E-BOOK

7 Questions every CFO should ask

Is your organization looking to solve challenges in Accounts Payable Automation, but addressing those issues can be difficult? Evaluate 7 most relevant questions before finalizing an Accounts Payable Automation solution.

www.aavenir.com

Version :1.0 11/02/2022

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Introduction

Chief Financial Officers(CFO) face new challenges every day because of technological advances, multiple payment channels, and pressure to reduce costs. Cloud technology and software automation have opened many doors for CFOs to streamline accounts payable processes. These automated accounts payable solutions are designed to prevent invoice management problems and reduce financial risk by increasing compliance with a company's fraud-prevention guidelines and rules

It's a booming market, with investment in Accounts Payable automation technology expected to increase from $1.9 billion in 2019 to more than $3 billion by 2024, according to **PYMNTS.com.**

However, before investing in any Accounts Payable Automation solution, every CFO must understand and clarify essential aspects.

Starting with which invoices are they going to manage and how will they be processed and paid? Let's explore the top 7 questions to evaluate before finalizing an **Accounts Payable Automation solution:**



Question 1.

Who is the right fit for the Accounts Payable Automation solution?

If any of the following questions can be answered yes, then the **Accounts Payable Automation solution** can do wonders for you.

1. Does your organization want to control costs by analyzing the **spend**?
2. Does your organization want to maintain **compliance** by doing effective and autonomous 2-way, 3-way matches?
3. Do you have hundreds (and possibly thousands) of suppliers sending several thousand invoices per year?
4. Are received invoices coming in varying invoice layouts, i.e., 3-column invoice line items, 5-column invoice line items, addresses at the top or bottom, or simply flat invoices?
5. Do you have to extract useful invoice data manually or just use only a handful of information from invoices – just because manual invoice extraction is error-prone, expensive, or both?

Make your Accounts Payable teams more strategic by capturing invoices efficiently, building smart invoice workflows, and automating 2-way/3-way validation with Aavenir Invoiceflow. Get more insights on AI-enabled accounts payable automation by analyzing this **E-book**: 'AI-enabled Accounts Payable Automation' to automate 98% of your accounts payable.

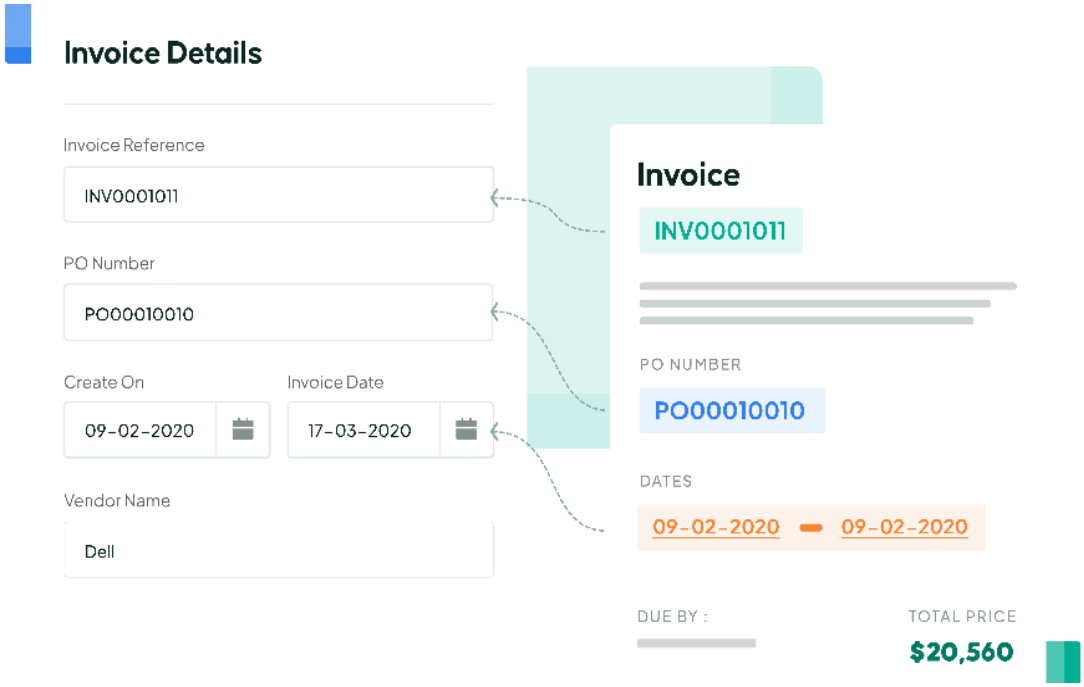


Question 2.

