

CASE STUDY:

Renewi

RENEWI: GREENER THAN GREEN

RENEWI IS A LEADING EUROPEAN SUPPLIER OF WASTE SERVICES, RAW MATERIALS AND ENERGY BASED IN FLANDERS, BELGIUM. RENEWI WAS PROCESSING 45,000 INVOICES EACH YEAR - ALL PAPER. IN KEEPING WITH THEIR COMMITMENT TO 'GREEN' VALUES, RENEWI TEAMED UP WITH BASWARE TO MAKE THEIR COMPLEX INVOICING PROCESSES MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY - AND ECONOMICALLY - SUSTAINABLE. TODAY, THEY ARE 100% PAPERLESS AND MORE THAN 80% OF THEIR DIGITAL INVOICES COME DIRECTLY FROM THEIR SUPPLIERS.



At Renewi's Shared Services Center in Lommel, everything is done the green way

- down to the smallest details: whiteboards are used instead of paper flip charts, employees have two screens and only a paper notebook on their desks. This is, perhaps, not surprising since Renewi specializes in recycling tons of waste every day.

Even more significantly, Renewi's invoicing has now transitioned to an electronic format, which is not only good for the environment, but is also much appreciated by employees, who are now free to focus on more value-adding tasks. As Hans Wolfs, Accounts Payable Manager at Renewi proudly points

out: "Together with ICreative and Basware, we have developed an 'ideal green triangle'."

Hans Wolfs continues: "Although society is increasingly conscious of the environment, we still produce a lot of residual waste every day. The focus of our 5,400 full-time employees in nine countries involves collecting and processing waste. We are able to re-use 93% of this waste - a substantial 'green' USP (unique selling point) that distinguishes us from our competitors."

"We have made the commitment to introduce environmental sustainability across all layers of our organization. Partly as a result, our business premises in Lommel - where over 110

CUSTOMER:



INDUSTRY:

Waste management service

LOCATION:

Benelux, Germany, France, Portugal & Hungary

BASWARE SOLUTION:

- Basware Invoice
- Contract Matching
- Basware Scan & Capture Service
- Basware e-Invoice for receiving

basware

Simplify Operations, Spend Smarter.



LOOKING FOR USER-FRIENDLY SOLUTION

employees work in the Shared Services Center (SSC) hardly consumes energy and is self-sufficient."



THE DECISION TO GO DIGITAL

Prior to setting up this environmentally-friendly SSC, invoice processing was done the old-fashioned, paper-based way in Mol, where their Flemish SSC was located at the time. Hans Wolfs explains: "I joined In 1998, so I remember the old way of doing things quite well. By 2003, we were processing around 45,000 invoices each year and it became clear that things needed to change drastically. I began talking with ICreative, and we decided to have a look at another organization that was already using the Basware Invoice Processing solution. It was exactly what we were looking for, and was very user-friendly. We were convinced immediately."

THEY STARTED WITH IN-HOUSE SCANNING

Renewi's first step toward electronic invoice processing was

only the beginning. "Everyone in the office scanned their own paper invoices, then logged them by computer with Basware. However, with the addition of substantial invoice flow from The Netherlands, this method became unwieldy. In fact, we had to hire four extra full time staff who worked full-time just scanning and validating invoices."



CONTRACT MATCHING FOR FASTER PAYMENT

They wanted to go further. In 2006, they implemented Contract Matching which enabled recurring invoices - such as leasing fees - to be matched and paid. In 2010, the company expanded the system with an e-invoice solution.

GETTING SUPPLIERS ON-BOARD

Wolfs explains: "One can think of e-invoicing as a 'digital letterbox' into which a company receives digital invoices from their customers. Together with ICreative, we wrote to all our suppliers to request that

future invoices be sent via administration-specific email addresses, in PDF or in XML. This way, invoices reached us in a pre-sorted fashion, which meant less administrative hassle for us. The results were spectacular: after this project, we were already receiving 30% of our invoices digitally."

However, 70% still arrived as paper. Together with ICreative, Hans Wolfs was committed to achieving significant electronic gains here, too. "We had 10,000 suppliers, each invoicing in their own manner - that was a serious challenge. In addition, our paper invoice scanning system needed a lot of time to record the various invoice templates, and to create templates for new suppliers. At this point, we considered just adjusting our software, but that wouldn't have guaranteed a significant increase toward our goal of 90% digitalization. In 2013, I discussed this with a business colleague who had faced the same problem. He suggested we outsource our paper invoice processing."

