



GROUPE CHÂTEL

CREATING AN EFFICIENT, RELIABLE INVOICING ENVIRONMENT WITH ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AUTOMATION

BACKGROUND

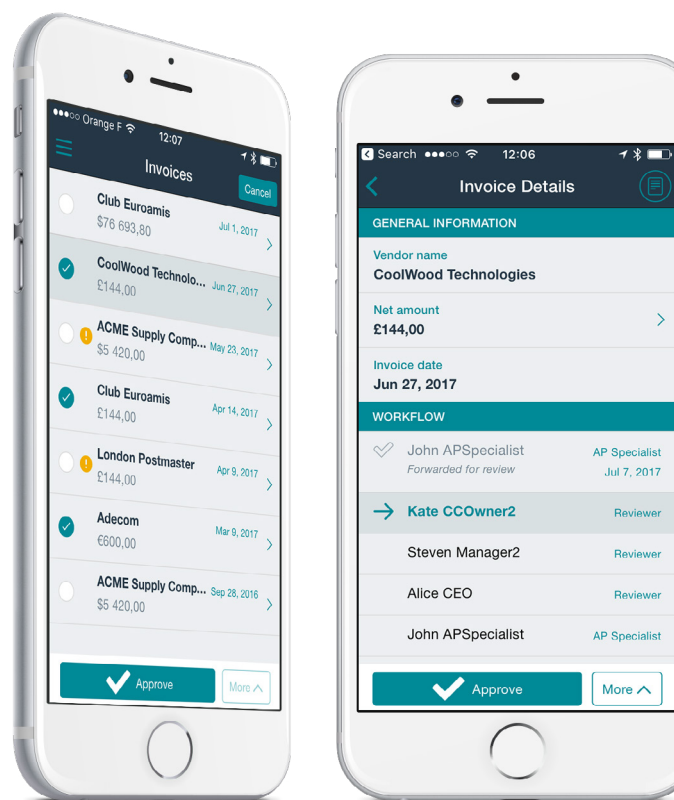
As a French transportation and logistics company, Groupe CHÂTEL annually processes 20,000 supplier invoices which arrive from its 10 businesses across seven locations. Prior to Esker, this process was done manually, proving to be a difficult and often error-prone job for the company's six-person accounting team based at company headquarters in Vire. The accounts payable (AP) staff faced multiple challenges, including:

- **Lack of control and security** over invoice registration, including risk of duplicate payment
- **Lengthy invoice processing time** due to the distance between sites and often laborious routing process, resulting in invoice registration delays of up to 15 days
- **Lack of internal invoice traceability** and visibility in the approval process
- **Poor workload distribution**

SOLUTION

Looking to process invoices faster and more efficiently, Groupe CHÂTEL selected Esker's cloud-based Accounts Payable solution to automate its invoice process.

Since implementing Esker in 2014, Groupe CHÂTEL now receives all paper invoices at its headquarters. Accountants scan the invoices, which are then processed within 24 hours. Today, 10 percent of invoices arrive via email, which has helped the company process invoices more quickly as the scanning step is eliminated. To increase e-invoice rates, the company actively encourages its customers to send their invoices via email.



*"Our objective was to **optimise our AP process, increase efficiency, and improve process visibility and invoice traceability**. Thanks to Esker, we have moved from a basic in-house invoicing tool to a reliable invoice automation solution. What's more, Esker's solution **integrates perfectly with Cegid, our ERP system.**"*

Mickaël Asseline | CFO

BENEFITS

Esker has enabled Groupe CHÂTEL to achieve numerous benefits, including:



Faster invoice processing



Faster approval cycles, which includes close to 50 validators and up to six approval levels



Accounting and settlement letters done on a weekly basis rather than daily



Simplified year-end balance sheet process; no need to look in paper files



Improved invoice traceability with the ability to retrieve invoice history at any time



Improved cash management thanks to visibility into payments



Ability to create consulting profiles, particularly for auditors



On-the-go invoice review and approval capabilities thanks to the mobile application Esker Anywhere™



*"Implemented in just one month, Esker's solution was **quickly adopted** by our users and approvers who had been trained internally prior to solution implementation. Esker has become **essential to our company** and we cannot go back to how it used to be!"*

Mickaël Asseline | CFO

ABOUT GROUPE CHÂTEL

Groupe CHÂTEL is a family owned transportation and logistics company created in 1922. Present in four French cities (Vire, Caen, Nantes and Le Havre) Groupe CHÂTEL has 600 employees and achieved 67 million euros in sales revenue in 2016.

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