Automated Supplier
Invoice Processing

THE CLIENT

The client is a large industrial machinery manufacturer which also offers financial services, parts services, and power systems.

THE CHALLENGE

For every supplier, the electronic versions of original invoices are pivotal to speedy and efficient process execution. This is particularly important during the import declaration process where customs authorities require that all goods come with their corresponding supplier invoices prior to receiving them at warehouses. This process was the source of significant inefficiencies that impacted the client's procurement activities.

Despite the automation provided by SAP GTS, it lacked support for vendor invoice automation due to its inability to take in supplier invoice information from SAP. This created serious workflow bottlenecks in its global trade transactions management that often resulted in production parts shortages due to the absence of supplier invoices during import declaration. While SAP GTS version 11 offered invoice automation functionalities, its capabilities did not fully satisfy the client's requirements, forcing them to resort to painstaking manual preparation across the Global Trade operations of its business. This resulted in the following pain points:

Non-compliance with Import Customs Regulations

Delays in customs clearance
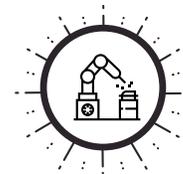
Increased production parts outages

The client wanted to develop a solution in SAP that could address these challenges and improve its efficiency.

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THE SOLUTION

SBP streamlined and optimized the client's import declaration process by developing a solution that:

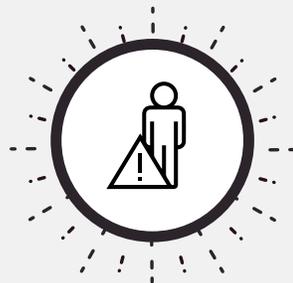Enabled the copying of inbound invoice information from the IDocs of SAP ERP to the IDocs of outbound SAP GTS.

Enabled custom brokers to get a generated report that produces output in the form of a comma delimited flat file built from GTS Invoice IDocs.
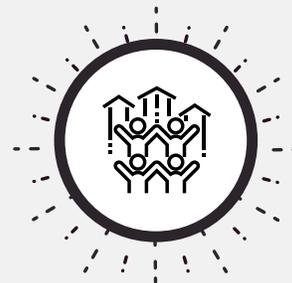
BUSINESS BENEFITS

Ensured compliance with Customs authorities through accurate invoice reporting

Eliminated human-errors due to manual processing

20% increase in employee productivity hours

15% increase in overall productivity and savings each year

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