

Gateway Streamlining procurements using the electronic supply chain



Benefits for your customers:

- Optimised end-to-end processes delivering significant efficiency savings
- Supports local workflows and procurement, fully integrating the electronic supply chain within your LMS
- Secure, auditable, automated access to over 40 major book suppliers
- Removes the need to rekey information, eliminating errors and saving staff time

Benefits for your library:

- Delivery direct to branch ensures stock really is shelf-ready, reaching requestors quicker
- Electronic status reports on orders keep your customers informed regarding book orders
- Stock reaches branches quicker, improving quality of service
- Reader requests acquired with limited delays

"New stock is reaching libraries more quickly and our request supply times have also improved. Staffing costs within acquisitions have been reduced by 42 percent since we sent our first EDI order on Gateway"

Jo Grocott, stock supply manager,
Staffordshire County Council

Recent government reviews have ensured that streamlining procurement remains one of the hottest topics in the library community today; everyone wants to know more about it, do more of it, and realise the benefits that come with it. At the same time, the supply chain is itself being squeezed to deliver more for less. Gateway is an Electronic Supply Chain solution that ensures the entire procurement cycle is delivered efficiently - delivering savings in staff time and driving quicker turnaround of suppliers' orders.

Automated integration

Gateway provides a seamless procurement integration service for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) transmissions from and to libraries. The service is unique, fully auditable, and removes all of the complexity surrounding EDI and networking standards. Yearly transactions average in excess of 2 million, supporting the complete range of acquisitions processes from selection through ordering, to payment and shelf-ready delivery.

Realising the power of EDI

The benefits of Electronic Supply Chain are underpinned by EDI. Using the Gateway, EDI messages containing commercial information are exchanged between more than 90 libraries trading with over 40 suppliers. No knowledge of EDI standards and formats is required by library staff; the Gateway manages all the networking and message format issues as well as the administration of electronic trading partnerships.

Streamlined procurement workflows

Gateway is a fully managed service, allowing you to concentrate on your core business. Data from imported messages automatically updates your database as appropriate, removing the need to rekey information, saving staff time and eliminating errors. Full audit capability enables complete transaction tracking and provides reassurance that your business transactions are delivered safely and in a timely manner.

Standards based solutions

Askews and Holts, Bertrams, Blackwells, Coutts and Dawson Books are just a selection of forty plus library suppliers using the Gateway. We are a founding member of the Book Industry Communication (the association established to promote Tradacoms and EDIFACT standards for the book industry), so you can be confident in selecting your suppliers on the basis of their performance and adherence to approved standards and guidelines.

Find out more

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