OpenText™ LEAP Supplier Exchange

Streamline management of contractual deliverables and transmittals—securely in the cloud

What if you could slash the amount of time your team spends on managing transmittals and contractual deliverables—with minimal IT investment? What if your team could provide secure access to contract deliverables within your global network of suppliers and vendors, with shared accountability for quality and accuracy? And what if you could do this while ensuring data integrity and protecting intellectual property outside the organization?

OpenText™ LEAP Supplier Exchange tackles your information-exchange problems head on. Now, you can take advantage of a solution designed for project sponsors, asset owners, and engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) teams that help keep projects on track regardless of size and scope. LEAP Supplier Exchange simplifies and expedites the distribution, review, and approval of transmittals and contract deliverables across your extended team—securely—via the public cloud.

Collaboration extended beyond the enterprise

Contractual deliverables are a key form of communications in coordinating a global network of suppliers, vendors, and partners on joint projects. But with a globally distributed team, collaboration and managing deliverables through the lifecycle of a project is a process desperately in need of improvement. Assembling and preparing transmittal packages and responses is time-consuming, labor-intensive and error-prone. Document revisions must be verified. Responses, edits, and approvals must be coordinated and cross-checked. Project teams must collaborate with suppliers and vendors to share transmittals and deliverables outside organizational boundaries, typically a clumsy process involving email, FTP, shared drives and overnight delivery. Besides its inefficiency, this outmoded means of communication creates serious security vulnerabilities.

Simplified management of complex deliverables

From an administrative standpoint, LEAP Supplier Exchange controls actions that can be performed using a role-based security model. Its flexible design enables configurable review and approval workflows. And, from a single project dashboard, team members can rapidly access project or document status, and track, monitor, and manage the status of thousands of documents and deliverables, whether open, pending, accepted, rejected, or closed.

ESSENTIALS

- Simplify and expedite the distribution, review, and approval of transmittals and contract deliverables within your global network of suppliers and vendors
- Provide secure access, complete visibility, and shared accountability for the quality of contract deliverables exchanged via the cloud
- Extend project control to your global supplier network while ensuring data integrity and protecting intellectual property
- Monitor current status of deliverable approvals
- Dramatically reduce the hours spent in manual administration, without IT investment—cutting costs and boosting productivity
- Mitigate contractual issues and resulting project delays
- Integrates with OpenText™ Documentum™ for Capital Projects, OpenText™ Capital Projects Express, and OpenText™ Documentum™ for Asset Operations solutions
Extended support for existing business processes

With its open architecture, LEAP Supplier Exchange can extend collaboration by integrating with other critical business applications in use today. Documents are moved into LEAP Supplier Exchange for the purposes of collaboration. When the collaboration phase concludes, final versions are returned to the original application, with a complete record of the interactions that took place online. LEAP Supplier Exchange is the perfect solution for enabling your extended team to interact with critical business documents, deliverables, and transmittals.

For teams designing or building new engineering projects, LEAP Supplier Exchange provides tight built-in integration with OpenText™ Documentum™ for Capital Projects Express, OpenText™ Documentum™ for Capital Projects, and OpenText™ Documentum™ for Asset Operations solutions.

Here’s how it works. Documentum for Capital Projects Express, Documentum for Capital Projects, and Documentum for Asset Operations automate the creation of transmittals or deliverables, and these documents or placeholders are automatically uploaded into LEAP Supplier Exchange. Based on information from Documentum for Capital Projects Express, Documentum for Capital Projects or Documentum for Asset Operations, LEAP Supplier Exchange creates the collaboration space online, complete with access controls, assignments, and more. Once the content is online, partners and suppliers have access to review and approve content. Placeholders in the transmittals enable third parties to contribute deliverables for review and to complete contractual obligations.

Throughout this process, any contract member can use LEAP Supplier Exchange for notifications; transmittal tracking, histories and reports; and external QA check. And at the end of the cycle, all of the documents in the transmittals, including new deliverables, are synchronized in the system of record (Documentum for Capital Projects Express, Documentum for Capital Projects, or Documentum for Asset Operations), with complete version histories, comments, metadata, and approvals.

LEAP Supplier Exchange may also be integrated with other critical business systems, including OpenText™ Extended ECM for Engineering along with other project and maintenance management systems.

Software as a service: the right solution now

As a software-as-a-service solution, LEAP Supplier Exchange offers all the benefits of cloud computing: wide access to authorized parties while providing highly secure encryption for role-based access and transmission of documents. Running in the public cloud, it’s always available, and does not require external users to access internal networks or VPNs. It’s fast to deploy, requiring only configuration, and can scale up or down to meet changing business requirements. The pay-as-you-go subscription model requires minimal capital outlay, and shifts expenses from capital to operating budgets.

Substantial efficiency improvement—and attendant cost savings

What you gain with LEAP Supplier Exchange is a far more efficient process that’s no comparison to business as usual today. Relieved of the painstaking task of organizing and verifying documents across multiple parties, your team is not only more productive but less stressed. They can be confident of document integrity, with shared accountability for quality with suppliers and vendors—who themselves have more control over contract deliverables. With this shared responsibility, the risk of contractual disputes and resulting project delays plummet. And for EPCs, faster transmittal delivery speeds up acknowledgements and approvals, thereby accelerating time to revenue.

You could build a business case for LEAP Supplier Exchange on efficiency alone. But sealing up weak holes in your firewall is another vitally important improvement, when hackers today are ever more adept at exploiting security weaknesses.

Finally, consider the cost benefits. From our work with hundreds of asset owners and EPCs, the OpenText team estimates the cost of time wasted in administration and project management activities at approximately $20,000 per month. Tighten up those processes and, no matter what the other variables, you can clearly realize substantial savings.