

## Welcome to UK National e-Invoicing Forum (UKNeF)

### Purpose:

The UKNeF was set up in 2010 as a self-funded initiative of industry associations, public sector bodies and solution providers to promote e-Invoicing in the UK public and private sectors. Our mission is to help UK public bodies and commercial enterprises of all sizes save money and understand the benefits of replacing paper invoices with wholly electronic transactions.

- The UKNeF meets on a regular basis and operates in an entirely non-competitive, cooperative space.
- Our meetings are inclusive of both public and private sector stakeholder interests.
- We operate in an open, transparent and informal manner.
- When considering areas requiring strategic transformation, the group adopts scoped and realistic objectives.
- Initiatives undertaken are agreed among the group to be concrete, feasible and effective and their execution always closely monitored.

### Executives:

Chair: Amabel Grant, Basware. [Amabel.Grant@procserve.com](mailto:Amabel.Grant@procserve.com)

Vice-Chair: Kerry Jones, Dept. Business, Innovation & Skills. [kerry.jones@bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:kerry.jones@bis.gsi.gov.uk)

Secretariat: Tony Nisbett

Steering Group: Steve Shirley, Mastercard.

Andrew Coulson, Surrey County Council.

Steve Graham, Department of Health.

Nigel Taylor, IEX Ltd.

### Background:

The EU Commission requested that all Member States to set up a formal National Multi-stakeholder e-invoicing forum by June 2011, to ensure a balanced, public and private input

on the essential common standards and legal framework, which will apply to e-invoicing across the EU.

The UKNeF's very first objective was to ensure the United Kingdom was fully represented within the multi-stakeholder forum. We successfully highlighted this opportunity to the HM Government who recognised the expertise within the group and requested we send two candidates who represent:

1. The United Kingdom's e-Invoicing service providers
2. The United Kingdom's 4.9 million small and medium enterprises
3. The United Kingdom's Public Sector

Participating in the European Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Electronic Invoicing on behalf of the United Kingdom and the UKNeF are:

- Charles Bryant, Tungsten Network
- Nigel Taylor, IEX Ltd.

The UKNeF continues to promote the benefits of e-Invoicing to the UK Public Sector and the wider UK economy, meeting regularly at the Houses of Parliament and engaging with MPs and Cabinet Ministers. The EU e-Invoicing initiative forms part of the [EU Digital Single Market](#) programme and contributes much reduced administration costs for government and businesses, more transparent tax audits, reduced carbon footprint, and easier access to working capital for SMEs. Its benefits are mentioned in the March 2011 study by the Office of Fair Trading: Commissioning and Competition in the Public Sector.

Successes:

- Achieved wider recognition through its activities with government and other bodies to make available best practice advice to the Public Sector and the wider business community – invitations to participate in the roundtables on SME finance and the EC's Late Payment Consultation being examples.
- Sponsorship of a Parliamentary Inquiry into 'the adoption of electronic invoicing by the public sector' through one member, and contributions from many other members. The Inquiry was sponsored by Stephen McPartland MP and launched by the Rt Hon Francis Maude MP, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General.
- Engagement with senior officials at Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, Department for Work & Pensions, Crown Commercial Service, HM Revenue &

Customs and Department of Health.

- Working with Cabinet Office towards the inclusion of electronic invoicing within the 2014 Small Business & Enterprise Bill.
- Creation of a public sector business case in cooperation with the Local Government Association.
- Continued representation for the United Kingdom on the European Commission's multi-stakeholder forum on electronic invoicing.
- Industry engagement including Pan-European Public Procurement Online (PEPPOL), BASDA, Institute of Credit Management, Forum of Private Business, Payments Council and the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants.
- Response to HM Government consultation on Reforms to public procurement
- Creation of an 'Interoperability Charter for the Public Sector.