

CASE STUDY

LEADING ENERGY COMPANY STREAMLINES PROCESSES AND BOOSTS PRODUCTIVITY WITH GEP SMART

A leading U.S. electric and gas utility provider was looking to automate its procurement processes, establish workflows and improve process as well as spend visibility. The company was looking for a procurement technology solution with in-built supplier management, sourcing, contract management and reporting tools that would seamlessly integrate with its ERP system and streamline its procurement operation to achieve enhanced efficiency.

With a generation capacity of 5,500 megawatts, and electric transmission and distribution systems spanning 20,000 square miles, the company generates power from natural gas, coal, and wind, serving more than 800,000 retail customers — as well as several wholesale customers — across the U.S.

OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS	RESULTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing processes for flow of information Enhancing cross-functional spend visibility Automating sourcing, supplier management and contract management Implementing a procurement platform that can integrate seamlessly with the existing ERP system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deployed SMART by GEP® and enabled procure-to-pay, spend management, sourcing, supplier management and contract management features Facilitated real-time exchange of data between the client's ERP system and SMART by GEP Equipped suppliers to process the clients' purchase orders via electronic data interchange (EDI) and web portals Improved process efficiency and increased productivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 2000 suppliers onboarded Purchase orders worth more than \$500M processed An average of 50 RFPs initiated every month New contracts flipped easily into supplier catalogs Improved procure-to-pay (P2P) process efficiency

The Modern-Day Challenges of Doing Things the “Old Way”

The client was looking to drive efficiency for a number of processes that were functioning sub-optimally in its procurement division. The prime causes — lack of end-to-end cross-functional visibility, weak technological capabilities, and an absence of established processes to properly govern the flow of information.

Reliance on manual processes, coupled with lack of automation in important areas such as sourcing, contract management and supplier management, meant that the company did not have access to centralized data, had limited visibility into its processes, spend and supplier performance, and inadequate information on policy compliance.

The Need: A Complete Procurement Solution

Collectively, the aforementioned issues impacted the client's performance, productivity and savings — and resolving them was imperative. After assessing the client's existing processes and legacy system capabilities, GEP proposed the implementation of its AI-powered, cloud-native, unified source-to-pay platform, SMART by GEP.

The client opted for SMART by GEP as it fulfilled all the key requirements — from full P2P process automation and improved enterprise-wide spend visibility, to enabling better sourcing and supplier management, while integrating seamlessly with the existent legacy system. The platform's intuitive, easy-to-use interface also encouraged user adoption.



