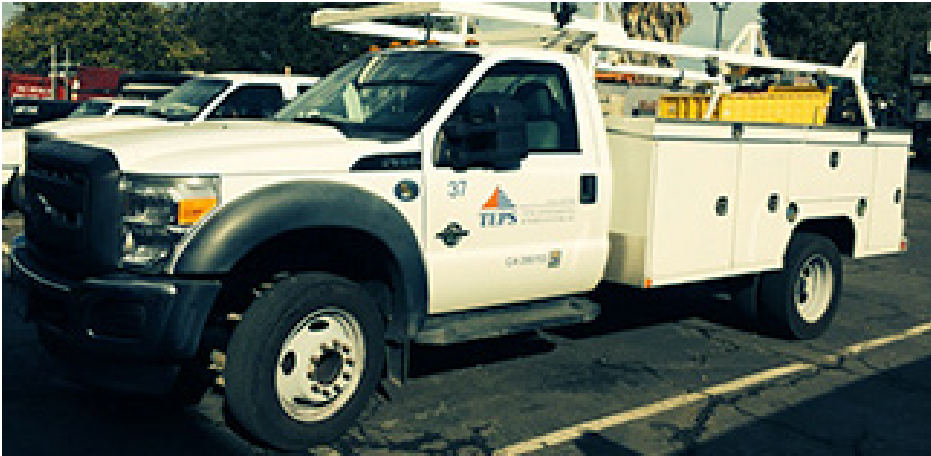Top telecommunications contractor automates invoice processing to enable mobile access, speed up invoice turnaround time, and improve cash flow.

Pam Souza, Controller

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL POWER SYSTEMS, INC., Concord, CA

"We found that a lot of our invoices had inaccurate job numbers. With DocuWare Cloud, we simply have our project managers look at every invoice, large and small, and make sure everything is correct."

Location: USA
Industry: Telecommunications
Deployment: Cloud
Department: Finance

Total Environmental & Power Systems, Inc. (TEPS) is one of California and Nevada's top telecommunications contractors, helping to build and maintain cell towers throughout that region. The company also provides general facility maintenance services.

TEPS knew it was time to digitize their accounting workflow, but the final push came when they received a request from a large customer for electronic copies of their material invoices to better understand the material charges. In addition, almost 90% of the invoices TEPS received were digital. It just didn't make sense to continue to print and process invoices in a paper-based format.

"It is important to apply our costs to the correct job, and I'm happy to say we've improved the accuracy of our cost accounting by 90% ."

The company began looking for a solution that met these requirements: 1) mobile-ready and accessible from any device, 2) cloud-based and would not need to be tied to their server and 3) easy to implement and maintain.

After some research, TEPS implemented DocuWare Cloud in their accounting department as it fit all their requirements. The solution was configured and implemented remotely allowing for a quick go-live date.

The new solution allowed TEPS to easily offer better customer service by quickly emailing requested supplier invoices to their clients. The system turned out to be a huge time saver as well; TEPS has shaved off 20 man-hours a month which were spent on tracking down payable invoices out for approval. With DocuWare in place, "approvers" that are in the field on job sites can now review and approve invoices on their mobile device keeping the accounting process flowing smoothly in a timely manner.

Digitizing the receivables process creates more accurate cash flow predictions

The company's receivable invoice turnaround time has also been reduced by 2-3 days each month, creating better cash flow predictions in a real-time setting. With total transparency, better business decisions can be made, and more critical tasks can be taken on as a result of implementing DocuWare.

"DocuWare Cloud allows us to do our jobs a lot faster. I can see where in the process each invoice is and easily know who I need to nudge to keep the system flowing," said Pam Souza, Controller for Total Environmental & Power Systems, Inc.

"DocuWare Cloud allows us to do our jobs a lot faster."

Prior to implementing DocuWare Cloud, any invoice under $1,000 was paid with no review. With the new solution in place, every invoice is easily routed through a digital approval process, solidifying that every purchase is legitimate, the price is correct, and that the cost has been assigned to the right job number.

"We found that a lot of our invoices had inaccurate job numbers. With DocuWare Cloud, we simply have our project managers look at every invoice, large and small, and make sure everything is correct. If the job number is wrong, the approver simply makes a digital note for us to change it. It is very important to apply our costs to the correct job and I'm happy to say we've improved the accuracy of our cost accounting by 90%," stated Souza.

"With the new solution in place, every invoice is easily routed through a digital approval process, solidifying that every purchase is legitimate."

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