But, I already use OCR for my invoices. How does the Accounts Payable Automation solution help me?

I would have been a millionaire if I were paid a penny each time I answered this question. OCR (Optical Character Recognition) converts text from an image into text. OCR is a great technology, but OCR does NOT tell you specifics within the converted text, e.g., OCR will not tell you where the tax line item lies or where the Purchase Order number is. Advanced technology like Machine Learning learns data patterns, interprets the data elements, and answers the above questions. To sum it up, we use OCR (if invoices are in image form), but the real magic starts after that.

Download this **datasheet** to learn how to achieve maximum efficiency in your accounts payable process. Learn how Aavenir AP Automation's ML engine can help extract invoice information and match it against the purchase order, goods receipt, and contract data.



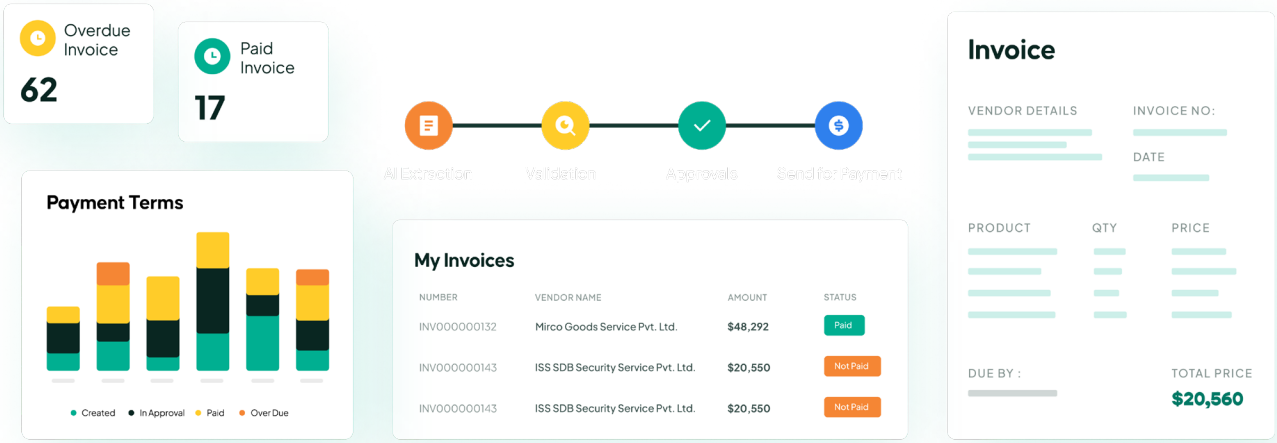
> According to PayStream Advisors' 2021 Payables Insight Report, 55% of businesses handle financial data manually. However, in 2022, over 40% of small and medium-sized enterprises claim they're 'somewhat likely' to adopt AP automation software.

Question 3.
What are the Accounts Payable Automation use cases?

Let's say you currently get all your invoices from multiple mediums, e.g., via emails to business, over your portal, or even in physical forms. Now, you would have to collate these invoices to a central repository, probably copy a few relevant fields into your ERPs, and then dump the invoices (after scanning the physical copies) into a file folder for some soul to find it, if and when it is required – Good luck with that!

If you receive physical invoices, you want to capture them immediately. Aavenir supports inbound email, direct upload, and invoices from external software. It will extract the data within seconds and present it to you to validate and submit! Once the data is in the database, you can validate the data with GRN or the PO or import the data points to the ERP or the DBMS.

However, with the Aavenir **AP Automation** solution, you can ask all your vendors to email the invoices to one common email address simply, i.e., invoices@<yourdomain>.com. That's it! This solution would take care of the rest and create entries into a database with all the information you need from invoices – not just 1,2, or 5 fields – all of them!



> "75% of businesses view their accounts payable department as either "very" or "exceptionally" valuable to the overall enterprise as per Ardent Partners."

