

**Whitepaper:**

**Concept and Implementation of**

**EPO E-Invoicing Solutions for SAP**

Location, Date: Vienna, 3. October 2025

### **Executive Summary**

Companies in Europe and worldwide face the challenge of creating, receiving, and processing electronic invoices in various formats (e.g., XRechnung, ZUGFeRD, PEPPOL UBL) in compliance with legal requirements. Many rely on complex cloud solutions such as SAP DRC or external provider platforms, which are often costly, difficult to integrate, and dependent on the SAP roadmap.

#### **EPO E-Invoicing Solutions take an alternative approach:**

- Fully integrated into SAP – a modification-free ABAP add-on that can be deployed directly in any SAP system from release 7.00 (ECC 6.0) and in all S/4HANA versions.
- Independent of cloud services – no need to use SAP BTP or SAP DRC.
- Unified data model – all invoice variants are based on a central UBL structure that maps country-specific and customer-specific requirements.
- Proven in practice – productively used by numerous international customers since 2014.



## Business Benefits

- Compliance assurance: Coverage of all relevant e-invoicing standards.
- Cost efficiency: Elimination of cloud subscription costs, easy extensibility.
- Productivity: End-to-end automation from invoice issuance to approval and posting of incoming invoices.
- Flexibility: Connections to any e-invoicing provider via the certified EPO Connector.
- Future-proofing: Rapid adaptation to new regulatory requirements through a generic data model.

In short: EPO enables companies to implement e-invoicing obligations simply, sustainably, and cost-effectively – directly within SAP.

## Concept

EPO E-Invoicing Solutions extend the functionality of any SAP system to create, receive, and process electronic invoices in XML format. The foundation is the globally established UBL XML standard, used as the internal data model within SAP. For reporting requirements, data is also prepared directly in SAP in XML or JSON formats.

## Implementation

- Core component: An ABAP database structure for UBL invoice formats, containing all fields of international standards.
- Extensions: Country-specific or customer-specific adaptations are represented via append structures.
- Outgoing invoices: After complete population and validation of the UBL structure, the target format is generated using stylesheets (XSLT).
- Incoming invoices: Incoming XML invoices are transformed back into the UBL structure via stylesheets and are then available for all SAP standard processes.

The solution also includes functions for approval workflows, mobile authorization, and automated posting.

## Differentiation

- Fully developed in ABAP and installable as an add-on in existing SAP systems.
- No need to use SAP BTP or SAP DRC.
- Transmission and receipt are handled via e-invoicing providers connected through the EPO Connector.

## The EPO Connector

All desired integrations (e.g., with Peppol networks, national platforms, or providers) are handled via the SAP-certified EPO Connector, ensuring stable and future-proof connectivity.

## SAP Compatibility

- Usable in all SAP systems from Basis 7.00 (ECC 6.0)
- Fully compatible with all SAP S/4HANA versions (excluding SAP Public Cloud)
- Modification-free, requiring no adjustments during upgrades, release changes, or migrations

## Outgoing Invoice Solution

- Data is selected and transferred into the UBL structure.
- Transformation into XML formats such as UBL, CII, or ZUGFeRD.
- Customer-specific adaptations via inheritance in the Z namespace.
- Monitoring and dispatch via the EPO Outgoing Invoice Book.

## Incoming Invoice Solution

- Receipt via upload, email, or API.
- Transformation into the UBL data model.
- Monitoring, approval workflows, enrichment with account assignment data.
- Preliminary entry or posting with/without purchase order reference, including special cases.

## The EPO E-Invoice Viewer

- XML invoices are displayed as interactive web pages.
- Display is 1:1 from the XML (no deviation from the original).
- Multilingual support and company-specific customization via CSS.

## Stability and Future-Proofing

- Productively used by numerous customers since 2014.
- Continuous expansion to include new formats and regulatory requirements.
- Lean, generic concept enables rapid adjustments.

## Conclusion

EPO E-Invoicing Solutions offer a proven, cost-effective, and SAP-centric alternative to cloud-based platforms. Companies benefit from a comprehensive solution that is technically stable, flexible, and future-proof – and integrates seamlessly into existing SAP processes.

