Esker Launches Quick-to-Implement, Low-Risk Vendor Invoice Automation Solutions

New packaged solutions offer companies innovative, cost-effective approach to automate accounts payable processes

Lyon, France and Orlando, FL – May 13, 2009 – Esker, the leader in document process automation solutions, today at SAPPHIRE® 2009 announced the release of new packaged solutions for vendor invoice automation designed to simplify accounts payable processing. Following the March release of Esker on Demand Accounts Payable Automation services, these new on-premise solutions offer companies comprehensive, quickly implemented and risk-free options to gain complete control over AP processing.

AP all in one equals efficiency

Accounts Payable packaged solutions are designed to be ideal for companies that want to reduce paper use in their vendor invoice management processes at low cost and low risk. Each AP package is offered at a fixed cost with all the elements necessary for quick deployment to be up and running in as little as five weeks. Combining an optimal mix of technology and expertise, these solutions are designed to deliver significant and immediate operational efficiencies while helping to eliminate paper from management processes.

"With these new solutions, Esker gives companies a quick and simple alternative to large on-premise solutions that can take months or even years to customize and get everyone up to speed. We have created AP solutions that require no programming to integrate with an organization's business applications, therefore eliminating the costs of customization," says Catherine Dupuy, senior product manager at Esker. "These new solutions bundle the necessary elements to intelligently automate a particular task, effectively eliminating manual labor and reducing costs."

AP automation packages key strengths and features

For immediate improvement of payables processes, Esker AP solutions are designed with three basic principles in mind to be:

- Comprehensive — All the elements needed to automate AP processes are included
- Quickly delivered — Implementation typically in 5 to 10 weeks
- Risk-free —Integrated with SAP® applications, requiring no programming

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Esker Accounts Payable features include:

- **Data capture:** Invoices are scanned and captured in Esker DeliveryWare where all data is extracted, then the invoices are made available for validation in the Esker Document Manager.
- **Data verification and payment approval workflow:** Accounts Payable specialists or other users verify the data captured and add necessary coding information. The invoice is then routed for approval according to predefined routing rules relating to the vendor, the amount or cost center concerned.
- **Archiving:** The invoice image is automatically archived and indexed for future reference.
- **Integration:** Invoice data and payment information are passed or made available to the SAP ERP application using standard SAP technology.
- **Audit and reporting:** The solution ensures traceability of every invoice along with all actions that touch the validation and approval process.

Available packages are:

A. Scan and File: for customers primarily concerned with archiving and retrieval of paper invoices.
B. Scan and File and OCR: leverages data capture technology to make the invoice archiving and indexing process even more efficient.
C. Scan and File, OCR and Workflow: the most comprehensive package to automate vendor invoice processing from receipt to payment.

The benefits of AP automation

With 80 percent of vendor invoices currently received in paper format, many companies are still manually managing their AP processing. It is a tedious and cumbersome process that generates costs, productivity loss (due to manual entry, filing, workflow approval routing and other tasks), potential errors and payment delays. Esker customers who automate AP processing are able to:

- Lower purchase-to-pay process costs by as much as 40–60 percent
- Receive and enter vendor invoices up to 65 percent faster
- Take full advantage of fast-payment discounts from vendors
- Prevent late and duplicate payments
- Help protect their credit rating to control financing costs
- Improve response to vendor inquiries concerning invoice status
- Eliminate redundant ERS invoice processing
- Gain access to information for reporting and analysis to balance workloads and identify process bottlenecks

AP packaged solution demonstrations at SAPPHIRE 2009

Esker will demonstrate the new Accounts Payable packaged solutions at SAPPHIRE 2009 in booth 319, and is encouraging attendees to stop by for a demonstration at any time during the event.

About Esker

Esker is a recognized leader in helping organizations eliminate manual processes, gain process visibility and control, and reduce the use of paper by automating the flow of documents into, within and out of the organization. With patented document delivery automation software and hosted document delivery services, Esker offers a total solution to automate every phase and every type of business information exchange. Customers achieve significant and immediate operational efficiencies, cost savings and measurable ROI in as little as three to six months. Founded in 1985, Esker operates globally with more than 80,000 customers and millions of licensed users worldwide. Esker has global headquarters in Lyon, France and U.S. headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin. For more information, visit www.esker.com.

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