



Accounts Payable Processing

PROSAR-AIDA for ACCOUNTS PAYABLE provides a unique solution for companies that wish to reduce the manual labor costs and increase the accuracy levels associated with sorting, reviewing, keying, paying, managing and filing invoice documents.

Client

Seneca Medical, Tiffin, OH - USA

Seneca Medical is an independent, privately owned and operated medical surgical supply company with warehouse locations in Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee and West Virginia. Founded in 1990, their employee-driven business model generates unparalleled personalized service to their suppliers. Seneca is focused on efficiently delivering cost-effective medical surgical product supply services and support systems for a wide variety of healthcare providers. Given today's escalating healthcare costs, and a focus on delivering the highest quality products and services at the lowest cost to their suppliers, Seneca is constantly on the lookout for business process improvements.

Challenge

- Classify and extract header and line item data from many hundreds of different invoice layouts
- Find a solution with a proven track record
- Eliminate the need for paper retention
- Manage growth without a corresponding increase in headcount

OneLink Technical Services, and Paradatec implemented a Proof of Concept (PoC) test system for the automated classification and capture of payables documents utilizing Paradatec's PROSAR-AIDA advanced OCR & ICR technology. This brief and successful test, led to a full production roll out beginning in September of 2008.

Project

General Information			
Project	Accounts Payable Automation	Table Column Headline	Table Column Headline
Systems Integrator	OneLink Technical Services		
Products	PROSAR-AIDA, PROKEY		
Publications	Case Study Seneca Medical (pdf)		



Project Description

After significant due diligence, including a brief Proof of Concept (PoC) and a reference site visit, Seneca Medical concluded that Paradatec's advanced classification and capture software was the obvious choice. Seneca's main financial application is PeopleSoft and the overall project involved interfacing Paradatec's advanced OCR software to the Oracle database tables within Seneca Medical's PeopleSoft system. Hyland Software's Onbase Content Management software was identified as an efficient way to store the images and metadata of the invoices.

"I'd been in IT for over 25 years and was very skeptical about OCR," says **Keith Price (SVP of Technology at Seneca Medical)**, "so we undertook a short proof of concept to make sure the results we had heard about from Paradatec's references would also be realized with our own documents. Our skepticism very quickly evaporated when we quite easily achieved read rates of over 70%, and then raised this to over 80% by tuning the system. Paradatec and OneLink were extremely helpful and attentive to our needs, and we would not hesitate to recommend them to anyone considering implementing this technology."

Seneca Medical required the flexibility offered by a non-template-based solution which would be able to effectively manage their hundreds of suppliers. Today invoices are received, accurately classified, and processed using the Paradatec technology. Purchase order numbers, invoice numbers, shipping fees, taxes, and invoice totals are captured, along with manufacturer part numbers, quantities, unit prices, and unit identifiers from line items. In addition, sophisticated business rules and calculations have been implemented to ensure extreme accuracy.

Paradatec's PROSAR-AIDA, is an advanced and unique OCR recognition technology. It is unique in that it utilizes neural networks technology and Artificial Intelligence. PROSAR-AIDA is able to read structured, semi-structured, and unstructured documents. It makes 'decisions' about document characteristics in much the same way as a human being does, only many times faster and without human intervention. PROSAR-AIDA takes a very different approach than other technologies. Because the recognition engine (a **Paradatec** exclusive) incorporated in PROSAR-AIDA is faster than any full page OCR product on the market, it is able to process each image without making any assumptions. PROSAR-AIDA is capable of processing thousands of documents per hour with a single processor, and provides even further scalability by offering seamless utilization of the latest in multi-core processor technologies, and multi-server environments.

Outcome

The project was completed on-time with no disruption to the existing production operation. Even with incoming documents requiring complex line item capture, the system was still able to achieve over 80% automation across all incoming documents. This has allowed Seneca to position itself for an anticipated future increase in incoming document volume with no corresponding increase in head count. In fact, today Seneca no longer has a backlog of invoices to manage, and is capturing more information more reliably and accurately. In addition, they are doing all this with 80% less labor than was formerly required.

"Paradatec's technology has exceeded our expectations. The implementation performed by OneLink and Paradatec was as straightforward and trouble free as they come. It has helped position us for the future, by providing us with increased payables visibility, a reduced backlog, and a dramatically more efficient process."

Further Information

For more information, please visit www.paradatec.com or contact us at Paradatec, Inc., Phone: 513-583-1382
www.paradatec.com