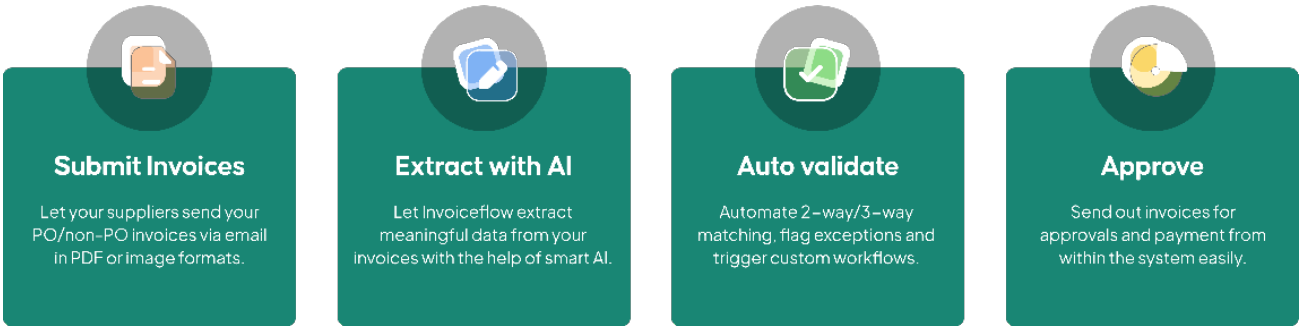
Question 4.
So, what's the magic in automating accounts payable?

The magic is the Machine Learning (ML) engine that Aavenir has developed to extract invoice data elements precisely. Running as a microservice on the public cloud, this proprietary technology will perform data extraction activities, and all the data is stored in ServiceNow.

Once the invoice data is stored in ServiceNow, Aavenir's smart comparison engine would provide a 2-way and 3-way match – with PO and GRN, including the tolerance level of the AP team.

Here's how Aavenir Invoiceflow uses out-of-the-box AI to transform Accounts payable processes:

- Auto-Extract invoice data with cutting-edge AI and reduce human intervention by 99%
- Automate 2-way/3-way validation & send more invoices straight-through to payment
- Build robust workflows to improve collaboration and let the Accounts Payable team focus on invoice exceptions
- Identify invoice exceptions instantly across business and spend less time handling them



> "According to data from the Aberdeen Group, Accounts Payable automation equates to around 18% fewer days payable outstanding (DPO), saving approximately 5.55 days on average."

Question 5.

Do I need to purchase a separate ServiceNow license to use Accounts Payable Solution?

No. Aavenir **Accounts Payable automation** uses ServiceNow as its system of records. Our **licensing** bundles the required ServiceNow platform with it, so the customers do not need to purchase ServiceNow licenses separately, and they'd be able to use the ServiceNow platform's **reporting**, **dashboard**, and some other exciting capabilities as well.



> According to the Institute of Finance & Management (IOFM), 43% of companies typically leverage modern technology like AI-powered Accounts Payable automation to streamline their AP processes, resulting in invoice processing costs priced five times lower than average.

Question 6.
How do I implement an Accounts Payable Automation Solution?

Once you purchase Aavenir Accounts Payable Automation solution licenses, our implementation team will work with your team on Accounts Payable Automation, relevant integrations, and data training. As we all know, Machine Learning algorithms' accuracy grows in proportion to the data that you train with. Of course, you can always start without data training, but your extraction accuracy will not be high, and the accuracy can improve with time with periodic upgrades.

Here is a checklist to guide you through manual processes to automated solutions in no time - **Accounts Payable Automation Transition Checklist.**

