

MAKE THE „0“ IN OCR OBSOLETE WITH BASWARE SMARTPDF

According to a 2019 Billentis study, the development of e-invoicing, RPA, and AI is making such rapid progress that OCR-read invoices might reduce in volume by a minimum of 50% through 2025.

Optical Character Recognition, or OCR, has been the technology of choice for organizations to rapidly become paperless in their invoice processing without having to connect suppliers electronically. OCR is also often used to process accounts payable invoices sent as PDFs. But why would anyone want to use a process that diminishes invoice data quality at the first step of the invoice life cycle? Good news - there's a better way.

With Basware, all suppliers can send invoices generated in their ERP,

billing system, or office programs as PDF documents at no additional cost. These machine-readable PDF invoices can be processed as if they were electronic invoices. This improves automation rates and reduces costs.

The main difference between OCR and Basware's e-invoice receiving services is that with Basware, the data in PDF invoices is extracted at its original data quality. The data is then converted into the desired format and passed on to the receiver's Accounts Payable or ERP system for processing.

Some of your suppliers might still send you PDF invoices that are not machine-readable - think of them as images in PDF format. With Basware, you need not worry about them either. We'll detect whether a PDF is machine-readable or not and automatically select the right technology to create e-invoices for all PDF invoices you receive.



Supplier registers in Basware Portal (OPTIONAL)

Supplier sends a PDF invoice by email

Basware maps predefined invoice fields and generates an e-invoice

The e-invoice is sent to you. **No need for OCR**

You receive the e-invoice and invoice image

* https://www.billentis.com/The_einvoicing_journey_2019-2025.pdf

SMARTPDF AT A GLANCE: THE SMART ALTERNATIVE TO OCR

	OCR = OPTICAL CHARACTER RECOGNITION	SMARTPDF
HOW INVOICE DATA IS RETRIEVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data interpretation of graphical elements from scanned paper or PDF image 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data extraction from original data embedded in machine-readable PDFs
DATA QUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor: all electronic information is lost in the process Manual validation and correction for up to 20-30% of invoices is common 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% maintained original data quality from the supplier, even for line level data
COST-EFFICIENCY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCR is more expensive, especially when not only header data, but line level data is required Higher costs due to manual corrections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More cost-effective than pure OCR process for the receiver Free of charge for the sender
SUITED FOR:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting point for companies that require an immediate shift to paperless invoice processing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizations with large volume of incoming invoices (>50.000 p.a.) from a large number of suppliers Ideal to connect also the long-tail of suppliers

Many organizations work with Basware to achieve faster processes with fewer manual interactions. Partners like the University of Oslo, McDonalds in Germany, and many others are achieving ambitious e-invoicing targets:

The University of Oslo was able to go from only 13% to over 60% e-invoice rate in just a year with the help of Basware's E-invoice Receiving and Supplier Activation Services. Since then, they've improved further and are currently enjoying e-invoice rates of around 90%

McDonald's in Germany is a great example of how much faster invoices can be processed. Not only does Basware generate the e-invoices and deliver them to

McDonald's, a VAT compliance check also takes place. The result: A reduction of invoice processing time from 20 to 7 days.

CONCLUSIONS

- Improved data quality means less errors and fewer exceptions to manage.
- That in turn means improved automation and faster invoice processing
- With faster processes, you're able to capture more early payment discounts. The easiest way to do so if you work with Basware is with Dynamic Discount, which comes fully integrated with Basware Procure-to-Pay.

WHAT IS YOUR NEXT STEP TO REALIZE COST SAVINGS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION?

If your organization processes large amounts of invoices every month it will make perfect sense to work with Basware.

Contact us for a free consultation call with our subject matter experts to find out how Basware can help you to remove manual interventions from your invoice reception process and easily connect your complete supplier base.

Want to learn more?

[CONTACT US](#)

ABOUT BASWARE

Basware is the only procure-to-pay and e-invoicing solution provider that empowers businesses with 100% spend visibility through 100% supplier connectivity and 100% data capture. Our cloud-based technology enables organizations to fully manage their spend, mitigate financial risk and reduce the cost of operations via automation. With the world's largest open business network and an open technology ecosystem, we are uniquely positioned to deliver the solution required for Visible Commerce, which provides customers with complete transparency into all the flows of money, goods, and services around the world. A global company, Basware has offices in 14 countries and is traded on the Helsinki exchange (BAS1V: HE).

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