**2000+
Suppliers
Onboarded**



**POs Worth
Over \$500M
Processed**



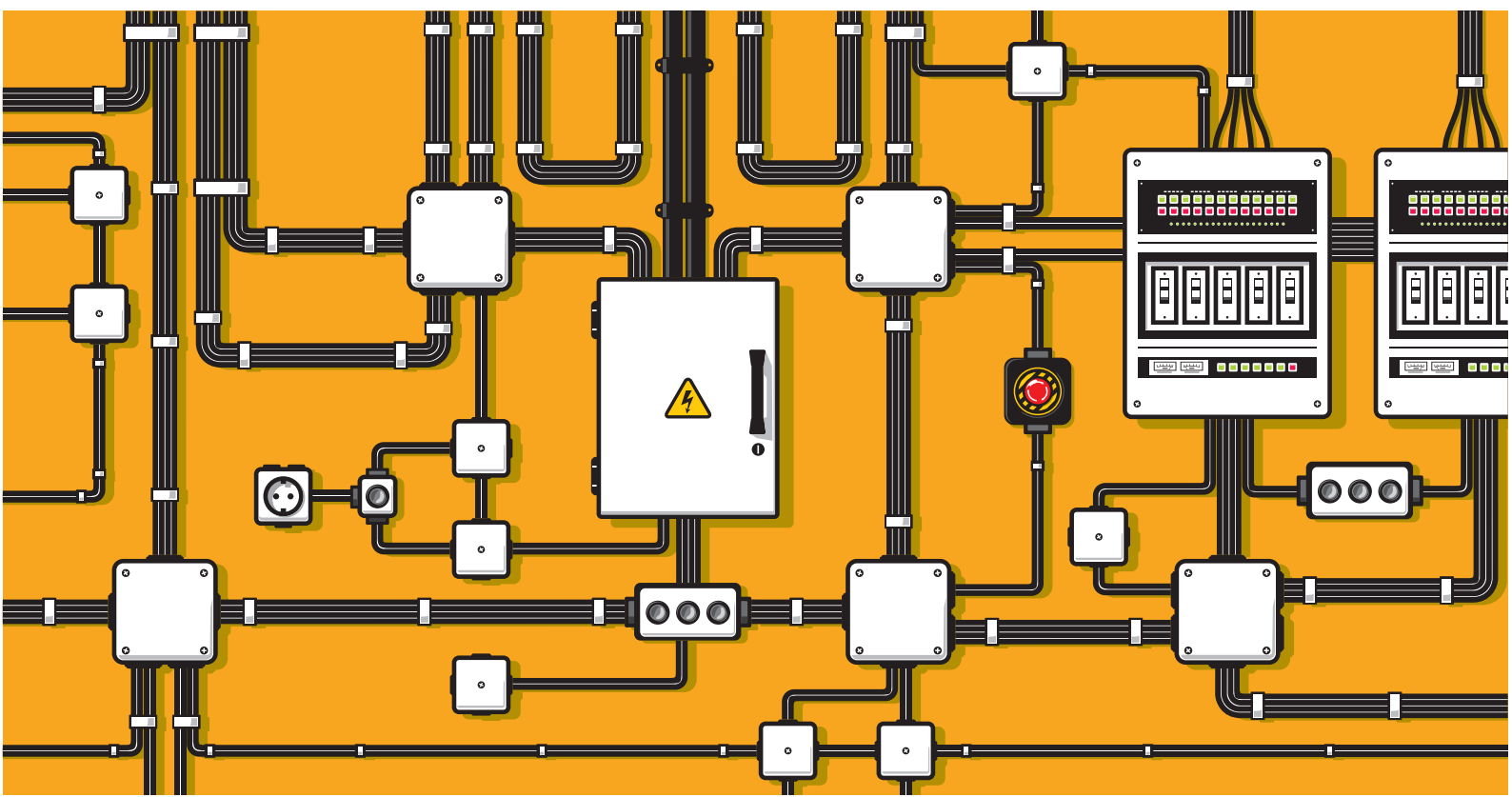
**~50 RFPs
Initiated
Every Month**

Realizing Greater Efficiency and Increased Productivity

Following deployment, SMART by GEP helped the client process purchase orders worth more than \$500 million, initiate an average of 50 RFPs per month and onboard 2000-plus suppliers. Client enterprise users could now simply “flip” approved contracts to catalogs. The platform also helped maintain supplier catalogs effectively, transforming the buying experience for stakeholders and increasing adoption across the board.

The deployment of SMART by GEP enabled suppliers to connect with the procurement platform via EDI connections and web portals to process purchase orders. The platform automatically captured RFQs and purchase orders entered into the ERP system. The SMART by GEP platform also automatically relayed supplier acknowledgment of purchase orders and invoices to the legacy system. This real-time exchange of data between SMART by GEP and the ERP system allowed for quick responses and faster decision-making.

The platform helped streamline and optimize procurement processes and created visibility into the client's procurement operation. In addition, supply chain activities became more structured and transparent, and it's now easier to monitor vendor performance. Overall, the client's procurement has transformed into a more efficient and productive operation, with processes speeding up, increased transparency and improved supplier management. ■





GEP helps global enterprises operate more efficiently and effectively, gain competitive advantage, boost profitability, and maximize business and shareholder value.

Fresh thinking, innovative products, unrivaled domain and subject expertise, and smart, passionate people — this is how GEP creates and delivers unified supply chain solutions of unprecedented scale, power and effectiveness.

Named a Leader in Gartner Magic Quadrants, Winner for Best Procurement Software and Best P2P Provider at the World Procurement Awards, Best Procurement Consultancy at CIPS Supply Management Awards, and Best Provider at the EPIC Procurement Excellence Awards, GEP is frequently honored as an innovator and leader in source-to-pay direct and indirect procurement software by Gartner, Forrester, IDC, Procurement Leaders, Spend Matters and CPO Rising.

GEP is also ranked leader in managed procurement services (procurement outsourcing) by Everest Group, NelsonHall, IDC, ISG, HfS and IAOP. In addition, the primary research firm in the management consulting sector, ALM Intelligence, ranks GEP leader in procurement strategy and supply chain consulting.

With 21 offices and operations centers in Europe, Asia and the Americas, Clark, New Jersey-based GEP helps enterprises worldwide realize their strategic, operational and financial objectives. To learn more about our comprehensive range of software and services, please visit www.gep.com.



GEP SMART is an AI-powered, cloud-native software for direct and indirect procurement that offers comprehensive source-to-pay functionality in one user-friendly platform, inclusive of spend analysis, sourcing, contract management, supplier management, procure-to-pay, savings project management and savings tracking, invoicing and other related functionalities.



GEP NEXXE is a unified and comprehensive supply chain platform that provides end-to-end planning, visibility, execution and collaboration capabilities for today's complex, global supply chains.

Built on a foundation of big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning, GEP NEXXE is next-generation software that helps enterprises make supply chain a competitive advantage.

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