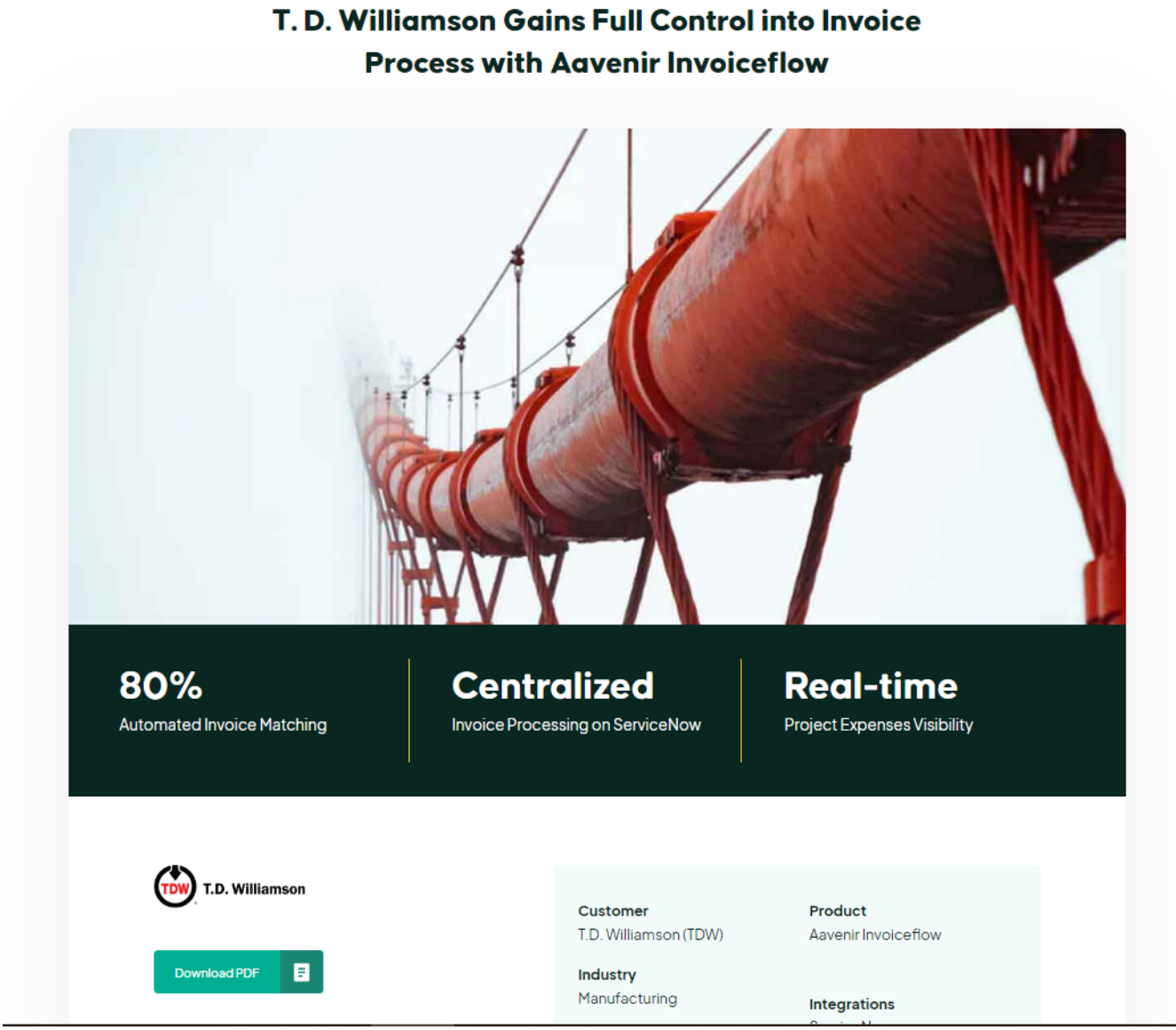


> In 2021, the AFP Payments Fraud and Control Survey revealed a staggering 81% of companies were targeted for invoice payment fraud.

Question 7.
How much data do I need to train Aavenir ML engine?

The more, the merrier! However, it also depends on the types of invoices. For example, if your typical invoices are of a similar format, a few hundred or thousand invoices would be a good start. For instance, we have trained the model with less than 600 invoices with good accuracy rates for one of our customers. Most companies would have thousands of past invoices. But, of course, you can always use them for training. The application will get equipped with more new invoices as you move forward. With periodic updates to the data point mapping the accuracy will continue getting better.

Read how T. D. Williamson gains full control of the invoice process with Aavenir Invoiceflow.



Explore Key Resources & Get Started

Here are some more resources about accounts payable automation that you might find helpful.



Checklist

AP Automation Transition Checklist

Are you sold on accounts payable automation but not sure where to begin with implementation? Download this AP Automation Transition Checklist and get started.

Download Now



Checklist

Accounts Payable Automation Readiness Checklist

Answer the questions given in the checklist to assess your readiness for an AP Automation initiative.

Download Now



Blog

Accounts Payable Trends: What to Expect in 2022

In this blog, we share our top four accounts payable automation predictions for 2022 and give you some tips on what will add value to your 2022 AP strategy.

