

It is not easy to consistently optimise the entire value-added process and reduce costs, and to align this stringently with the needs of the customers. It is not only the spirit of the times that prohibits "putting capital in the warehouse". Against this background, aspects such as just-in-time, minimisation of inventories, shortened process times (e.g. delivery times), reliable partners or simply a fair price are becoming increasingly important. This challenge can no longer be met without powerful IT.

Supply Chain Management by DIGITENCE

With **Supply Chain Management**, we provide you with an application that provides the basic functions in the following modules and is seamlessly integrated into the Digitence 365:

Vendor Management

Functionally, the entire procurement process is mapped and supported. All relevant sub-processes are considered:

Offer planning

Service descriptions form the basis for offers. They reflect the explicit needs and provide information about concrete requirements. These must at least be met by potential providers or suppliers to be considered as a future partner.

Tenders

Tenders are targeted at pre-identified providers of the required services or the entire market. Any number of providers can be included. The above service description is made available to the providers. Supplementary information or documents can be included in the tender and made available.

List of criteria

Individual criteria (not restricted) are defined for the company and provided with weightings (factors) according to which suppliers are to be assessed (e.g., price of the goods or service, technical competence, good experience/reliability, financial strength of the company, etc.). In the supplier selection process, the defined selection criteria are applied (or readjusted if no supplier can deliver according to the terms of reference). The criteria catalogue is valid until it is replaced by a new version. However, it remains available, e.g., to be able to refer to the criteria that previously led to a decision in the event of an audit.

Selection of suppliers

By assigning points per criterion (e.g., 1-10), the criteria are evaluated for each individual supplier and multiplied according to the weighting. This results in an objective point value for each potential supplier, which reflects not only the technical requirements but also all other relevant aspects. As a rule, the high-scoring supplier will comprehensibly win the tender. Nevertheless, there is a "veto" option. However, a decision in favour of another candidate must then be conclusively justified.

Approvals

If various functional or specialised departments such as the legal department or the security officer or even the implementing department are involved in the company in connection with orders or the ordering process, "releases" or "approvals", i.e., workflows, can be activated for the respective processing steps. In this way, all measures that may be required during procurement are considered. In practice, this also ensures that all information and documents stand up to legal scrutiny. As a rule, reworking is no longer necessary.

Inventory module

Functionally, the inventory serves to identify the goods and items used in the company. In addition, specific properties are documented for items in these two segments. The place of use or storage is recorded as well as the user with whom the respective inventory is located. Items that have been listed in the inventory and are not permanently assigned to a user can also (if classified accordingly) be used by employees for a limited period.

A corresponding option is available in this module. Each issue or return is documented and updated (versioned). This means that there is a history of who used an item and for how long over the entire life cycle.

Likewise, additional information can be collected which is needed in the company (missing asset accounting). For better transparency, each individual item inventoried can be assigned to its order number and invoice number!

In addition, a label can be generated to identify the item and simplify or support subsequent inventories.

Lists allow you to keep a permanent overview:

- The total stock of inventoried items
- The inventory of a particular storage location
- Which inventory is assigned to a particular cost centre or cost type, or
- Which items a particular employee has.

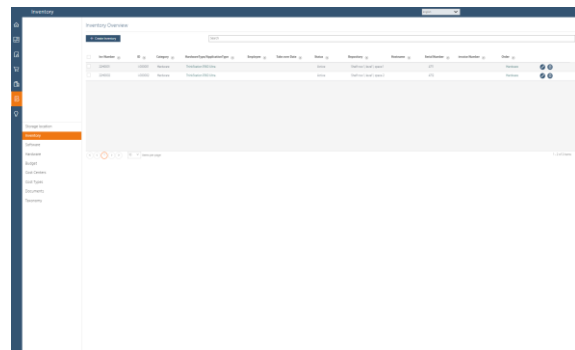


Fig. 1: Inventory Overview

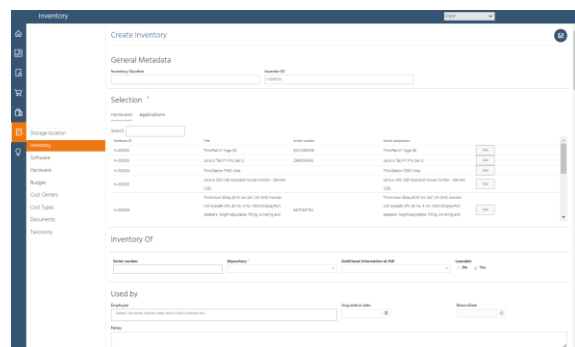


Fig. 2: Creating inventory

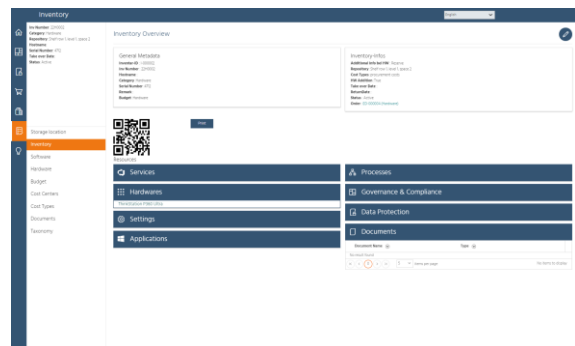


Fig. 3: Detailed view of an inventoried item