last year

## The Tax Agency is to extend by two days the deadline for filing tax returns with payment by direct debit, which ends this Sunday.

- Taxpayers have until 17 April to file a total of 16 different Income Tax, VAT, Corporation Tax and Excise Duty forms paid by direct debit.
- The extremely high demand generated by requests for prepopulated income tax returns, the supplier payment procedures and the filing of periodic self-assessments has led to increased demand on the Agency's website with peaks of more than 8,000 connections per second.
- By 12 o'clock midday today, taxpayers had already requested via internet 760,362 pre-populated returns and sets of fiscal data through the REN0 system and 250,462 pre-populated returns had been confirmed.
- More than 17% of suppliers have now accepted the conditions set by Local Authorities in the invoice payment plan, through the Tax Agency's website, 6% up on the figure at 10 April.
- The Tax Agency is continuing its work to get the service fully back to normal

**12 April 2012.** The Spanish Tax Agency has given a two-day extension on the deadline, which had been set for this Sunday, for filing periodic self-assessments paid by direct debit, giving taxpayers more time to fulfil their obligations given the extremely high demand for access to the website which has been recorded in the last few days. To do this, working in

conjunction with the Collaborating Entities, the corresponding computerbased procedures and regulations are currently being amended.

Due to the problems taxpayers have experienced accessing the electronic office, caused by the high demand for the assistance services made available to citizens for the 2011 Income Tax campaign, the Tax Agency is currently making amendments to the regulations required to extend the deadline for filing tax returns paid by direct debit by two days.

The measure will affect the 16 most important tax return forms (basically for the settlement of quarterly and monthly payments of Income Tax, Corporation Tax, VAT and Excise Duties) extending the deadline for filing with payment by direct debit from 15 April to 17 April.

The Tax Agency deeply regrets any inconvenience this situation may be causing, the result of a convergence of three factors: The flood of requests for pre-populated income tax returns and fiscal data through the REN0 system, the online procedures for suppliers and local authorities within the framework of the invoice payment plan set up by the Government and the online filing of tax returns periodically submitted by taxpayers.

Yesterday, these three factors resulted in a data exchange demand on the Tax Agency's website of more than 8,000 connections per second, resulting in obvious difficulties in maintaining the service level.

## **Evolution of pre-populated income tax returns and refunds**

Nevertheless, in relation to the income tax campaign, at 12 o'clock midday today, the Tax Agency had already registered 760,372 requests for prepopulated returns and fiscal data via its website through the REN0 system. At that same time 250,462 pre-populated returns had been confirmed by taxpayers.

Comparing the first two days of the campaigns in 2011 and 2012 (Income Tax for 2010 and 2011), the number of pre-populated returns and sets of fiscal data viewed is 3.2 times higher, with the figure standing at 1,634,446. At the same time 17,294 refunds have already been approved, compared to 5,475 in the same period last year.

Further evidence of the gradual improvement in the Tax Agency's website service is the fact that, to date, 17.14% of suppliers, either personally or via local authorities, have already completed the acceptance procedure for their invoices, as part of the Payment Plan, a 6% increase on the figure at 10 April.