OUTSOURCED SCAN & CAPTURE SERVICE

Wolfs again took a look at the set-up of a company that was using Basware, and was quite impressed by the scan and capture solution which efficiently converted paper invoices into an electronic format. "Together with ICreative and Basware, we wanted to eliminate the remaining 70% of paper invoices within a year. We already had positive experiences with ICreative and Basware, which is why we chose them to assist us in the next stage. Successfully, I might add: that 30% is now at 80%."



OFFERING SEVERAL OPTIONS FOR SUPPLIERS

With Basware Invoice Processing combined with Basware Contract Matching and Basware Scan and Capture Service, Renewi had successfully implemented mutually supporting solutions to structure their invoice processing more efficiently. And it didn't stop there.

He continues: "Using the Basware Virtual Printer, our suppliers can generate electronic invoices themselves. When suppliers opt for one of these

"THE OPTIONS FOR OUR SUPPLIERS TO INVOICE DIGITALLY HAVE GROWN ENORMOUSLY. THEY ARE NOT ONLY ABLE TO SEND A PDF VIA EMAIL, BUT CAN ALSO MAKE USE OF OUR PORTAL FOR SMALL SUPPLIERS. PAPER INVOICES SENT TO SCAN PARTNERS CAN SUBSEQUENTLY BE DELIVERED DIGITALLY TO US IN XML,"

Wolfs explains.

ways of uploading an invoice or invoice details, we receive it electronically, after which this program takes care of the rest."

"The comprehensive Basware Commerce Network offers suppliers literally every possibility to deliver invoices electronically: automated, manual and even outsourced. The sky is the limit!"



THE RESULT: 100% PAPERLESS

Where Renewi used to be a paper-based organization, it is now 100% paperless thanks to the close collaboration with ICreative. The only business documents that are still on paper are the weighing and sign-off receipts which Renewi receives from suppliers. This is an industry-wide challenge, but even this process will be made electronic in the foreseeable future.

All in all, Renewi is a very satisfied Basware user. "You bet", nods Hans Wolfs in agreement, "and it's not just me, but also my colleagues who check and validate invoices. Scanning and validating are both rather laborious."

FLUCTUATIONS IN INVOICE QUANTITIES ARE NO PROBLEM



"One challenge is that invoices that we want to process as quickly as possible don't always arrive at a steady or predictable rate. Sometimes we receive 500 a day, and then suddenly it jumps to 2,000! It is difficult to design



one's processes to handle such fluctuations. This is one of the reasons to outsource such activities to a service that can do all this for you. And the Basware Commerce Network, with their comprehensive Scan and Capture Solution, for example, passes every test with flying colours," explains Wolfs.

NEXT STEP: FULL PURCHASE-TO-PAY

Another clear benefit is that Renewi is now future-proof when it comes to electronic invoice processing. Hans Wolfs concludes: "When, in the near future, a solid purchasing solution is added to the financial process, the purchase-to-pay-process is complete. At the moment, my colleagues must validate incoming invoices themselves.

They must check a lot and request information from those who ordered products. The automatic matching between purchase order and invoice is not yet present, but that is a next step we would like to take. At the moment, we use a program that was written by one of our colleagues. This way, we can get used to the idea of a centralized procurement system. Consider it an interim solution. Once we take the plunge, it is likely that we will roll out procurement together with ICreative and Basware."



ABOUT: ICreative

ICreative is the Dutch Purchase-2-Pay and integrated document flow specialist that serves multinationals, national companies and institutions. ICreative does this with market-leading solutions from Basware and Kofax.



ABOUT: Renewi

Renewi, created in 2017 by the merger of Shanks Group plc and Van Gansewinkel Groep B.V., is a leading waste-to-product business ideally positioned to be part of the solution to some of the main environmental problems facing society today: reducing waste, avoiding pollution, and preventing the unnecessary use of finite natural resources.

Renewi operates in Europe and North America. It is listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a constituent of the FTSE 250 Index. With over 8,000 employees across Europe and North America, Renewi has deep expertise and an extensive breadth of waste management products and services.

ABOUT BASWARE

Basware is the global leader in providing purchase-to-pay and e-invoicing solutions in the world of commerce. We empower companies to unlock value across their financial operations by simplifying and streamlining key financial processes. Our Basware Commerce Network enables easy collaboration between buyers and suppliers of all sizes. With Basware, businesses can introduce completely new ways of buying and selling to achieve significant cost savings and boost their cash flow.

Find out more at:

WWW.BASWARE.COM

