Exceeding expectations with an SAP Certified solution to streamline the supply chain.

Itelligence are a very professional organisation to work with. They considered our requirements and improved our solution. They were also very responsive and delivered beyond our expectations.”
Rachel Flaxman, Purchasing Manager, Malvern Panalytical

Founded in 1967, Malvern Panalytical have worked long and hard to build their unshakable reputation as one of the world’s leading materials and biophysical characterisation companies. They are at the forefront of the development and manufacture of analytical instruments which allow you to understand your materials.

Malvern Panalytical wanted a solution to utilise the business processes and data they already had residing in their SAP ERP platform and provide the information in real-time to be beneficial to its suppliers and themselves.

Quotation requests should be managed via the portal allowing the supplier to view and respond to these requests.

Another key requirement was for a supplier dashboard, one central location to provide the platform from which key information regarding a supplier’s account could be viewed. This needed to include a location for delivering alerts, news and visibility of Malvern defined KPI’s. This easy to view dashboard was to be utilised by the suppliers while providing a location from which internal users could easily view key information about all the Malvern supply base.

Malvern were keen to avoid constant worries surrounding integration between the portal and their core SAP platform. They wanted the solution to improve collaboration with their suppliers by giving them an easy to use tool that adds value while ensuring the portal was quickly adopted upon completion.

A key objective was to empower suppliers on purchase order control. Malvern wanted suppliers to confirm their purchase orders via the portal and view relevant information in relation to past, present and future orders.
A strategic partnership
The portal should allow documentation to be uploaded and stored so it can be viewed at any time by both the supplier and Malvern themselves. This would prove beneficial with documentation such as ECN’s as both parties could access current information, submission date, by whom and who had confirmed acceptance of these changes. This would also be used to cover a myriad of other document types such as CAD drawings and compliance paperwork.

Ultimately, Malvern were convinced that if the project was delivered successfully, they would benefit by reducing transactional processing overheads from their supply chain, whilst reaping the benefits of communicating with their suppliers real-time.

With a solution which is delivered natively inside SAP (alongside existing SAP modules such as MM, FI, SD) with no integration required, Malvern took advantage of this ability to share real time data from SAP with their suppliers and allow them (with certain authorisations/ restrictions in place) to pass data through the portal back into their SAP platform.

All of this delivered with no requirement to replicate business processes or duplicate data, whilst removing integration layers and middleware. Allied to this simplification in the back end, the it.mx direct spend portal solution was able to comprehensively deliver the required features and functionality. Purchase orders could now be controlled, and notifications managed via the portal.

Rachel Flaxman, Purchasing Manager, Malvern Panalytical

User experience is always key in the adoption of technology and the removal of paper trails via document management capabilities in the portal allied with an easy to use, self-intuitive dashboard provided the desired experience.

Even the on-boarding process can be carried out via the portal. This is linked into an SAP workflow and goes through an approval process which is visible and actionable via the portal allowing automation of the process.

Jon Brooks, Business Development, itelligence