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AP Automation Benefits for Controllers

Controller

BEFORE Automation

Accounts payable is the hub of all transactions. As the controller, you are responsible for the financial performance of the company or your department.

Before implementing an accounts payable automation solution, here is how you might spend your day. This example is for manufacturing.

You spend much of your time creating or modifying budgets based on meetings with department managers and your plant manager.

Those budgets are used to measure performance for each financial period, as well as the overall year-end totals.

Dealing with Burden Rates

You have weekly meetings to make sure you know what is happening within the plant, which presses are down, what additional staffing needs are, and more. You create estimates to give your CFO when you're worried about the danger of going over budgeted amounts.

You have an understanding of what parts are being manufactured. You know the profit margin of each job, as long as the job is running in the press it was calculated to be manufactured in – also known as the burden rate* .

Disruptions

When disruptions occur, it is likely that you are included in meetings where decisions are being made but it is also possible that you are not included – a very common occurrence. You often learn about situations after they've been resolved. That's when you get a report on how much the issue cost the company.

One of your biggest frustrations is that you are not part or privy to any of the financial transactions for your plant.

*The burden rate is the allocation rate at which indirect costs are applied to the direct costs of either labor or inventory.

BEFORE Automation

All direct material purchases are initiated from the purchasing and materials departments, and the indirect material purchases are handled at the plant level. You are not always made aware of the indirect purchases – even when you should be.

100% Resposibility, 0% Authority

Your signature is not required because it carries no financial authorization.
This means that you have 100% responsibility and 0% authority where spending is concerned.

You have a process that you follow at month end. This process includes verifying the activity in your GL accounts. The problem is you can only see the posting.

Lack of Visibility

You can't see the detail or the invoices that generated the posting. You create a list of all of the invoices that you need pulled, scanned and emailed so you can confirm that the correct GL account was used.

You also need to know what is included in the accrual posting for your locations. This is problematic because you are not the person that generated the accrual posting.

The posting is comprised of spreadsheets that are a listing of all the invoices that are sitting in AP at the corporate office. You request a backup for the journal entry so you can better understand what is actually being accrued.

AFTER Automation

Once AP automation has been implemented and integrated with your ERP or accounting system:

- You have the opportunity to be part of the conversation around each and every purchase.

- Your signature isn't needed for approvals on the purchase requisition, but you are ultimately responsible for the spend. You can set specific scenarios where you're added to the approval process – bringing you into the financial transactions and decisions when you need to be.

- There are no surprises because you can see all of the transactions concerning your area of responsibility.

- You can stop looking at "what happened" and start working on "what is happening" in real time.

- Month end reporting is faster and can be saved and/or exported to Excel for further analysis and/or audit purposes.

- You can run reports throughout the month and monitor the remaining amounts on your budgets as the month progresses.

- When you are reconciling your GL accounts at month end, you don't need to rely on AP (or any other departments) to pull invoice copies to verify all of the charges in your GL accounts.

"Accrual reports are readily available. That includes the details of what makes up the total, complete with the invoice information." - Controller

Rillion Solution Stack

Rillion AP Automation

- Invoice Data Capture
- Invoice Processing
- Approval Workflow
- Searchable Archive
- Auditing

Rillion PO Matching

- Automated PO and Goods Receipt matching engine
- Internal and external POs

Rillion Purchase Requisition Automation

- Automated Indirect Purchasing platform
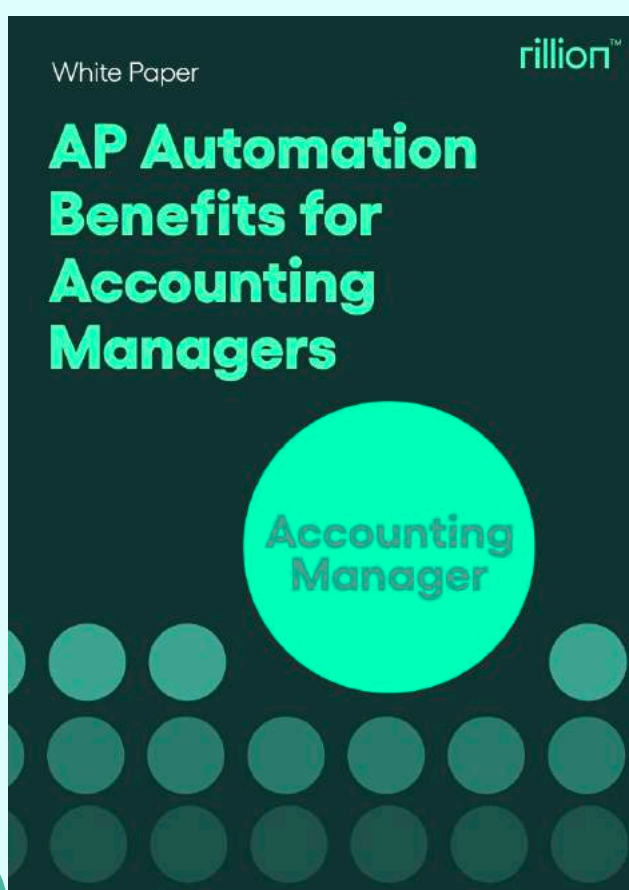- Opportunity for straight-through processing

AP Automation Benefits for Every Role

Our series on AP Automation benefits for different roles shows how Rillion's Accounts Payable Automation solution can make a qualitative difference – no matter where you engage with the accounts payable process.

The series highlights how technology can impact all of the people purchasing and invoice processing touches, empowering roles in the organization with transparency and accountability.

These scenarios also illustrate the importance of a solution that has the flexibility to match the culture and complexity of the AP process. Many organizations have variables such as multiple locations, multiple ERPs, multiple currencies, and separate business processes.

In other words, exploring the day to day "before and after" user experience that all the roles AP touches. Which translates into saved time and reducing the need for more resources.

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AP Automation Benefits for Accounting Managers

Accounting Manager

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AP Automation Benefits for AP Managers & Their Team

AP Manager

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AP Automation Benefits for CFOs
Visibility and Cost Savings

CFO

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AP Automation Benefits for Controllers

Controller

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Integration

The data integration process can often seem overwhelming. Our industry standard Rillion Integration Engine alleviates this burden with powerful integration capabilities built into a straightforward, easy-to-use graphical user interface.

Rillion has over 2,500 installed clients globally, all connected to one or more ERP, purchasing, or accounting system The Rillion Integration Engine interface offers several options to facilitate communications and data sharing between Rillion and your business system.

Schedule a Consultation

★★★★★

"Easy to Use."

Ap Automation with Rillion saves time, lowers costs and improves efficiency for over 3,000 clients worldwide.

96%
User Satisfaction Ratings

To learn more, visit
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AP Automation for your
peace of mind - we got this!