

DocuSign Electronic Signatures Enables E-Invoicing Initiative in Compliance with EU Law

Very high document volumes are processed online and offline every day

Background

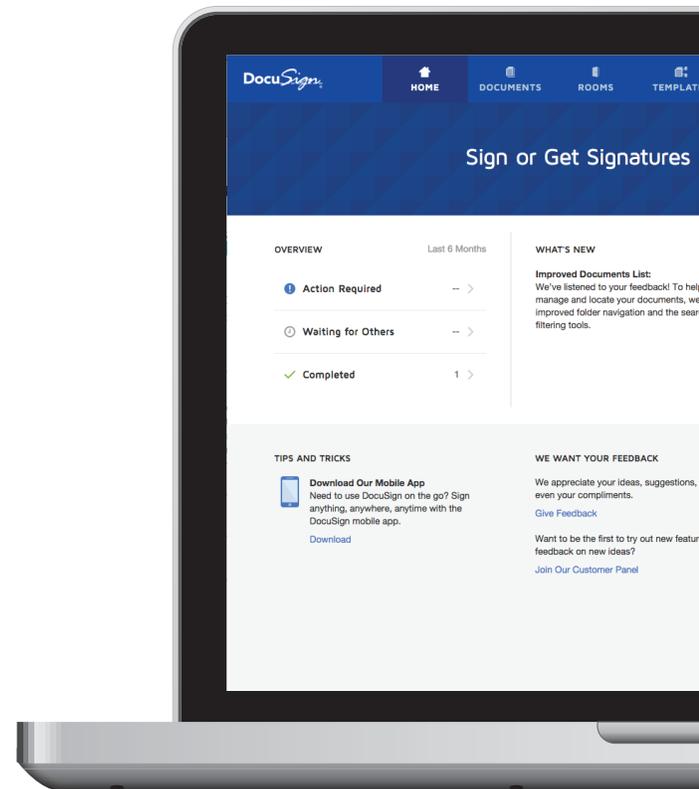
A global company with products sold in more than 90 countries had to contend with the new invoicing directive that was passed by the European Union in 2001 in order to simplify the required content of a tax invoice and remove all barriers to the electronic transmission and electronic storage of invoices across the EU. Since January 2004, all invoices sent by electronic means are accepted as legal VAT documents by all EU Member States provided the authenticity of the origin and integrity of the contents are guaranteed by means of an advanced electronic signature or electronic data interchange (EDI).

Challenge

In order to comply with the EU VAT rules and Invoicing Directive, the company needed a high-volume, certified solution that would allow it to handle the thousands of documents involved daily in the e-invoicing process.

Solution

The company found the DocuSign Signature Appliance (formerly CoSign Central), the most trusted on-premises signing solution for regulated industries and markets, which they could use to sign e-invoices in compliance with the EU Directive for Electronic Signatures and the European VAT Directive.



Top Benefits Achieved

- ✓ Sign both electronic and paper (scanned) documents
- ✓ Process tens of thousands of documents per day, online and offline
- ✓ Comply with the EU Invoicing Directive and VAT rules

Batch processing of high volumes of documents in compliance with EU directives

The DocuSign Signature Appliance enables users to electronically sign documents from within a wide variety of applications, sealing them with legally-binding signatures that ensure signer authenticity and data integrity. This enabled the company to realize significant savings in terms of the cost and time associated with paper-based processes.

The company installed the DocuSign Signature Appliance in its office looking to empower the Finance Department with sophisticated electronic signature capabilities that could cope with current and future requirements. The e-invoice process starts on a Windows server where a list is generated from the new files. The automatic batch signing feature of Signature Appliance then opens the PDF file, signs it, and closes the signed document which is then archived and indexed.

Results

The company has used the DocuSign Signature Appliance for more than ten years now and it has become an important link in their daily automation and information process. It is used to electronically sign numerous electronic and paper (scanned) invoices and other documents quickly and smoothly. In addition, electronic signatures were added to an online registration form using the Appliance API, and they are looking to expand usage to internal purchase and sales processes in order to accelerate all workflows where documents are still being manually signed.

The company currently processes tens of thousands of electronic documents daily including all invoice-related documents such as customer orders, invoices, pick lists and pack lists for more than 50 countries, and these numbers are constantly growing. Compliance with the EU Directive for Electronic Signatures and the European VAT Directive gives the company a competitive advantage and keeps them on the leading edge of electronic-signature technology.



The application is well thought out and highly recommended. It not only shortens the overall process, it also helps people earlier in the cycle because they don't have to print paper or chase anyone down."

- Manager, International Data Operations



About DocuSign

DocuSign is changing how business gets done by empowering anyone to transact anytime, anywhere, on any device with trust and confidence. DocuSign keeps life moving forward.

For U.S. inquiries: toll free 866.219.4318 | docusign.com

For EMEA inquiries: phone +44 203 714 4800 | email emea@docusign.com | docusign.co.uk

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