

opentext™

Success story

Bunge Brazil

Industry

- Agribusiness & food industry

Solutions

- OpenText™ Vendor Invoice Management for SAP® Solutions
- OpenText™ Invoice Capture Center for SAP® Solutions (ICC)

Results



Automated and streamlined invoice processing, with seamless SAP integration



Achieved **cost savings** of up to 30%



Reduced AP resource requirements by up to 50%



Accelerated invoice approval and payment cycles by 20%

BUNGE

Bunge Brazil streamlines accounts payable operations with automated invoice management

Global agri-food company saves time, money and resources with OpenText Suite for SAP®

"We found 20% to 30% in cost savings with OpenText™ Vendor Invoice Management for SAP® Solutions, and we are now able to process roughly 12,000 invoices per month with 50% less FTEs."

Rogério Almeida
Financial Manager
Bunge Brazil



Bunge Limited is a global agribusiness and food company operating in more than 40 countries, with over 30,000 employees. Bunge's South American operations account for a substantial part of the business—it leads in grain, soybean, wheat and sugarcane production and has more than 100 offices in Brazil alone. Throughout its rich 200-year history, Bunge has always aimed to be best in class and is continuously searching for more efficient ways of doing things.

Recently, Bunge Brazil sought to centralize its back-office functions into a shared service center. This included streamlining its accounts payable (AP) processes, which were partially outsourced and frequently manual. Using OpenText Vendor Invoice Management for SAP Solutions (VIM), Bunge Brazil applied robotics process automation (RPA) to invoice processing, resulting in cost savings, reduced resource requirements and accelerated approval and payment cycles.

"We were looking for invoice processing automation. We decided on OpenText Vendor Invoice Management for SAP Solutions because of its technological capabilities, such as out-of-the-box functionality and integration with SAP, and because of the maturity and experience that OpenText offers," explained Rogério Almeida, financial manager at Bunge Brazil.

With OpenText VIM, Bunge Brazil has centralized and automated invoice processing across more than 100 sites. The company is using OpenText™ Invoice Capture Center for SAP® Solutions (ICC) to quickly and accurately scan PDF invoices into the system. Utilizing the digital information acquired from ICC combined with VIM's preconfigured solution enables the AP team to route invoices automatically to the right person for resolution, approval and payment, which has resulted in shorter approval cycles and faster payment. Moreover, AP staff now have full, real-time visibility into the status of invoices.

Rogério shared several elements that were critical to the successful VIM deployment: ***"In moving from manual to digital processes, we had to map and document everything—the workflow, the stakeholders and the communications. The OpenText VIM solution helped us define and implement controls and rules in our invoice processes, which we didn't have before."***

In addition, Bunge had an aggressive four-month timeframe for rolling out the solution to more than 100 users at 50 different locations representing more than 100 sites. ***"Four months was a very challenging timeframe to define the scope, make adjustments, train people and go live. However, OpenText VIM is so user-friendly and intuitive that it allowed us to implement the solution very quickly,"*** explained Rogério.

Since deploying the solution, Bunge Brazil achieved significant cost savings, in part by reducing resources needed to process invoices. For example, Bunge halved its full-time employee (FTE) requirements for manual validations. ***"We found 20 percent to 30 percent in cost savings with OpenText Vendor Invoice Management for SAP Solutions, and we are now able to process roughly 12,000 invoices per month with 50 percent less FTEs,"*** said Rogério.

By using ICC to scan invoices received as PDFs, Bunge accesses the most advanced document and optical character recognition (OCR) capabilities available. Plus, the deep integration with SAP fully automates data extraction and eliminates manual keying. As a result, Bunge reduced errors related to manual input, and the resources required for invoice data capture. Rogério noted, ***"We had three FTEs working on OCR scanning, and now we have just two."***

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Invoice management automation also helped the company to accelerate its invoice approval and payment cycle. ***“Because of OpenText, we have improved our rate of on-time payment. We started with 78 percent on-time payment, and we are now close to 97 percent. Because we have full control of the workflow, we know exactly where an invoice is, what steps are needed to complete it and when it will be paid,”*** said Rogério. He added that this shortened payment cycle benefits both the company and its suppliers: ***“The OpenText VIM solution helped us to improve our processes, and the suppliers also see this as a benefit because it helps them in their cash flow management. Now, they know when we are going to pay.”***

Additionally, the solution’s deep integration with SAP gives Bunge Brazil a seamless, reliable solution that requires little intervention. ***“From a technology perspective, the integration with SAP has been an advantage because we don’t have any issues with the architecture. In fact, we are not really facing any issues with the solution, which is a very positive point for me because VIM is such a critical process. The OpenText solution is working 100 percent of the time,”*** said Rogério.

Without a doubt, the solution has been a tremendous success story within the company and it has also contributed to numerous industry accolades. The Brazilian Association of Shared Services recognized Bunge Brazil as an efficient, innovative and state-of-the-art organization, awarding the company first and second place for Best Shared Services in 2016 and 2017, respectively. The efficiency of Bunge’s automated AP processes contributed greatly to these achievements.

Not content to rest on its laurels, however, Bunge Brazil plans to build on its success and is seeking further opportunities for improvement. The company sees the potential for OpenText to be a part of its future digital transformation projects. ***“OpenText is a potential global partner for Bunge, with capabilities in many areas that are important to us. We are on a journey of globalization, and I think OpenText has the solutions and the experience to support us on this journey,”*** concluded Rogério.



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