

ALKU

CASE STUDY



ALKU is a highly specialized consulting services firm. ALKU has seven offices nationwide and is focused on deploying highly skilled consulting resources in the areas of ERP, Healthcare IT, Life Sciences, Government Programs, and Information Security.

High-growth consulting firm automates AP operations

As a rapidly growing staffing firm, ALKU needed to keep pace with an increasing volume of invoices. Their accounts payable (AP) process was outdated and relied heavily on time-consuming, manual data entry and paper-based approvals. Although ALKU processed more than 4,000 invoices annually, there was a need for invoice status visibility as AP often had to track down missing information and lost invoices. Additionally, without digital payment capabilities, physical invoices had to be sent to the office for approval which often resulted in payment delays.

Following a successful implementation of Certify Expense, ALKU understood the value of automation and realized Certify AP would be the next step to further optimize financial operations.

Challenges

- Manual AP process struggled to keep pace with an increasing volume of invoices
- Inefficient, paper-based flow resulted in lost invoices and payment delays
- Lack of reporting capabilities with no visibility into invoice status

Results

- 4,000 invoices processed automatically, without manual intervention
- 100% visibility into invoice status and spend data
- 87% decrease in volume of physical checks cut

- **Established:** 2008
- **Headquarters:** Andover, MA
- **Employees:** 280+
- **Customer Since:** 2019
- **Products:** Accounts Payable, Expense



With our previous process, AP was constantly chasing missing invoices, which was extremely time-consuming. Not only was it an inefficient use of time, but it caused payment delays and was simply not scalable as we grew. With Certify AP, we can rely on the system to do all the heavy lifting for us, automatically.

DAN SANGEORGE
Cost Accounting Manager



ALKU saves time and money with Certify AP

According to Dan Sangeorge, Cost Accounting Manager at ALKU, it was important to have a central system for both expense and invoice management to help standardize processes, drive user adoption, and increase efficiencies as the firm grows. “Having everything feed through a central system has given finance a lot more control” said Sangeorge, adding that Certify AP completely streamlined ALKU’s AP process and delivered return on investment almost immediately. “Certify AP has produced a huge boost in cost savings as we’ve digitized processes,” said Sangeorge. For example, with time saved through automation, AP has been able to focus on more strategic projects like transitioning vendors to digital payment methods. This has decreased ALKU’s volume of physical checks by 87% and drastically reduced costs associated with cutting physical checks.

Certify AP also provides complete visibility into spend for more accurate budget forecasting and invoice tracking. This has helped improve communication among AP and end-users, and ensures ALKU’s vendors are paid on time, every time—no more missing information or delayed payments.

Additionally, the fact that Certify AP is a digital, cloud-based solution has been vital in supporting ALKU’s dispersed workforce; and as they continue to grow, the solution can easily adapt to the firm’s evolving needs. “We’ve continuously increased our employee count and revenue causing us to always need to adapt to growth. Certify AP is a solution that can easily scale with us and allow us to handle an increasing volume of invoices without additional headcount as ALKU continues its rapid growth.”

Benefits

- **Improves AP efficiency**
Certify AP automatically routes invoices to approvers for more timely vendor payments.
- **Automates purchase orders**
The system auto-generates a PO upon requisition approval, which expedites reconciliation and enforces GL accuracy.
- **Increases visibility**
Invoice tracking is easily accessible in Certify AP, and spend reporting helps AP measure performance and make data-driven decisions.
- **Enables remote work**
According to Sangeorge, it would have been difficult to continue AP operations remotely during COVID-19 without a cloud-based solution like Certify AP.
- **Promotes innovation**
Certify AP eliminates time-consuming, manual tasks so AP can keep pace with demand and allocate more time for strategic projects.



Any company that is expecting growth needs to automate AP processes. Certify AP will save you the cost of hiring additional AP staff, and also give you time back for more innovative work to help your company grow.

DAN SANGEORGE
Cost Accounting Manager

About Certify, part of Emburse

Certify is part of Emburse, a global leader in expense management and AP automation solutions. Certify is trusted by more than 4,500 organizations, including Boot Barn, H&R Block, and Virgin Galactic, to streamline expense processing, purchasing, and travel booking. For more information, please visit certify.com.

