

OUTGOING INVOICES

AEB



Challenge:

- » High efforts and costs for the postal dispatch of approximately 30,000 outgoing invoices per year are to be eliminated.
- » More transparency in the dispatch process.

Solution:

- » Maximum digitization of invoice processing with the solution AFI Billing for SAP.

Benefits:

- » Savings of up to €15,000 in postage per year
- » Full control and transparency of invoice dispatch due to a central Monitor
- » Increase in invoices being sent digitally to 60 percent
- » Traceability of the invoicing process due to secure documentation



Electronic sending of outgoing invoices and cost savings of 80 percent

“Results can be seen very quickly” says Sabine Luttkus, associate for commercial order processing at AEB, about AFI Billing.

The solution has been digitizing the invoicing process and creating transparency within AEB since the end of 2015. In addition, the leading supplier of global IT solution for the supply chain is saving 80 percent of the previous costs.

The heart of the AEB staff beats for digitization: it is hardly surprising that the desire to optimize the process for outgoing invoices came from the specialist department. The decision makers went along with this.

Fast implementation, fast ROI

Setting up the SAP add-on went relatively quickly. The e-mail addresses of customers were retrieved by means of

a campaign. The option of receiving invoices electronically in the future went down well recounts Ms Luttkus: “

The response rate of over 50 percent was overwhelming and first of all we got our hands full setting up the customer data in the system.”

The effort has paid off because today Ms Luttkus *“no longer has to worry”* about these outgoing invoices as she says herself: *“Basically, I only create the outgoing invoices in SAP and oversee their dispatch conveniently and transparently in the AFI Billing Monitor. In the past, I still had the paper in my hand and a lot of manual effort was involved.”*

The Monitor allows for control of the entire invoicing process. The system also retrieves the document information from the print control in SAP which still go out by mail for example.

Attachments to invoices made easy

The outgoing invoices are displayed transparently by customer or sales area. The original invoice or the SAP transaction invoice display »VF03« can be accessed with one click.

If an invoice needs to be sent repeatedly or an additional attachment needs to be enclosed, the persons in charge now do this with a few clicks directly from the Monitor which saves a lot of time as Ms Luttkus explains:

“When I create an invoice in SAP, it theoretically goes out immediately and it is no longer possible to send attachments. Now I can stop the dispatch of the invoice because I can get back to the dispatch order via the AFI Billing Monitor and enclose all important but not tax-relevant attachments. Finally, I can send all in one.”

Complete traceability of the dispatch

Another benefit is the traceability of the invoicing process at any time. Everything is completely documented: be it the dispatch time, the recipient, the e-mail or the invoice itself. This is in conformity with the law and convenient if customers request information or the invoice has to be resent for example.

Conclusions: benefits that really pay off

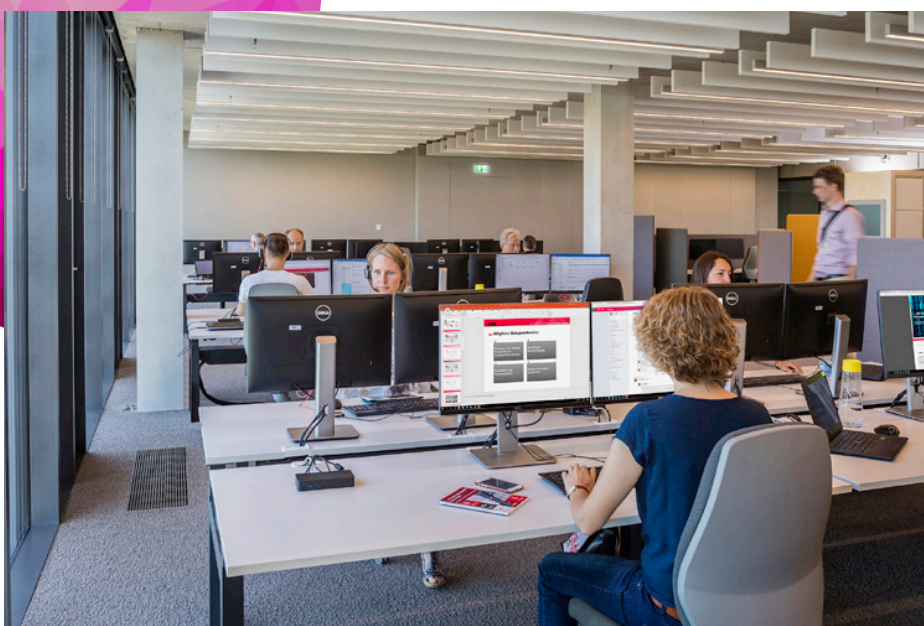
Almost 80 percent of AEB customers receive their invoices electronically by now while the remaining 20 percent have various reasons for using paper. One of the reasons for this is that AEB serves a range of company sizes: from three-man operations to globally active DAX companies.

Nevertheless, the share of invoices going out digitally has constantly been on the rise since go-live of the solution. With every new customer who places reliance on electronic invoices as well as every new rise in postal charges the savings increase:

“With AFI Billing we have significantly increased our e-invoice share over the last four years which frequently pays off in cost savings and less effort,” confirms Ms Luttkus.

AEB confirms in figures that the omission of paper, printing, enveloping and physical dispatch results in savings of over 80 percent. The company is currently saving around €15,000 a year on postage costs alone.

As a next project, AEB plans to introduce DirectConfirmationControl and would like to optimize the entire capture process for order confirmations.



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SOLUTIONS

For over 40 years, AEB SE has developed software to support the global trade and logistics processes of businesses in the industrial, commercial and service sectors. More than 5,000 customers from over 35 countries are using AEB solutions for transport and warehouse management, import and export processing and preference management, multi-country customs processes, export controls, trade compliance management and much more.

They benefit from greater efficiency, legal certainty and transparency – also internationally. This is rendered possible, for example, by automated customs and embargo checks, improved cooperation with partners in the supply chain and automated shipping processes. The AEB portfolio ranges from rapidly deployable online solutions to comprehensive logistics software.

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AFI is a solution provider and leading manufacturer of software for the optimization of paperless, digital document processes around SAP as well as a provider of services for document capture and processing. AFI offers optimal solutions for the entire purchase-to-pay and order-to-cash process.

AFI combines state-of-the-art SAP technology with technical innovation to develop excellent software solutions integrated in SAP for processing a wide range of document types. Routine tasks are replaced by automated and paperless processes.

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