



CASE STUDY

INVOICE VALIDATION

One Invoice, One Error, £100k + in savings



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An Energy Intensive Industrial Manufacturer

Our client is a world leader in structural investment castings, forged components and airfoil castings for aircraft engines and industrial gas turbines. Their products are relied upon widely across a range of industries including airframe, engine, power generation, medical, and general industrial components.

The Challenge:

As an energy intensive business our client is consuming significant volumes of Energy, with the cost of utilities being one their largest operational costs. It is therefore vital to control costs from all aspects of the energy procurement process, which includes paying correct invoices. The complexity around multiple line items on energy invoices makes the task of ensuring billing accuracy for end users, an onerous one and the service is often outsourced to third party experts to provide the re-assurance and accuracy required.

The Solution:

Alfa Energy has a proprietary cloud-based software solution ASSURE, that automates the invoice validation process ensuring that all line items are correctly authenticated. Taking consumption data, commodity costs and all third-party pass through elements, it generates an invoice value before a supplier can produce its own. Once the invoice is received from the supplier, we're able to compare our calculations with that of the suppliers. It's at this point we challenge suppliers with their inaccuracies. Through ASSURE, clients have 24/7 visibility of what invoices have been passed and those that are under investigation, what monies have been reclaimed and what needs accruing if the analysis shows an under-charge.

The Result:



Alfa Energy assumed responsibility for the client's account from another consultant at the beginning of 2019. When onboarding clients and as part of our due diligence, it's common practice to check one or two months of supplier invoices prior to the date we assumed responsibility for the account. As such we validated a set of invoices and uncovered over £100,000 of errors in these months.

This error centred on the billing metric – the supplier had been treating the meter as an imperial read where it should've been read as metric. As important as recovering these current and historic losses, Alfa Energy prevented ongoing losses across the remainder of the contract term.

The outcome was important as it emphasises the immediate difference a client can expect when partnering with Alfa Energy for consultancy services.