



JUKEN GIVEN TRANSACTION CLARITY & VISIBILITY



key benefits...

- Reduced costs
- Increased efficiency
- Improved control
- Improved supplier relationships
- Quick online access to invoice information
- Minimal staff training required
- Decreased paperwork
- Transparency at every step
- Comprehensive view of invoice status
- Accrual provides accountability
- Integrates with most financial systems



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Juken New Zealand Limited (JNL) is a forestry and wood products company with forests and mills located throughout the North Island of New Zealand. The mills produce reconstituted wood panels, peeled & dried veneer, and sawn lumber. JNL's combination of technology and innovation, provides an extensive range of engineered wood products for both local and export markets.

JNL has a long-term commitment to the New Zealand forestry and processing industries and in 1990 purchased major Crown Forest licenses in three regions of New Zealand resulting in a total productive area of 41,400 hectares. Today JNL provides employment to more than 1000 New Zealanders.

JNL's decision to centralise

Based on identified cost savings, JNL's long term plan was to centralise its Finance function located at four mills and three forests to its Auckland Head Office. The implementation of JD Edwards Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) was a driver in the decision to centralise. Recently JNL relocated all processing and finance resources to Auckland including the Accounts Payable function.

Graham Maples, JNL's Chief Financial and Chief Information Officer, felt that with centralisation there was a real concern about the loss of visibility once invoices were sent back to the mills for approval and that invoices could fall into a "black hole". When Graham and the team at JNL saw an AP-EAS* demo they immediately recognised the value and potential of the solution particularly with the ability for AP-EAS to integrate with JNL's ERP solution, also supported by Fusion5.

Impressive Results

Initially JNL felt it might have been necessary to duplicate its Accounts Payable resources at the mill and forest locations in the newly centralised finance team.

JNL was not confident that the volume of work and necessary follow up would be reduced; instead JNL anticipated that it may actually have to increase staff on site to follow up with approvers.

FUSION5 CASE STUDY

Instead AP-EAS improved processing to such an extent that JNL experienced a 35% reduction in its Accounts Payable resource requirements. JNL attributes the saving directly to the implementation of AP-EAS. "I don't often get excited about new solutions but I am really excited about AP-EAS and what it has done for our business. It's a great solution" says Graham Maples.

Ease of use

JNL's AP-EAS users find the software very easy to use. "It's so intuitive and easy to use that users required only a few hours of training. Managers love AP-EAS, particularly those whose travel frequently, they receive emailed approval requests and can log in and approve remotely or alternatively they can easily delegate their approval while they are away".

JNL's AP-EAS users have been impressed with how easy it is to access information, particularly old invoices with a scanned copy immediately available to be viewed/printed. Before implementing AP-EAS locating old invoices would have involved a physical search through paper files stored in inaccessible locations.

As scanned invoice copies are now available at their finger tips, the need for JNL to store old invoices offsite has been removed, resulting in significant savings in handling and storage costs that quickly add up when large volumes such as JNL's 60,000 invoices are processed each year.

Improved Business Processes

JNL's Auditors find the approval levels and information AP-EAS provide is invaluable. Clear status and approval information allows total visibility of transactions as they progress through the approval system. This feature has proven to be invaluable in identifying any bottlenecks and easily answering supplier enquiries. Invoices which may have been put on hold can be viewed immediately and suppliers advised of the status and reason for the hold with the use of the comment functionality.

Other added benefits JNL has taken advantage of include visibility of who has coded transactions to the General Ledger, a feature which is useful when identifying and correcting errors. The need to decipher an approver's signature is also no longer a problem with electronic approvals and information capture.

Looking to the future

JNL's implementation of AP-EAS included a number of additional enhancements to the solution which has delivered added value. Fusion5's responsiveness to these requests impressed JNL such that they are now considering the implementation of new AP-EAS features such as accruals and budgets.