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Blog

Top Three Accounting Scandals in the Past Decades

Top Three Accounting Scandals in the Past Decades! What are thehighlights and key takeaways, take a look!

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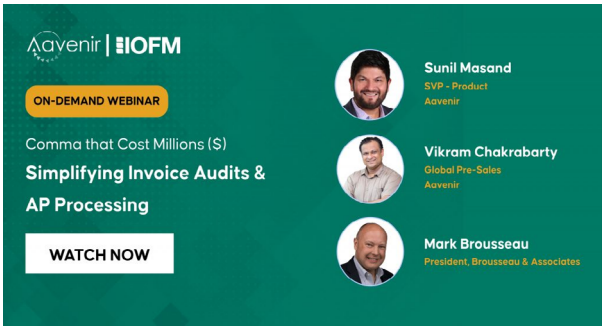


Webinar

4 Accounts Payable Metrics to Sharpen Your Invoice Processing

Learn how to support your CFOs, CPOs, CIOs and CEOs with the right data with Aavenir Invoiceflow, which elevates your AP and invoice....

Watch Now



Webinar

Simplifying Invoice Audits and AP Processing [IOFM]

Build and implement a comprehensive invoice audit and accounts payable process to manage paper and paperless vendor invoices....

Watch Now



ROI Calculator

Accounts Payable Automation ROI Calculator

Take a few minutes to get a personalized report showing how Aavenir Invoiceflow can help your organization to realize better ROI with more long-term savings.

Calculate Now



Datasheet

Aavenir Invoiceflow - Accounts Payable Automation for ServiceNow

With its advanced machine learning capabilities, the Aavenir Accounts Payable Automation solution can help ServiceNow customers to improve cash flow and accelerate the speed and accuracy of multi-vendor invoices processing....

Download Now

Manage your Accounts Payable Automation on ServiceNow

Are you willing to transform AI-enabled invoice approval workflow with automated invoice data extraction and verification to improve accuracy and efficiency?

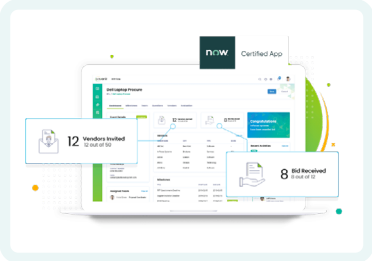
Get a custom demo of the Aavenir software and find out how you can manage your invoices for better



About Aavenir

Aavenir offers AI-enabled Source-to-Pay solutions, which includes Aavenir Contractflow – Contract lifecycle management , Aavenir Invoiceflow Accounts Payable Automation, and Aavenir RFPflow – Request for Proposal Management. Aavenir Source-to-Pay solutions revolutionize age-old processes using latest technologies such as Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing to eliminate manual work, reduce cycle time, and offer insightful smart suggestions based on historical data. For more information, visit: www.aavenir.com.

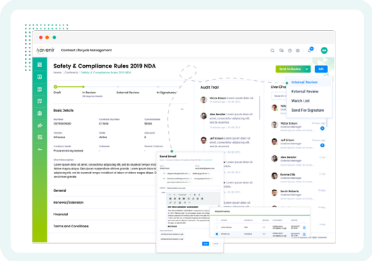
Explore Aavenir Source-to-Pay Solutions on ServiceNow



Aavenir RFPflow

Aavenir RFP/RFI/RFQ management software accelerates the vendor qualification process using milestone-based RFX-to-award workflow and collaborative vendor scoring.

- Create RFP/RFI/RFQ
- Request Responses
- Score Responses
- Award-a-Bid



Aavenir Contractflow

Aavenir Contractflow (CLM) enables enterprises to efficiently create and manage bilateral contracts for procurement, sales, services, legal, NDA, HR or any other type of internal and external enterprise operations.

- Create Contract
- Review & Negotiation
- Approval & E-Signature
- Dashboard & Reports



Aavenir Invoiceflow

AI-enabled Aavenir AP Automation solution learns an organization's unique invoices patterns to simplify invoice-coding, automate invoice data entry, and identifies exceptions to ensure data accuracy.

- Import Non PO & PO Invoice
- Automated Invoice Data Entry
- Invoice Approval Workflow
- Dashboard & Reports

Get Started


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linkedin.com/company/aavenirinfo

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