

4 Ways AP Automation Maximizes the Value of Your ERP

Introduction

ERP applications lie at the heart of financial operations, but many aren't optimized because the accounts payable (AP) processes that feed them are manual and paper-based. That can lead to:



Incomplete or incorrect data being fed into the ERP



Staff not having access to information they need to make decisions or respond to inquiries

The impact of manual, paper-based AP processes is even worse for shared services centers, where operations are growing increasingly complex.

1 in 5

1 in 5 businesses say operating AP as part of a shared services organization is the biggest reason for increasing AP complexity.

40%

Nearly 40% of businesses operate multiple ERP applications in single or multiple locations.

Businesses cannot afford to have their shared services initiatives undermined by fragmented systems. This is why more regional and global shared services organizations automate their AP processes with enterprise content management (ECM) platforms that seamlessly integrate with their ERP applications.

ECM platforms extend the value of ERP systems in 4 ways

1. REDUCED OPERATIONAL COSTS



Eliminate manual data entry by digitally validating invoices against data in the ERP



Reduce the costs of printing, shipping and storing paper

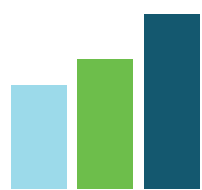


Lower the spend on costly ERP licenses and training for end users

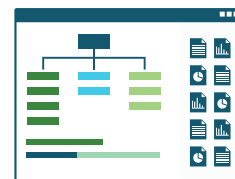
2. ENHANCED VISIBILITY



Retrieve invoices, goods receipts and vendor contracts directly from your ERP

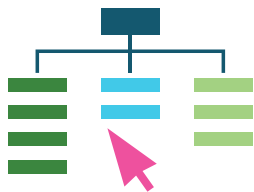


Provide insight into every stage of the AP process, from receipt through validation, approval and posting



Monitor progress, reassign tasks and identify areas for improvement with reporting dashboards

3. GREATER FLEXIBILITY



Easily create and adjust workflows to satisfy complex business needs

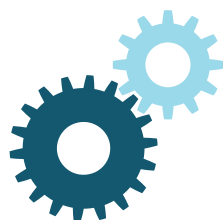


Extend approval rights to non-ERP users without providing direct access to the ERP



Support and connect multiple ERP applications with one ECM platform

4. FASTER CYCLE TIMES



Achieve end-to-end automation by capturing invoice data as early as possible and integrating it with your ERP



Enable buyers and managers to approve, reject or research invoices at any time via computer, laptop, smartphone or tablet



Ensure invoices always reach the appropriate staff while enforcing control policies

To learn more, download the [complementary whitepaper](#) from the [AP P2P Network](#) or visit [OnBase.com](#).

Source: AP P2P Network. "Four ways shared services organizations can extend the value of their ERP investments with accounts payable automation." 2016. Print.



One platform **Unlimited potential**