

SONY

Sony

ACCELERATING AP INVOICE APPROVALS AT A REGIONAL SHARED SERVICE CENTRE

BACKGROUND

Following its move to an internal centralised accounting shared service centre (SSC), Sony Electronics Asia Pacific (Sony), was looking for an accounts payable (AP) automation solution to help its accounting teams improve vendor invoicing process.

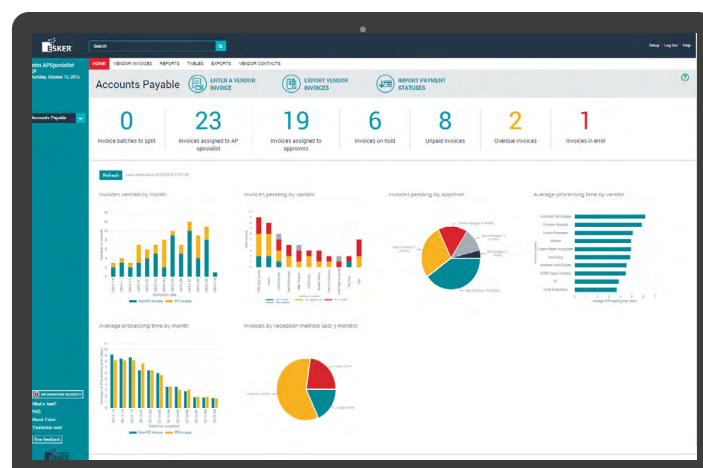
At the time, Sony was manually processing approximately 63,000 invoices per year from eight different countries, which proved extremely time-consuming and inefficient. In an effort to eliminate paper invoices, automate approval workflow and improve its organisational efficiency, Sony began its search for an AP automation solution.

SOLUTION

One of the most important criteria for Sony was finding a solution with an electronic workflow to facilitate AP processing in its SSC using a regional SAP® FI software system and Oracle® Financials system.

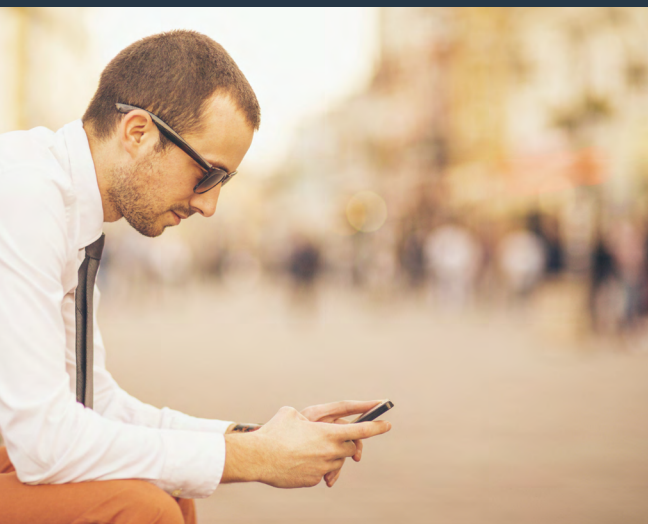
Esker's cloud-based Accounts Payable solution met Sony's requirements and was the most cost efficient. Additionally, Esker had been used by Sony's BPO before the company decided to bring its accounting operations in-house, so adopting a proven and familiar solution would enable a seamless transition.

Using Esker, Sony's vendor invoicing process is streamlined. Received vendor invoices are automatically sent to Esker for processing and approval, all with full visibility and minimal risk for entry errors. Once invoices are approved, invoice details such as the corresponding account codes and cost centres are interfaced into Sony's two accounting systems: SAP and Oracle.



**"THANKS TO ESKER'S AUTOMATION SOLUTION, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
SAVE 40 DAYS OF PRODUCTIVITY PER MONTH."**

Tan Ai Ling | Deputy Director of Regional Accounting | Sony Electronics Asia Pacific Pte Ltd



"A MAJOR FACTOR IN OUR DECISION TO GO WITH ESKER CENTRED ON THE FACT THEIR SOLUTION COULD BE LEVERAGED ON-DEMAND TO FACILITATE OUR AP PROCESSING IN OUR CENTRALISED ACCOUNTING SSC."

Tan Ai Ling | Deputy Director of Regional Accounting | Sony Electronics Asia Pacific Pte Ltd

BENEFITS

Since implementing Esker, Sony has seen a number of benefits, including:



Improved visibility. Invoice submission and approval status is tracked, providing visibility on accrual amount if invoices have not yet been approved.



Increased efficiency. Manual data entry has been eliminated as information in Esker is interfaced to Sony's accounting system.



Easy invoice retrieval. Electronic invoice format can be attached to the accounting booking entry, enabling quick retrieval of invoices for audit purposes.



Convenient approval process. On-the-road accessibility for managers to review and approve supplier invoices.



Always available service. Cloud-based AP automation solution is delivered as a service wherever and whenever needed.



External ERP workflow. Web-based AP workflow outside the ERP system delivers simplified setup of SSC and ability to work with multiple ERP applications.



Cross-border support. Esker's multi-language capabilities enable the reading and processing of invoices in over 120 languages including full DBCS support.

About Sony

Based in Singapore, Sony Electronics Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd. is a subsidiary of Sony Corporation. It serves as the regional headquarters for Sony's electronics business in the Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa regions.

©2016 Esker S.A. All rights reserved. Esker and the Esker logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Esker S.A. in the U.S. and other countries. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners