

A Plan To Reduce Data Entry

With a VAR's help, a service bureau automates its invoice processing and reduces its data entry by as much as 60%.

BY JAY McCALL

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WHEN BANKING SERVICES BUREAU Computer Services Inc. (CSI) attended a Microsoft Convergence convention a couple of years ago, it was painfully aware that its invoice approval process was in need of a major overhaul. What the Microsoft Great Plains accounting application user didn't expect, however, was to run into a systems integrator that had the answer to CSI's workflow problems and a whole lot more.

An Integrator Reveals The Benefits Of Invoice Processing Automation

When CSI's AP (accounts payable) manager first met systems integrator KeyMark, the integrator was demonstrating an OCR (optical character recognition) for AnyDoc application at the Microsoft show. At the time, CSI was manually processing about 30,000 paper invoices per year, and it was looking for a way to automate its invoice processing and reduce duplicate data entry. KeyMark's demo also incorporated AnyDocINVOICE, a semistructured forms processing technology that recognizes multiple invoice formats (e.g. 'Invoice Number' and 'Inv. #') and automatically locates and extracts the appropriate data from each field (e.g. customer number, invoice amount, invoice date).

The initial demonstration led to a follow-up meeting between KeyMark and CSI's AP manager and CEO, which led to CSI submitting an RFQ (request for quote) to three invoice processing solutions providers, including KeyMark. The banking service bureau ultimately went with KeyMark, largely because of the integrator's OCR solution, which offered several benefits over what all of the other VARs/integra-