

Equal treatment of electronic and paper invoices

London, January 2011 – TechTrek Limited, a global provider of data management solutions, have digital signatures embedded within our SAAS secure CLOUD document management technology, docHarbor, as standard and can cater for worldwide customer requirements. Additionally, a new EU directive – [Council Directive 2010/45/EU](#) has important changes that will increase flexibility in this area.

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Excerpt from the directive,

"Since the use of electronic invoicing can help businesses to reduce costs and be more competitive, current VAT requirements on electronic invoicing should be revised to remove existing burdens and barriers to uptake. Paper invoices and electronic invoices should be treated equally and the administrative burden on paper invoicing should not increase," the new directive states."

The treatment of e-invoices is equal to paper invoices in VAT handling. The past technical definitions for an e-invoice is now abandoned and the Article 217 of Directive 2006/112/EC replaced by a simple explanation: "electronic invoice" means an invoice that contains the information required in this Directive, and which has been issued and received in any electronic format.

Easier authenticity and integrity requirements - authenticity and legibility of e-invoices achieved through 'normal' business controls

With regards to both paper invoices and electronic invoices, the invoice receiver still is to guarantee the authenticity of origin, the integrity of content, but all technical requirements around advanced electronic signature etc are no longer compulsory from a VAT perspective.

Thus as of January 1st 2013 the Member States will not be allowed to impose corporations to use any particular e-invoicing technology - such as electronic signature - to prove the authenticity and integrity. The amendment makes clear that digital signatures are only examples of enabling technologies and their use cannot be imposed by any Member States. Instead corporations can freely determine their own way of ensuring the integrity, authenticity and legibility of their e-invoices through any 'normal' business controls. This is to assert reliable audit trails linking invoices and supplies.

Safe with your knowledge

TechTrek Invoice management and e –billing services

- TechTrek manage approx. 2m invoices every month for over 500,000 e-bill recipients
- Each recipient receives an e-bill notification that directs them to our secure service
- User enrollment and management is all automated
- Large month on month costs associated with print and post are eliminated
- The service pays for itself normally 10 times over
- SAAS secure CLOUD means there are no software, no hardware and no maintenance costs or IT considerations
- We archive and maintain each invoice for its lifetime, 7 years as per HMRC all included in the one-time per page price
- Credit controllers can see each replica e-invoice within their CRM e.g **salesforce.com** and send invoice copies instantly
- A link from each bill to automated payment channels moves our clients further toward acceleration of cash collection
- dashboard management information is being designed – customise graphical representations of the activity within customer accounts and ability to analyse cash positions –which can downloaded to a web browser, mobile phone anywhere in the world!

ABOUT TECHTREK LIMITED

TechTrek Limited is a subsidiary of TechTrek India with a sales proposition to provide global outsourced data, document and business process management solutions, including a global repository holding 22 billion images stored for 5,000 customers, data capture, conversion, archiving and direct marketing support. The company also offers business continuity and disaster recovery solutions and is ISO 9001 and 27001 Certified. TechTrek delivers real competitive advantage.

More information at www.techtrekuk.com

Press Contact

Tony Gale

Director

TechTrek Limited

Office: +44 20 7739 9222, +44 (0)7818 003210 Email : tony.gale@techtrekuk.com

Safe with your knowledge