

eInvoicing in Ireland - A Supplier Factsheet

What suppliers need to know about eInvoicing in Ireland

The European Directive 2014/55/EU on eInvoicing and the national eInvoicing approach

- The Directive applies to all public bodies subject to public procurement law, obliging them to be able to receive and process electronic invoices (eInvoices), in compliance with the European Standard by the deadline of April 2019 (sub central have an option to postpone until 2020).
- The Directive DOES NOT require suppliers to submit eInvoices at this time.
- The Directive ONLY applies to invoices relating to contracts **above** EU thresholds and not to contracts declared to be secret/accompanied by special security measures.
- The European Standard on eInvoicing defines the core set of information elements and formats which a compliant eInvoice must adhere to.
- The Directive does not prescribe how eInvoices should be submitted to public administrations, Ireland has chosen the PEPPOL eDelivery network, currently in widespread use throughout Europe.
- Ireland's approach to facilitating public bodies to achieve compliance, includes sector-based invoice processing shared services/ co-ordinating body facilities for large segments within the public sector.

Why eInvoicing?

Following the Directive mass adoption of eInvoicing across the EU will improve the opportunity to reap some well-recognised eInvoicing benefits such as reduced administrative burdens, improved efficiencies, greater transparency as well as being better for the environment.

eInvoicing aims to make life easier for suppliers doing business with the public sector, by facilitating a common, standardised approach for businesses to submit invoices electronically to public administrations across Europe.

The benefit of using the PEPPOL network for suppliers is the opportunity to use the one connection to access any public administration on the network – 'connect once, connect to all' principle.

The EU's move towards a Digital Single Market and promotion of cross-border trade across Europe has created an impetus among member states, for the take up of eInvoicing in both public and private sectors.

Next steps

Interested suppliers should consider:

- i. the public sector approach and understand how the sector is preparing to be eInvoice ready by April 2019
- ii. an internal analysis of their own invoice processing environment and transactions and
- iii. an external analysis of their trading partners' capabilities and market solutions to determine the potential opportunities a standardised approach to eInvoicing might present for their business.

The Office of Government Procurement (OGP) is establishing an eInvoicing procurement framework agreement to facilitate and enable public bodies procure solutions and services to comply with the European Directive and achieve any additional benefits. Public bodies will be able to drawdown standardised solutions to connect them to the PEPPOL network to receive and process eInvoices as per the Directive.



eInvoicing Ireland is providing tools and information to support public bodies in reaching compliance.



Keep an eye on www.ogp.gov.ie/einvoicing for further updates and information