EMC SUPPLIER EXCHANGE

Streamline management of transmittals and contract deliverables–securely in the cloud

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

What if you could slash the amount of time your team spends on managing transmittals and contract 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?

EMC® 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. In short, EMC Supplier Exchange simplifies and expedites the distribution, review and approval of transmittals and contract deliverables across your extended team—securely—via the cloud.

COLLABORATION EXTENDED BEYOND THE ENTERPRISE

Transmittals and contract 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 transmittals 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 e-mail, FTP, shared drives and overnight delivery. Besides its inefficiency, this outmoded means of communication creates serious security vulnerabilities.

A DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT APPROACH: STRUCTURED COLLABORATION

EMC Supplier Exchange offers an entirely new approach to this process. Structured collaboration is the key. The solution organizes project documents in a collaborative space, centralizing the exchange of transmittals and contract deliverables. Team members can upload new documents, browse and search for documents, and receive email and UI notifications indicating when a deliverable has been submitted, approved or rejected. They can view and comment directly within the solution, and manage and track transmittals through structured review, edit and approval processes. EMC Supplier Exchange captures ad hoc comments and notes from suppliers and team members, which can help people resolve any immediate document-related questions or issues—essentially accelerating collaboration toward completion. Audit trails and version histories provide a complete record of the documents for compliance purposes.
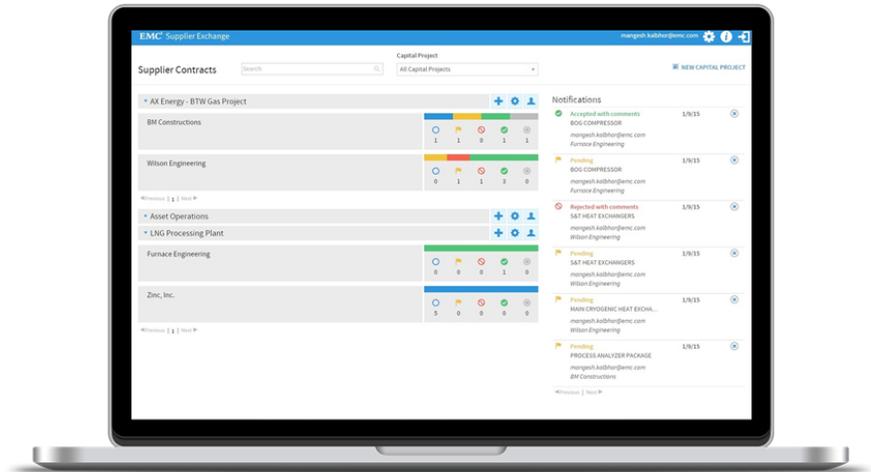
REDEFINE

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SIMPLIFIED MANAGEMENT OF COMPLEX DELIVERABLES

From an administrative standpoint, EMC 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.

The project dashboard provides a consolidated view of the deliverables associated with each contract.

EXTENDED SUPPORT FOR EXISTING BUSINESS PROCESSES

With its open architecture, EMC Supplier Exchange can extend collaboration by integrating with other critical business applications in use today. Documents are moved into EMC 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. EMC 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, EMC Supplier Exchange provides tight built-in integration with the EMC Documentum® Capital Projects solution, as both are part of the EMC Documentum for Engineering, Plant and Facilities Management (Documentum EPFM™) solution suite.

Here's how it works. Documentum Capital Projects automates the creation of transmittals and deliverables, and these documents are automatically uploaded into EMC Supplier Exchange. Based on information from Documentum Capital Projects, 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 the content 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 EMC 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 Documentum Capital Projects, with complete version histories, comments, metadata and approvals.

SOFTWARE AS A SERVICE: THE RIGHT SOLUTION NOW

As a software-as-a-service solution, EMC 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 EMC 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 plummets. And for EPCs, faster transmittal delivery speeds up acknowledgements and approvals, thereby accelerating time to revenue.

You could build a business case for EMC 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 EMC 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.

GETTING STARTED

To find out more about EMC Supplier Exchange and the Documentum EPFM solution suite, please visit: www.emc.com/DocumentumForEnergy.

CONTACT US

The EMC Information Intelligence Group (IIG) transforms how organizations connect information with work. Whether on-premise or in the cloud, IIG technologies simplify the complexity of managing and protecting an organization's most valuable asset: information.

To learn more about the EMC Documentum for Engineering, Plant and Facilities Management solution suite, contact your local representative or authorized reseller—or visit us at www.emc.com, or explore and compare products in the EMC Store.

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