INTERNAL CONTROLS:
How to Reduce Risk
AND Increase Efficiency

The Smarter Way to Manage Your Business Spend Through “The Power of And”
The Power of “And”

Reduce Risk and Increase Efficiency

As a finance leader, you are charged with reducing risk and increasing efficiency across your business. You may feel like this an impossible feat—that you have to choose between reducing risk OR increasing efficiency. In fact, that’s true in many areas of your business.

Initiatives to reduce risk typically harm efficiency by adding headcount cost and cumbersome processes that slow down decision making. However, when it comes to managing your business spend—home to some of the biggest areas of risk—this usual tradeoff doesn’t hold.

Developments in Business Spend Management (BSM)—from procurement to supplier management and invoicing to expense management—have created the opportunity to reduce risk while also increasing efficiency. With BSM you can drive greater adoption and automation of the processes that drive your controls, both prevent and detect, across your organization.
Reduce Risk in Four Key Areas

Some of the biggest concerns that Controllers and CFOs face—from control gaps to fraud—result from processes that aren’t followed.

With a modern BSM platform, finance leaders can make sure that every purchase, invoice, and supplier runs through the right processes, ensuring compliance and reducing critical risks including:

1. **CONTROL RISK**
   - With visibility into everything suppliers have delivered, invoiced or not, you can reduce the risk of missed accruals and accelerate the close.

2. **FRAUD RISK**
   - By electronically matching invoices against requisitions and by effectively managing suppliers and expenses reports, you can easily reduce fraud risk.

3. **SUPPLIER RISK**
   - By ensuring that spend goes to vetted suppliers and by systematically monitoring supplier risk, you can reduce both the risk of supplier misbehavior and the risk of supply disruptions.

4. **AUTHORIZATION AND BUDGET CONTROL**
   - When all spend is pre-approved, and managers understand budget impact each time they approve, variances are minimized and it’s easy to show compliance with DOA rules.
Increase Efficiency in the Back Office

Reducing risk shouldn’t also reduce efficiency. The same BSM tools that reduce risk by making controls more effective can also cut days from the close and help you scale with minimal headcount costs by automating manual processes.

Benchmarks Of Leader-Level Performance In BSM

In this report, KPIs drawn directly from transactional spend data managed in the cloud BSM platform show that leaders are able to digitize supplier relationships and accelerate their processes, vastly improving back office efficiency.

See how you measure up!
Increase Efficiency in Four Key Areas

**AUTOMATE MANUAL PROCESSES IN AP**
When it’s easy for suppliers to submit invoices electronically and get real-time status updates, they embrace digital invoicing at last. That lets you automatically match invoices to requisitions and send them for approval as needed without manual intervention by AP.

**STREAMLINE ACCRUALS**
By accelerating invoice approval with automation, you can keep AP open longer and capture more invoices, reducing the need for accruals. When it’s easy for employees to get spend pre-approved, you get full visibility into spend committed to suppliers—whether invoiced or not—and accruals are much easier.

**SIMPLIFY AUDIT PREP**
By automatically routing all invoices, expense reports, and supplier management according to your approval matrices, and by capturing records electronically, you can dramatically reduce the time needed to prepare for each audit.

**SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS**
By ensuring that your spend processes and controls are adopted, you’ll feel confident supporting international operations and get the flexibility needed to address local requirements and manage back-office processes from anywhere in the world.
Improve Stewardship Over Company Resources

With the right BSM processes and technologies, you can rapidly combat critical risks outlined in the CFO Risk Scorecard, better manage budgets, improve efficiency, and make smarter business decisions, all while controlling time lost to backward-looking data reviews.

Improved efficiency, realizing savings negotiated into supplier contracts, and accessing the immense buying power of the BSM community often leads to project payback with the first year. Smart finance leaders can improve management of company resources across the board.

That’s the Power of “And”
ABOUT COUPA

Coupa Software (NASDAQ:COUP) is the cloud platform for business spend management. We deliver "Value as a Service" by helping our customers maximize their spend under management, achieve significant cost savings, and drive profitability. Coupa provides a unified, cloud-based spend management platform that connects hundreds of organizations representing the Americas, EMEA, and APAC with millions of suppliers globally. The Coupa platform provides greater visibility into and control over how companies spend money. Customers – small, medium, and large – have used the Coupa platform to bring billions of dollars in cumulative spend under management. Learn more at www.coupa.com.

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