



Electronic Invoicing Delivered to the UK Public Sector Through Zanzibar

Millions of paper invoices are processed manually each year by the UK public sector. The Gershon Review of UK Government Procurement efficiency highlighted the need to make back-office efficiencies through replacing manual administrative processes with automated electronic solutions. ProcServe operates the Zanzibar Managed Service on behalf of the Treasury and HM Government making it available to all UK public sector organisations on a pre-tendered Buying Solutions framework agreement.

The EU electronic Invoicing Directive (2001/115/EC) promotes the use of electronic invoices as encouraging cross border trading and good for stimulating the economy.

Project Zanzibar

Zanzibar is a web-based end-to-end P2P and electronic marketplace solution. It provides a common hosted platform for eProcurement and eInvoicing. Using common off-the-shelf functionality electronic invoicing is a core part of the Zanzibar service. Invoices can be generated, often 'flipped' from the purchase order to ensure consistency of data and placed seamlessly into finance systems. Furthermore the Zanzibar Supplier Transaction Portal provides a free-of-charge solution for small businesses. Zanzibar is entirely compliant with the eInvoicing Directive.

The Zanzibar Supplier Portal and the ability to receive electronic purchase orders and send eInvoices is completely free-of-charge to all suppliers. Because the information contained on the purchase order 'flips' to form the invoice upon fulfillment of the order this ensures that the invoice information is presented in a required standard and format and mirrors precisely Purchase Order content aiding the flow of the electronic documents and capture of accurate and granular management information. This eliminates the possibility of human error in re-keying and facilitates electronic matching and delivery of documentation into the buyer's and vendor's financial systems.

The UK Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) which manages £4.1 billion pounds of non-pay spend annually has used Zanzibar since 2006, recently expanding its use to make it a core part of their shared services offering to other government departments.. As well as having an electronically enabled interface through the Zanzibar supplier portal, some key suppliers to DWP have chosen themselves to integrate their back office function with Zanzibar. DWP was able to make a saving of £3m a year through no longer needing an outsourced arrangement for keying invoices into their system.

For more information, please visit www.procsolve.com