



Fr. Lürssen Werft GmbH & Co. KG

Transparency in the invoice receipt process

Size is not the crucial factor in today's business world. Much more, it's the special expertise and experience of more than 125 years of successful shipbuilding that make the difference.

The Lürssen Group's various sites and variety of national and international cooperation agreements mean that it continues to have probably the most significant factor for success: concentration of all its skills on the single crucial goal of satisfying the customer. With this very much in mind, IT procedures are being more and more fine-tuned in the direction of the customer interface.

With the service provider Siemens IT Solutions and Services, an invoice receipt program is currently being mapped as a workflow using SAP. The workflow gives Lürssen all the information it needs from the system every step of the way, in electronic form.

The challenge

- Integrated invoice receipt processing with SAP Business Workflow
- Integration of non-SAP users in the checking process via email client (MS Exchange) to process decision-making steps or process steps outside SAP
- Implementation of an interface for periodic updating of valid email addresses from the active directory (Exchange Server) in accordance with SAP
- Development of a basic process that is as simple as possible, in order to guarantee fewer work steps in the system, to ensure that invoice data is correct and hence to cut throughput times significantly

Benefits for Lürssen

- Much faster throughput times because the invoice receipt process chain is free of media discontinuities, and integrates all parties and systems involved
- Inclusion of all non-SAP employees through mail-client integration
- Minimization of lost cash discounts and compliance with payment deadlines
- Information constantly on hand because each individual authorization process is logged to ensure the desired transparency for fine-tuning of the customer interface internally and externally
- Inclusion of the existing system landscape (Outlook, PS System), thanks to the comprehensive workflow
- Since the workflow is implemented with the SAP Standard Business Workflow and incorporates external systems (MS Exchange) via standard interfaces, the solution is open for future SAP releases
- Low license or acquisition costs for webserver application

The solution components

- SAP Business Workflow
- Web link via webserver with individual decision form
- SAP - MS Exchange Active Directory interface
- SAPconnect link for e-mail communication
- Automatic display of archived invoices in the workflow via Archive-Link interface
- Webserver – SAP Workflow communication via RFC link
- Modeling of an authorization process for each individual customer
- Automatic WF functions such as “post in background” or “outsort document”

Our services

- Strategic consulting
- Assessment of present customer requirements and application infrastructure
- Designing the detailed concept for the workflow with the customer
- Implementing a prototype for acceptance
- Enhancement of the prototype with the extra functions still required
- Preparation, integration for going live
- Documentation and training

Technical basis

- SAP Business Workflow
- Non-SAP Webserver (Apache)
- Java Server Pages
- MS Exchange, Active Directory
- Windream document management and archive system

**LÜRSEN**

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