SPIE

Success Story for Retail

TUNGSTEN AUTOMATION   SPIE

SPIE Netherlands Cuts Invoice Processing Time by 50% with Tungsten AP Essentials and Simac

With invoice volumes reaching 500,000 annually, SPIE Netherlands and SPIE Building Solutions needed a scalable, cloud-based solution to reduce manual processing time and support future growth. With Tungsten AP Essentials, implemented by partner Simac, SPIE streamlined operations, halved invoice processing time, and increased recognition accuracy from 50% to 75% all without increasing headcount.

50%
Reduction in Invoice Processing Time

75%
Recognition Accuracy

0
Increase in Headcount

"We cut invoice processing time by 50% and boosted recognition accuracy from 50% to 75%, making everything faster and easier."

Petra van den Broek,
CFO, SPIE Netherlands

SPIE enables smarter cities, supports the energy transition, and helps buildings and industries operate more sustainably.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Replace legacy on-premise solution with a scalable cloud platform
- Automate invoice capture and processing across SAP and IFS ERPs
- Support multiple users and locations with shared access
- Improve recognition accuracy and streamline supplier coordination

PRODUCTS IN USE

- Tungsten AP Essentials
- Analytics Module
- Master Data Management Module

BENEFITS:

- 50% faster invoice processing (from noon to 10 AM)
- Increased accuracy from 50% to 75%
- Reduced manual effort and training needs
- Scalable support for ERP integrations and multi-site teams

Challenge

SPIE Netherlands and SPIE Building Solutions were growing rapidly, but their legacy on-premise OCR software, couldn't keep up. The system limited concurrent users, required heavy manual processing, and lacked the scalability to support their dual ERP environment (SAP and IFS). With nearly 500,000 invoices annually and 9,000 suppliers, the company recognized that continuing with manual, disconnected workflows would soon become a major operational bottleneck.

"We had too many manual tasks," explained Petra van den Broek, CFO at SPIE Netherlands. "Our previous system didn't support our growth plans or our need for easier ERP integration."

> "We didn't expect this level of accuracy so quickly. The results have been excellent."

Koen Vellheuer,
Accounts Payable Employee,
SPIE Netherlands

Solution

To overcome these limitations, SPIE adopted Tungsten AP Essentials, implemented by trusted partner Simac. The cloud-based platform enabled shared access across multiple locations, offered automatic updates, and eliminated user restrictions. Crucially, the system integrated seamlessly with both SAP and IFS, while also allowing for future growth with other ERP platforms.

"It's a huge advantage that we can all work in the same environment now," said Buse Yüksel, Accounts Payable Employee at SPIE. "Before, only a few users could access the old system at a time. Now, whether in Breda or Son, we can help each other in real time."

A critical success factor was SPIE's approach to training the AI engine during the testing phase. With guidance from Simac, the team ran invoices from high-volume suppliers through the platform to help build intelligent templates based on text recognition and validation.

"During testing, we ran invoices from high-volume suppliers through the software," explained Petra. "It generated templates based on recognition and validation, which are continuously improved through AI and machine learning."

"The time we invested upfront has paid off double in production," Petra added. "From the moment we went live, we immediately had good recognition of the majority of our invoices."

SPIE also implemented two powerful add-ons: the Analytics Module, providing real-time visibility into invoice flows and bottlenecks, and the Master Data Management Module, allowing invoices with missing or incorrect fields to be held for correction before entering SAP or IFS.

Petra shared, "Previously, with ReadSoft Invoices, we had to request an Excel export and wait for the data to load. Now, we have real-time visibility, allowing us to act more proactively and continuously optimize our processes."

"It's a huge advantage that we can all work in the same environment now."

Buse Yüksel,
Accounts Payable Employee,
SPIE Netherlands

Results

Since going live, SPIE has achieved significant operational improvements. The company reduced invoice processing time by 50%, completing the task by 10 AM instead of noon. Recognition accuracy also increased from 50% to 75%, leading to faster throughput and fewer manual corrections. Notably, the top 100 suppliers now account for 42% of the total invoice volume, achieving an impressive 77% recognition rate. These enhancements have also enabled SPIE to streamline collaboration with suppliers and ensure cleaner, more accurate data flows into its ERP systems.

"We used to work until noon to finish processing invoices. Now we're done by 10 AM," said Petra. "The system's recognition accuracy also jumped from 50% to 75%."

"We didn't expect this level of accuracy so quickly. The results have been excellent," added Koen Vellheuer, Accounts Payable at SPIE.

Looking ahead, SPIE continues working toward an 80% recognition rate by standardizing formats with suppliers and increasing automation.

"Even small changes—like asking a supplier to include the word 'invoice'—can save us a lot of time," said Koen. "The number of automatically recognized invoices keeps rising as we process more from smaller suppliers and receive fewer scanned documents," added Roland Duursma, Senior Consultant at Simac.

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About Tungsten Automation

Tungsten Automation, formerly Kofax, is the global leader in intelligent automation solutions with a trusted legacy of nearly 40 years, with a team of 2,000+ employees in 40 countries, serving 25,000+ global customers. Our dedication to innovation and customer success has earned us industry recognition, including being named a leader in Intelligent Automation (IA), Intelligent Document Processing (IDP) and Process Orchestration by top analysts. We are trusted to help businesses gain unprecedented efficiencies and reduce costs through AI-powered workflow automations that propel their businesses into the future.

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