

Vattenfall

Automated Invoice Processing Cross Company Locations

The Initial Scenario

At Vattenfall, about 3,500 invoices come in daily per fax and per post. As the manual data entry of that amount of data has been extremely time-consuming and expensive, the organisation decided to acquire a solution to directly integrate invoice data into its ERP system, and to realise process automation of validation and release.

Moreover, a solution based on supplier-specific invoice templates was not possible due to the fact that Vattenfall has approx. 88,000 suppliers.

The Solution

After a thorough RFP and analysis, Vattenfall decided in favour of SEEBURGER's solution. 4invoice is based on an innovative freeform technology, which makes the deployment of supplier-specific templates obsolete. Thus, 4invoice automatically interprets the previously scanned invoices, matches the extracted data with that of suppliers and orders in the system and after the plausibility check, it accounts the invoice into the ERP system or forwards it to a specific member of the staff in charge of post-processing.



Vattenfall Europe represents a significant part of the Swedish Vattenfall Group. Vattenfall is ranked as the fifth largest energy company in Europe and its corporate governance is based on the company's Articles of Association, the Swedish Companies Act and other Swedish and international laws and regulations. Where applicable, Vattenfall also complies with the rules and regulations of governing companies listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange.

»In addition to the direct comparison of offerings, the most important criteria for our decision in favour of SEEBURGER was the projected SAP BusinessWorkflow for the invoice validation and release. In this point, SEEBURGER has been much more competitive than other specialists and could realise a perfect data transfer from 4invoice to SAP R/3«, says Sabine Truetzschler and Nico Krause, Project Managers at Vattenfall.

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The Benefits for Vattenfall

Time and Cost Savings Due to Automation

After processing invoices with the help of 4invoice, all invoice-related procedures are accelerated and scarcely any manual intervention is required.

No Need for Supplier-Specific Templates

Using the freeform technology 4invoice extracts invoice data with the help of self-learning interpretation methods. The times, when supplier-specific templates were needed are definitely over!

Reliable Concept of Administration of Rights

The SAP BusinessWorkflow projected by SEEBURGER guarantees the compliance of the previously defined rules for invoice validation and release.

Staff Members Work in Customary Environment

4invoice is fully integrated in SAP R/3 and enables accountants payable to work as usual within SAP R/3 along the entire invoice processing.

In addition, the Case Engine – which is based on SAP BusinessWorkflow, – integrates non-SAP users in the workflow through Outlook/Exchange.

Working Cross Location

Digitised invoices are automatically forwarded to the right employees in charge cross-country for invoice validation and release. Thus, the team work between Berlin, Hamburg, other locations and Sweden is more efficient.

Consideration of Relevant Information for Accounting

4invoice also takes into account relevant information for accounting and as Vattenfall operates with 70 company codes, the system automatically assigns the invoices to the corresponding company code.

