

Fact Sheet



In today's challenging economic environment, critical to your success is your ability to reduce spend, increase cost savings, and manage supplier risk through effective spend performance management.

Spend analytics product overview

The challenge

To establish and execute strategic procurement initiatives, you as a purchasing department have a lot of factors to consider. For example, how close are you as a procurement team to monitoring or analysing any of the following;

- opportunities to negotiate new contracts in high spend categories where currently non exists
- reduction of off-contract "maverick" spending
- aggregation of demand and supplier consolidation in order to maximise purchasing power
- identification of all suppliers currently providing critical goods and services, optimising the supply chain and ensuring full continuity of services
- selection of suppliers based on credit risk and performance
- improving negotiating position by leveraging all spend with a supplier, not just spend related to one negotiation or contract
- price differentials – identifying the same products and services being supplied at different prices.

Many organisations lack access to data and information that may be in various ledger systems, purchasing cards, travel and expense reports, or even maintained by outsourced suppliers. Key spend data or supplier links might be incomplete, illdefined, or simply missing, and when the information isn't accessible or complete, there's no way to leverage it for improved decision making.

Advanced Business Solutions can help your organisations business users, managers, directors and procurement departments gain insight into savings opportunities and compliance by enabling access to aggregated and enriched spend data utilising their Spend Analytics solution.

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Spend analytics

Spend Analytics is accessed through a secure, fully interactive, browser-based web-interface. It provides visibility and clarity of an organisation's procurement performance and detailed insight into actual business activity. Through the benefit of pre-defined metrics and measures, information is summarised into a Procurement Scorecard. This creates, manages and delivers your organisation's Key Performance Indicators.

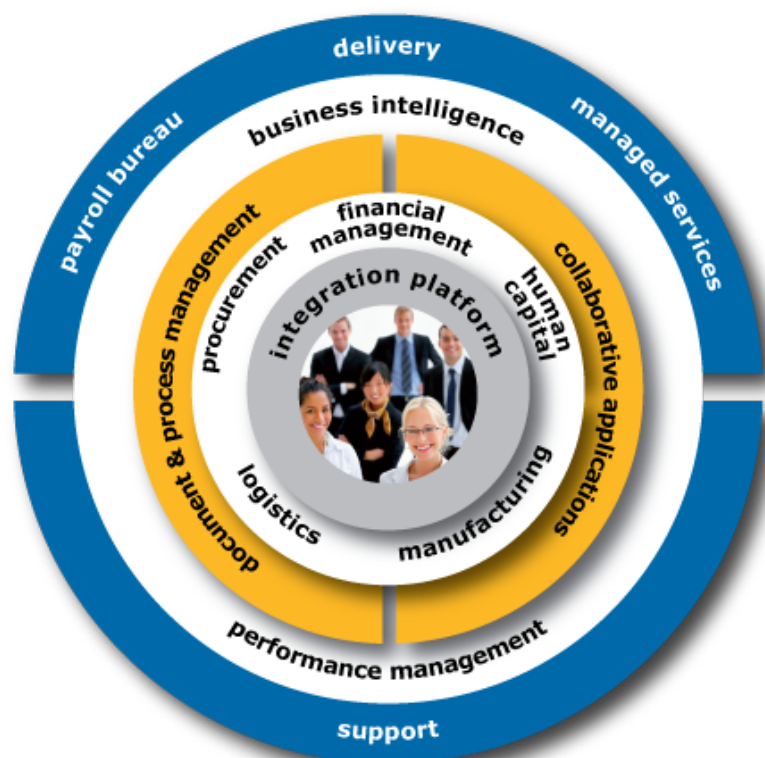
Spend Analytics enables procurement professionals to identify direct cost savings through the key procurement data but also importantly, to identify process improvements through the deployment of more effective procurement strategies. For example optimisation of invoice processing and reduction in the quantity of low value invoices.

Spend Analytics provides "out of the box" metrics and measurements for everything from contract v non contract spend, percentage of invoices matched first time, category spend analysis, identification of differential prices for the same product or service and purchase cycle times.

Visibility

One of the biggest challenges of bringing data together from disparate systems is the effective optimisation of that data for reporting and analysis and also the consolidation and translation of data. For example, the same supplier may be used in multiple systems but may not always be referenced by the same supplier code (or even name) the same applies for category of spend.

The Spend Analytics solution provides a single data mart which is optimised for reporting and analysis and also provides the data translation tools which will consolidate appropriate data such as supplier and spend category as part of the import routine, ensuring that users are always viewing consolidated and accurate data.



Rapid return on investment

Spend Analytics provides a rapid return on investment based on the following:

Spend Analytics come pre-packaged with over 25 metrics, 100 measures and 30 standard reports. The Spend Analytics solution is designed based on procurement best practice and comes with the most common measures and reports pre-defined. This frees up more time for procurement professionals to concentrate on the drivers unique to their organisation and drive more value from the system.

Low implementation resources - The unique design of the system requires much less implementation time than traditional business intelligence projects. By utilising its plug and play capability this leads to a much quicker return on investment.

Eliminate Risk & Disruption – The Spend Analytics solution is able to map to your existing systems or simply to spreadsheets if required. The prepackaged nature of the application provides a lower cost of ownership and is part of a dedicated development roadmap.

Key features & benefits

Benchmarking and analysis - Spend Analytics enables procurement departments to compare their organisation with other organisations (or departments) through a systematic and continuous measurement process. It provides high level views with built in hierarchies which allow users to go from a high level consolidated view and drill down to transactional / source data.

Unified view of spend information - Spend Analytics collates data from all sources that contain information about procurement in the organisation. (Ledgers, Contract Databases, Procurement Card Data etc)

Consistency of definition - Spend Analytics enables the organisation to establish a single view of the relevant measures in the organisation and to be confident that the data is being consolidated and compared in a consistent manner.

Graphical impact diagrams – Spend Analytics visually demonstrates how metrics impact upon each other in the procurement process. Enabling users to drill down to the source of the issue and see why it is impacting other KPI's.

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Self service – Spend Analytics is delivered to end users in a way that enables them to easily interpret key information with dynamic drill down and slice and dice capability. It is an easy to use, functionally rich, fully web-based, zero footprint solution.

Ownership and communication – The Spend Analytics solution allows owners to be defined for each key KPI – automatically alerting the owner if action needs to be taken. It also provides users the ability to assign actions and tasks to other users and track outcomes.

Configuration and extendibility – Although the solution is pre-packaged we also provide the facility to develop and customise your own KPI's, dashboards and measures to suit your individual organisation.

About Business Solutions

Advanced Business Solutions, an Advanced Computer Software Group plc company, provides leading integrated business applications and services that enable public, private and third sector organisations to retain control, improve visibility and gain efficiencies whilst continually improving corporate performance. It's award-winning software systems comprise core financial management, procurement, human resource and payroll systems, integrated with a range of collaborative, document management and business intelligence solutions . It also provides managed and bureau service options.

Advanced Computer Software Group plc is the UK's leading supplier of software and IT services to the health, care and commercial sectors. It comprises 3 main divisions and has 7000 customers and 800 staff worldwide.

For more information

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