

INVOICE SOLUTION

SchwörerHaus



Challenge:

- » Efficient processing of over 90,000 incoming invoices per year

Solution:

- » 8 weeks from workshop to go-live
- » Intranet integration with login by single sign-on
- » Extension of existing scan path in order to include extraction and validation

Benefits:

- » 10 percent resource savings
- » Elimination of double document entry
- » Transparency



AFI Invoice is up and running in no time at SchwörerHaus

Speed of action. This is one of the advantages of building a prefabricated house. It was obvious that the electronic and automated processing of incoming invoices with AFI Invoice should also be introduced quickly at SchwörerHaus KG. Within just eight weeks, SchwörerHaus staff was able to process incoming invoices in a time-saving, simple and transparent manner using AFI Solutions GmbH's software solution.

Lengthy, time-consuming, and tedious? Not with SchwörerHaus!

Laborious searching for paper documents, time-consuming double entry of documents in the two existing company codes, which are divided according to the MM and FI modules, and the tedious, constant updating of an Access document control list were to

come to an end. The goal was to become faster. More transparency was needed. The process had to be more convenient and the solution was obvious: an automatic processing system for incoming invoices was required.

SchwörerHaus knew the requirements within a short time

In order to find a suitable supplier as quickly as possible, SchwörerHaus KG carefully considered which requirements had to be met in advance. The software should be deeply integrated into the ERP system SAP. It had to be possible to clone invoices, and ideally it had to be customizable. The new service provider should have extensive project experience to ensure a fast and smooth implementation. And simplified and transparent work were to be ensured.

With the requirements defined, it was easier to scour the market. IT manager Markus Schwörer made use of the market knowledge of his long-standing business partner for scanning and OCR software to ask for a recommendation on an adequate provider. This partner is, after all, an expert in the field of electronic data processing.

Recommendation, impression, comparison

The company recommended was AFI Solutions GmbH, which had been working successfully with the scan and OCR manufacturer for years. Numerous customer projects had proven that the products complement each other well and mesh optimally. Mr Schwörer remembered AFI Solutions presenting its AFI Invoice software, a solution for automated processing of vendor in-

ces, at an in-house info day a few years ago. It was only logical that, through a combination of recommendation and good memory, AFI Solutions was the favored supplier, but by no means the designated one. For comparison, several other software providers were closely examined and evaluated. According to Markus Schwörer *"this is the only way to find out the best for oneself."*

In the end, the Swabian premium pre-fabricated house manufacturer opted for AFI Solutions. *"The appearance and the product were professional, we were best heard there, all the requirements set could be met and we simply had a good feeling,"* reveals the IT manager, who is responsible for and manages the project.

During project launch, AFI Solutions once again highlighted SchwörerHaus' decision in favor of AFI Invoice. Markus Schwörer's team and he himself were enthusiastic about the *"absolutely professionally conducted task force"* for the creation of the functional specification.



8 weeks to go-live

The project was implemented without any variance from the functional specification. SchwörerHaus KG remained close to the product standard. Only a few individual adjustments were necessary. This circumstance and the efficient interaction between the responsible parties and their teams enabled the rapid introduction of the solution within the timeframe of just eight weeks.

What is good stays good

The existing scan path was extended to extract and validate around 90,000 incoming invoices per year. It made sense to continue with this solution, as it was already in use at SchwörerHaus KG and had stood the test.

Fast, uncomplicated, and transparent

Since AFI Invoice has been used productively in the company, management, heads of department, staff and, last but not least, the IT department have been pleased with the increased transparency. This helps to handle workflows in a faster and less complicated manner. Paper invoices are no longer manually entered into an Access list for tracking before being handed from one person to the next.

Incoming invoices and their respective statuses are now processed electronically only.

"At the moment, we are estimating a ten percent saving in resources, which in turn will help us to absorb the increased volume of incoming invoices," explains Project Manager Markus Schwörer.

Few customizations

SchwörerHaus KG was working with two SAP company codes. Materials management was handled in one, and financial accounting in the other. This situation had grown historically. In the future, it should no longer be the case that the document is released and posted in company code MM, only to reappear as paper in financial accounting for manual entry and subsequent posting in company code FI/CO.

Even with AFI Invoice, the MM document is still checked for content by the purchasers. However, the document is only checked when the processing status is green, indicating that the goods receipt and purchase order match 100 percent. If the document is approved, the buyer initiates the cloning of the document with a click.



AFI process control and the rule set convert the cloned data to make it available to the other company code in a meaningful and usable form. Financial accounting now automatically receives the document in "its FI company code" in converted form, can immediately check it technically and process it for accounting purposes. The original MM document is stored in the MM system. Materials management, financial accounting and controlling have an overview of purchase orders placed and completed at all times.

Train-the-trainer principle

AFI Solutions trained only a few SchwörerHaus KG key users from the financial accounting and purchasing departments. The remaining staff was trained directly by SchwörerHaus KG. It was demonstrated how the future processing of incoming invoices will be time-saving, simple, transparent and within set approval limits.

"Training our staff was no problem. Everyone is so smart and was open to the innovation right from the start," beams Markus Schwörer.

The non-SAP users approve the invoices in the AFI web portal, which is integrated in the intranet. A separate login is not necessary due to the system authentication with single sign-on.

Modular software flexibly extendable

The modular architecture of the AFI solutions makes it possible to flexibly activate additional functions. SchwörerHaus KG subsequently decided to use the VAT-RuleSet module from AFI Invoice.

This enables the software to automatically recognize invoice transactions that have to be processed according to the requirements of the reverse charge procedure and to suggest suitable tax codes. The software enhancement reliably meets the current requirements of VAT law and significantly accelerates processing through automation.

SchwörerHaus KG is one of the leading prefabricated house manufacturers in Europe. All Schwörer houses are individual homes that are freely planned and designed. Architecture, design and energy-saving building technology are perfectly aligned. With own specialists, production is carried out in Germany in a resource-efficient way. The houses are then assembled by qualified assembly teams at construction sites throughout Europe.

In addition to top quality, environmental protection has always been a top priority at SchwörerHaus KG. This is demonstrated by the many certifications and the award as a climate protection company by the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal Government.

SchwörerHaus KG was founded in 1950, is a family-run company to this day and employs around 1,800 persons.

www.schwoerer.de

AFI Solutions GmbH is a leading solution provider for the digitization and optimization of document processes around SAP. The solutions cover the entire purchase-to-pay and order-to-cash process.

AFI is the only software manufacturer on the market that offers everything from a single source: With the RedPaperCenter as a managed service, companies can easily outsource the digitization of a wide variety of paper documents. In process optimization, AFI scores with SAP-integrated software solutions. The cloud-based DocumentHub as software as a service (= SaaS) completes the unique product portfolio.

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