

HCL

HCL's rapid deployment of **Ariba** catalogues

Closer Supplier Collaboration, Scalability,
and Reduced System TCO



Procurement challenge: High overheads for data maintenance and training

Our client, a leader in the energy and utilities sector, had been using SAP S/4HANA on-premise backend system for 18 months. The SAP S/4HANA template was delivered by another partner and was focused on ensuring compliance and control for direct procurement. The SAP S/4HANA template required indirect spend to be raised in the same way to keep the process simple and consistent across the business.

This led to a number of costly challenges. Repetitively ordered items for indirect procurement and spare parts were raised manually through purchase requisitions and PM orders. This required material masters to be used, with pricing and vendor assignment through purchase info records (PIRs) and contracts. However, **material, pricing, and supplier master data was often incomplete, obsolete, or duplicated** – resulting in high data maintenance overheads for the support team. In addition, **the end user experience was not very intuitive** and required relatively high training overheads.

The client engaged HCL to analyze the issue and recommend options to improve and optimize the process. The idea was to give users the best possible purchasing experience while maintaining control and compliance to contracted vendors and pricing.

HCL's solution: An online catalogue in the cloud for MRO parts maintained by suppliers

Our analysis of the indirect procurement and data management processes showed that the use of an online catalogue for MRO parts and indirect procurement categories would eliminate both challenges. An online catalogue would also enable faster transaction processing times – and increase user productivity.

We also saw the potential to drive further benefits. We advised the client to deploy a catalogue solution in the cloud, where the supplier is responsible for catalogue maintenance. This will drive closer, supplier collaboration and a high degree of user satisfaction. It will also bring scalability and reduced system TCO.





Rapid 16-week remote global delivery and innovative new integration functionality

The client decided to proceed with a 16-week rapid delivery using a fully remote global delivery team.

HCL introduced new and innovative integration functionality, which required close collaboration with SAP. The system had to integrate seamlessly with the SAP Plant Maintenance (PM) module of SAP S/4HANA with Task Lists and Orders, as well as in the traditional way in the Material Management (MM) module with SAP purchase requisitions. HCL rapidly delivered a robust, innovative solution, fully integrated in SAP PM and MM through both SAP GUI and Fiori screens.

HCL designed and delivered a new interface (not done before) to integrate catalogues with PM Task Lists and BOM data, so that templates with catalogue items can be reused in plant maintenance. We also devised a way to update the catalogue data in the Task Lists if it is updated in the Ariba or punch-out catalogues by the suppliers. This innovation was delivered within the short time frame allocated for the project.

In parallel with this leading integration innovation, HCL worked with the client and suppliers and identified, progressed and loaded an optimized mix of punch-out, vendor-loaded and internal catalogues. We also provided significant training and knowledge transfer to the support organization to allow the volume of catalogues to be scaled quickly and easily. **The result? Enabling more benefits through fast and easy ordering of items thanks to correct data, and no need for any manual entry.**



Benefits Realized

A fast and standard deployment of Ariba catalogues is enabling increased productivity of users, while removing the worry about data gaps or errors and drastically reducing the customer's data maintenance, training, and system TCO overheads. This was all delivered through a simple, scalable, innovative, and intuitive catalogue maintenance and shopping tool that users love.

About HCL's SAP Practice

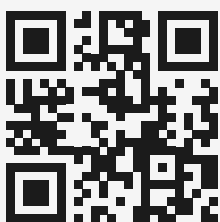
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To find out how we can help you solve your procurement and supply chain challenges, reach out to us at SAP@hcl.com.



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