Recent research indicates that up to 80 percent of business-to-business communications still use unstructured or semi-structured documents, with critical documents attached to emails or printed and mailed (sometimes even both). The recipients must then manually classify the content, capture the data and initiate a business process. This prevents organizations from fully reaping the benefits of SAP® solutions and can lead to delays in key business processes and lost revenue.

OpenText™ Information Extraction Service for SAP® Solutions fully automates the digitalization of incoming SAP-related documents. It employs optical character recognition (OCR) technology to extract characters, minimizes manual intervention and quickly adapts to changes. As a deeply integrated solution, Information Extraction Service leverages business context to further improve capture accuracy based on fast learning algorithms and an invoice knowledge base. Easy configuration removes any project or technology barriers and allows for the automatic capture of additional document types, independent of volume.
Eliminates manual data entry

Information Extraction Service makes manual data entry a thing of the past. The process starts with character recognition, word formation, semantic analysis and geometrical assessment. To further optimize recognition, image processing algorithms skew the image and eliminate speckles and lines that otherwise confuse character shapes. However, even the best algorithm will only deliver a certain degree of confidence for individual characters and it is the business context that identifies a word or item with certainty. While character recognition is not an issue for electronic PDF documents, understanding this context and the existence of typos requires intelligent processing algorithms capable of fuzzy and other forms of logical extraction.

Uses business context to rapidly extract information

Information Extraction Service uses a multiphase, intelligent approach to first classify the document context by, for example, business partner and region, to extract relevant information. This context is important to ensure high quality information extraction. Knowing a business partner, for example, simplifies extraction of address details, line items and header fields that are under the control of the partner. The deep SAP integration seamlessly provides access to past transactions and adjacent information and enables the solution to maximize recognition rates and deliver superior results.

Enables superior recognition rates with machine learning technology

Information Extraction Service includes a detailed knowledge base, drawing on thousands of invoices from more than 35 countries, guaranteeing a high field and table recognition quality independent of the individual invoice layout. The solution employs direct user feedback and corrections made in SAP to continuously improve recognition and distinguish fields. An intelligent voting algorithm (patent pending) determines whether the traditional knowledge base or the learned field is more appropriate. This technology shows its full strength with completely unknown documents and document types—typically only a few similar documents are sufficient to reach high recognition quality.

Establishes new content types and fields with ease

Better data is a prerequisite for increased automation. Supporting information, such as contract numbers, contact details or device serial numbers, can fully automate matching with master data in SAP, routing exceptions to the right specialist or making intelligent decisions automatically. Ease of configuration revolutionizes otherwise time-consuming manual tasks. Rather than entering data manually, a simple configuration defines the relevant fields and once deployed, Information Extraction Service improves with user and system feedback. This goes far beyond standard robotic process automation by directly integrating with OpenText™ Vendor Invoice Management for SAP® Solutions and OpenText™ Business Center for SAP® Solutions. As a result, processing is improved and reports include even more relevant information.

OpenText is one of the few providers that fully owns the complete OCR technology stack. While others rely on third-party ORM agreements and have no direct control over the roadmaps, OpenText quickly innovates, improves and optimizes the engine to support customers’ needs. Based on more than 30 years of experience, Information Extraction Service combines world-leading OCR with patent-pending machine learning algorithms. It deploys rapidly, allowing users to start processing documents immediately and the system becomes more intuitive and faster with each document processed. Whether a simple header field or line items in complex tables spanning many pages, Information Extraction Service successfully and automatically recognizes any incoming document.
About OpenText

OpenText, The Information Company, enables organizations to gain insight through market leading information management solutions, on-premises or in the cloud. For more information about OpenText (NASDAQ: OTEX, TSX: OTEX) visit opentext.com.