



City of Nuremberg

New accounting system with innovative workflows

On January 1, 2005, Nuremberg became the first major city in Germany to convert its financial systems to double-entry book-keeping (German acronym: Doppik).

The project

By switching from the traditional public-sector method of cash-based accounting to commercial, accrual-based accounting, Nuremberg was the first large city in Germany to carry out its plans of switching to modern accounting using SAP – a huge step and a major investment in the future.

To manage the project, the city set up a special workgroup within its Finance Office which implemented the processes on the basis of SAP's Business Workflow.

The challenges

- Mapping the invoice approval process for pre-entered SAP FI documents with the SAP Business Workflow for public administration.
- Taking due account of the special requirements of Nuremberg local government: a decentralized office structure, a central cashier, and the automated determination of authorized personnel.
- Automatic printing of payment authorizations and release for payment after their approval.
- Integration into the automated workflow of invoices and credit notes entered locally with SAP's SD module.



Clemens Krechel,
Project Manager
"New Accounting System for the City of Nuremberg"

"To upgrade our accounting procedures, we switched to accrual-based, double-entry book-keeping with the SAP Business Workflow."



Benefits for the city of Nuremberg

- Consistent compliance with the 'dual control and approval' principle.
- Transparent approval processes.
- Efficient and cost-optimized workflows.
- Advantages for the public sector.
- Based on processes that have proven themselves in many practical applications.

The solution

The new solution's design is consistently based on the standard workflows provided by SAP, which have the status of references for the public sector in Germany. The special requirements of the city's local government were not implemented through programming, but mapped in SAP's integrated and flexible organizational management system. Since the system is based on SAP's standard platform, it can be easily upgraded to future SAP releases. Two workflows were implemented:

- "Authorization Approval" workflow
- "Payment Approval" workflow

The "Authorization Approval" workflow works as follows: A document is entered locally by a clerk and automatically forwarded to the person authorized to approve it. This person is identified via the workflow and the integrated organizational management system on which the SAP authorization concept is based.

The "Payment Approval" workflow routes all payment documents pending approval to the authorized personnel at the city treasury and triggers the print-out of an authorization document. The city treasury either approves the payment or returns it to the budget clerk if there are any questions.

Our services

- Assessment workshop:
To collect customer requirements and analyze the appropriate IT infrastructure
- Design of the solution based on the detailed concept
- Implementation
- Integration test and Go-Live
- Training

Technical basis

- SAP Business Workflow
- SAP FI

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