



7 REASONS

to Automate Accounts Payable in an
Oracle® E-Business Suite Environment



YOUR AP AUTOMATION JOURNEY STARTS HERE ...

Manual processing of vendor invoices presents a roadblock to the success of your accounts payable (AP) department and overall business objectives. As you look to automation to get your company on the right track, **consider this guidebook your map along the 7-step path to AP automation success.**

01 Address the Issues

Let's face the facts: Conventional invoice processing makes the AP department's job an uphill battle. Aside from manual hassles slowing down the purchase-to-pay cycle (e.g., entering invoices, getting approval signatures, resolving errors, etc.), those in AP also have the time-consuming task of retrieving data for inquiries and audits. All in all, it's a recipe for disaster.



High price to pay

A recent AP automation study found that respondents using electronic AP processing methods reported **processing their invoices 63% cheaper than those using manual methods.**¹

1. Aberdeen Group

02 Consider the Big Picture

Unfortunately, the pain inflicted by manual vendor invoice processing doesn't stop at the AP department. With no electronic audit trail, members of management have zero visibility into the process. And that's a big deal — without proper oversight and transparency, the ability to accurately plan, forecast and identify areas of process improvement is virtually impossible.



An aligned strategy

The most effective alternative to manual AP processing is an automation solution that **unifies the goals and objectives of all parties involved into a single, strategic approach.**

03 Assess Your Situation

Many companies choose to stick with the status quo thinking their current AP process is comparable to “the standard.” The only way to find out? Set benchmarks like Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to see how your AP process ranks among top industry metrics. If you’re not happy with how you stack up against the competition, it’s time to make the move to automation.



The competitive edge

According to a 2013 study, best-in-class organizations **process more than 25,000 invoices** per full-time employee per year versus peers at just over 9,000 invoices.²

2. The Hackett Group

04 Choose the Right Solution

Esker’s Accounts Payable solution integrates with Oracle E-Business Suite’s interface seamlessly, allowing you to automate every phase of vendor invoice processing for streamlined AP management. Workflow features such as a real-time audit trail — from invoice receipt to payment posting to intelligent data extraction — will make you wonder why you hadn’t switched from manual AP processing sooner.



Maximize your Oracle investment

Esker **integrates seamlessly with the Oracle E-Business Suite system**, meaning your investment with Esker gives you more value from your existing infrastructure — a win-win situation.

05 Make It Your Own

With Esker, you have the power to choose how you want your solution implemented. Prefer to house it on-premises? Esker DeliveryWare is for you. Rather have your solution hosted in the cloud? Choose Esker on Demand. Our flexible options give your company more freedom and opportunities to expand your solution to other departments and processes if necessary.



Advantage of Software as a Service (SaaS)

With no hardware costs, rapid and flexible adoption, and continuous upgrades, Esker believes the SaaS model of cloud delivery is ideal for automating AP processes.

06 Get Started Quickly

The faster an automation solution is up and running, the faster you can reap the benefits. Esker's way of ensuring this is through Agile methodology — an approach to solution delivery that promotes customer involvement early in the process to achieve the highest business value in the shortest amount of time. A surefire way to get the most bang for your buck.



Low risk, high reward

Customers not only see a faster ROI thanks to the Agile approach, but are able to personalize the solution more, **lessening the risk of paying for features you don't use.**

07 Reap the Benefits

Breaking free from outdated practices can make all the difference in how your AP operations perform. Just how big of a difference? According to Esker research, automated vendor invoice processing can be up to 65% faster and cost 40-60% less than manual methods, and result in invoice accuracy rates up to 99% with 100% process visibility.



Overcoming the obstacles

Don't let anything stand in the way of your AP automation goals! **Esker's solution is a fully integrated and highly effective way to go from manual AP to automated processing.**



Esker is a worldwide leader in cloud-based document process automation software. Organizations of all sizes use our solutions to automate critical areas of business communication.

After 30+ years of field experience, we have helped over 11,000 companies around the world improve operational efficiency. Our headquarters are in Lyon, France, but we're located just about everywhere paper needs quitting.

Learn more:

Download our white paper, [Automating Fax, Email & EDI Orders into Oracle E-Business Suite Systems](#).



