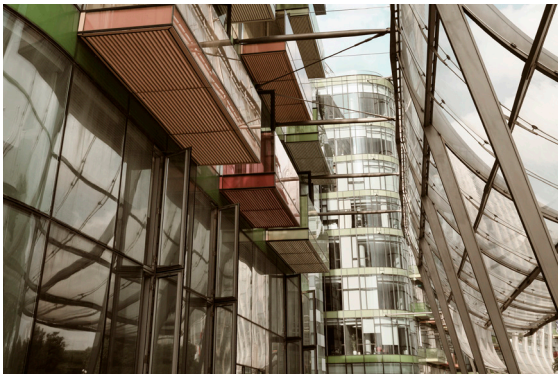


Case Study: Energy Invoice Errors – Building Materials Manufacturing

Building Materials Manufacturer Saves Energy Dollars with Invoice Error Resolution Before Bill Payment

It can be a logistical nightmare to corral, organize and audit all the data associated with your energy program, especially for a global portfolio. Furthermore, making well-informed, relevant decisions requires accurate and dependable data. Without checking the accuracy of your invoices and data sets, you are likely missing savings opportunities and failing to make truly informed decisions. With increasing pressure to operate more sustainably, finding each and every way to cut operating costs is critical to a company's profitability.



This global building materials manufacturer relies on Schneider Electric to identify and resolve all invoice errors. Not only does this save energy dollars, but it has direct impacts on the company's profits through decreased operating expenses.

Situation

The world's leading manufacturer of construction and building materials has entrusted its energy management program to Schneider Electric for more than 10 years. Schneider Electric collects, digitally records and audits every invoice its client receives from energy utilities and suppliers around the world. When an invoice arrives, it is validated against more than 50 audit tests and is reviewed by trained energy experts to identify any potential discrepancies.

Leadership

For this Schneider Electric client, a natural gas invoice arrived that appeared correct at a quick glance; however, when the analyst recognized the invoice was from the manufacturer's site in Kansas, USA, he knew that something was wrong immediately. The manufacturing site was billed an amount that didn't match what was expected. The natural gas basis charge wasn't locked per the facility's natural gas hedge strategy and was incorrect.

Results

The Schneider Electric analyst contacted the supplier immediately to get resolution, which just happened to be the day before payment was scheduled to be released to the supplier. Since the manufacturing company was also relying on Schneider Electric to manage its energy invoice payment, the remittance was changed to reflect the corrected amount instead of the billed amount. The proactive invoice audit and swift resolution allowed the manufacturer to avoid paying \$13,600 to the supplier in error. Furthermore, the company didn't have to wait for a refund. The over-payment never left their account.