

In OCR for AnyDoc® Soudronic AG has found a solution for archiving its supplier documents.

Soudronic AG

Soudronic AG was established in 1953 and now employs over 700 people throughout the world, of whom 520 are based in Switzerland. The company is a world leader in the manufacture of machinery to produce three-piece tinplate containers, lids and bases. Soudronic production lines turn out products ranging from food packaging containers, aerosol cans and tinplate drums. The Soudronic product range includes cutters, welders, seam protection systems and drum assembly machines. At its plant at Neftenbach in Switzerland, Soudronic also manufactures complete production lines for high quality car body parts for the automotive industry. These implement the most up-to-date resistance welding and laser welding technologies. Soudronic has branches in mainland China, Germany, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, Singapore and in the USA. Soudronic's headquarters are based at Bergdietikon, Switzerland.

Manual v. automatic

Procuring materials at the right time and of the right quality is a key process at Soudronic. Before OCR for AnyDoc was implemented, all the documents had to be printed out and filed in ring binders, together with the incoming order confirmations and supporting documentation sent by the suppliers. The Purchasing Department kept the relevant documents in paper form for two years or more. They were then stored in a cellar storeroom for a further 3 years. For orders to be completed correctly, it is crucial that the purchase order documentation is monitored carefully. And the product liability commitments within the various markets and production machine maintenance service provided by Soudronic also mean that it is crucial to be able to access important purchase ordering documentation quickly and accurately. Access to important information in the paper-based storage system was very laborious and if a document happened to be incorrectly filed, it disappeared, never to re-emerge.

Industry sector:

Mechanical engineering

Company:

Soudronic AG

Form types:

Supplier order forms
Order confirmations
Ordering principles

Application:

OCR for AnyDoc®

Soudronic AG, a world leader in the manufacturer of production machinery needed a solution to digitise its supplier information. The OCR for AnyDoc solution simplified the existing process and is saving money.

AnyDoc®
SOFTWARE

www.anydocsoftware.com

While the actual ordering and materials resource management procedure was extensively automated with a corresponding ERP system, Soudronic also needed a document archiving system to cope with the rapidly increasing volume of documents.

Martin Weibel, Document Management Project Manager at Soudronic, evaluated a number of products to digitise and automatically extract data from paper documents.

Mr. Weibel said: "It was the user-friendliness and ease with which we could design forms that caused us to decide on OCR for AnyDoc. With its integral functionalities covering most situations, OCR for AnyDoc can be implemented with no additional programming, and this greatly reduces maintenance costs. We also liked the AnyDoc software licensing model. While other suppliers base their licence costs exclusively on volume, AnyDoc Software offers a licensing procedure not based on volume, but rather on the number of workstations installed. That is particularly attractive for companies handling larger volumes."

Since we installed OCR for AnyDoc, we have been filing our purchase order/ contract documents in the Document Management System (DMS). Documents produced on the ERP system are transferred directly to the DMS.

The advantages for Soudronic AG

With the help of this integral solution we were able considerably to reduce the arduous work involved in archiving paper documents. The time taken to access crucial documents has been reduced many times over, and the process is much simpler. The existing digital archive is now actively utilised, which itself provides further cost savings. With the help of the solution Soudronic has taken a major step towards achieving its aim of dispensing with its paper archive system by 2006. The space cleared in the purchasing office has been used for new workstations – and this is an additional cost saving. A further advantage is staff satisfaction, because qualified members of staff no longer have to spend tedious hours filing, and can concentrate on their main tasks.

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