The Promise of E-Procurement

It seems that more and more companies, both large enterprises and small businesses, are looking to the power and promise of e-procurement to save money and improve the efficiency of their operations.

What exactly is e-procurement? E-procurement (electronic procurement, sometimes also known as supplier exchange) is the purchase and sale of supplies and services through the Internet, as well as other networking systems, such as Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

The power of the internet has allowed more businesses to get the supplies and raw materials they need to run their businesses, quickly, efficiently and at highly competitive prices. The power of e-procurement can help your company, too.

Among the many benefits of implementing an e-procurement strategy are:

- Companies gain the ability to combine their purchases across multiple organizational units, departments or divisions, without losing local management control.
- Companies can efficiently address the problem of so-called “rogue buying”. Companies large and small can lose a great deal of money to these unauthorized purchases, and a successful e-procurement strategy can help eliminate this common problem.
- Companies can be more reactive to purchasing needs, reducing lead times and helping business managers and their divisions get the products they need faster and more efficiently.
- Business owners can gain a better and more complete view of the entire purchasing operation, as well as a better view of disparities in pricing, delivery times, quality and customer service among suppliers.
- Companies can be more reactive to purchasing needs, reducing lead times and helping business managers and their divisions get the products they need faster and more efficiently.

Of course the benefits of e-procurement are not limited to the purchaser, and suppliers can also take advantage of this new strategy to gain a competitive advantage in the marketplace. E-procurement gives suppliers a way to become proactive rather than reactive when it comes to gaining and retaining customers. Suppliers can gain the ability to integrate their services with the stocking system of their customers, providing a just-in-time solution to common inventory problems and increasing their value to their enterprise customers.

With all these advantages it is no wonder that so many companies are discovering the power of e-procurement and the ability to integrate their supply chain management and other critical business functions. These new online strategies are a great way for companies to take advantage of the power of technology to increase their profit margins and the efficiency of their business models. No matter what the industry, business owners and managers can benefit from the power of a well implemented e-procurement strategy.

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In Windows, how can I remove program sounds?

Are there certain system or program sounds that you want to get rid of or replace with your preferred sounds? For example, if you frequently start and exit certain programs with “welcome sounds,” you may want to disable such sounds to create a more silent environment. To do this:

1. Go to the Control Panel (“Start | Settings | Control Panel” menu item)
2. Double click on Sounds icon
3. Scroll through the list of event sounds and select the program and the related event that you want to modify
4. Use controls at the bottom to disable (set sound name to “None”) or select a different sound
5. Click “OK” and close the Control Panel before testing the event sound.

In Adagio Payables, how can I reprint a check?

Question: We produced a check in AP and mailed it, but it got lost in the mail, so we put a stop payment on it and need to send another check. Is there a way to reprint the same check? What’s the easiest way to handle this situation?

Answer: Reverse the check and re-issue a replacement with a new check number. That way you have a record of exactly what happened when you look at the Vendor account later.