



Holcim AUTOMATIC INVOICE PROCESSING

As northern Germany's largest construction materials manufacturer, Holcim has many suppliers around the world. At the German subsidiary in Lägerdorf/Hamburg alone, 40.000 invoices must be created and sent to over 3.000 suppliers each year. Up until now, this had to be done manually. After the invoices had been verified and booked in the SAP system, documents were given a unique barcode for identification. Next they were scanned and saved in an optical "Easy Archive."

To optimize invoice processing as a way of improving efficiency and quality, Holcim implemented a solution for automatic invoice capturing and processing based on the document recognition software IRISXtract™. The solution is linked directly to the SAP system and archive thanks to the system integrator for this solution, IRIS' partner, WMD.

THE SOLUTION:

Optimizing the administrative processes at Holcim first required that the company improve its invoice verification process. The invoice documents are therefore no longer scanned at the end of the process; instead they are digitized at the beginning. This way, the complete process is available in electronic form.

The solution scans incoming invoices, extracts the data, and prepares the documents for use in the SAP system. The images continue to be stored in the optical archive and linked to the extracted data. This gives the company a complete invoice processing chain, extending from data capturing, specialist editing and approval all the way to proper booking in the SAP system and archive.



At Holcim, invoices without order references (cost invoices) are captured without stockkeeping units (SKUs) and invoices with order references are captured up to the unit level. Until now, unit data was captured semi-manually (i.e., manually with input suggestion). After the data is extracted by IRISXtract™ and before it is transferred to the SAP system, an intelligent data validation is carried out.

This data validation process incorporates logical and arithmetic rules and compares the master data from the suppliers with the document data from the SAP system. At Holcim's "Verify" workstation, an SAP specialist checks the information imported into the system and compares it with the transaction data.

After this check is carried out, the invoice data is entered into an SAP input book. Here, a second verification is performed, i.e., correct invoices are captured directly and incorrect invoices are transferred to a booking suggestion list. The items on the list are then processed one after another.

Ursula Thiem, Head of Accounts Payable at Holcim in Lägerdorf concludes: "Thanks to the quick and professional implementation by WMD and IRIS of the high quality solution, we are able to achieve maximum benefit from this installation."

“ By implementing the automatic invoice capturing system, we have realized our potential in terms of efficiency and quality in the area of invoice processing. ”

Ursula Thiem,
Head of Accounts Payable, Holcim



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ABOUT US

Image Recognition Integrated Systems (IRIS) is a leading provider of 'Content to Process' technologies'. IRIS offers solutions for automatic invoice and order processing, HR and supplier records as well as case management in legal, healthcare, and finance sectors.

IRIS provides technologies and solutions that capture data and information contained in documents, which are relevant to business processes. The goal is to make the data easily available while reducing operating costs.

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