



AT A GLANCE

Client

SSAB Strip Production is a member of the SSAB Group. It is the largest sheet metal manufacturer in the Nordics and a leading European actor in high-tensile sheet metal. High-strength steel strip products are used in applications where high-strength and low weight are required, such as the automotive industry for heavy vehicles, by crane manufacturers, and for weight-bearing container details.

Challenge

Every year, SSAB Strip Production sends more than 120,000 invoices to customers around the world, making invoice management bulky and time consuming for SSAB and its customers. SSAB Strip Production also needed to reduce the paper and printing costs associated with distributing all of these invoices via standard mail.

Solution

StreamServe was already being used by SSAB Strip Production for handling traditional invoices. After reviewing available products, the company chose to expand its investment with EU Invoice, StreamServe's e-invoicing solution that automatically signs the e-invoice with the correct signature for the country.

Results

SSAB Strip Production estimates that the new solution from StreamServe will help them to quickly get a return on their investment. Today invoices are automatically signed with the right certificate, which eliminates the risk of breaking country-specific invoicing rules. In addition, the time spent on monotonous manual work decreased—for SSAB and its customers.

StreamServe's e-Invoicing Solution Increases SSAB Strip Production's Cost Savings

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Every year, the company issues more than 120,000 paper invoices to customers around the world. With the high cost of postage and paper, the company wanted to facilitate invoice management for its customers while reducing the associated costs of paper invoices.

Paper invoices are obsolete

"The process of printing, sorting and mailing out paper invoices seemed outdated and inefficient," says Fredrik Mejer, invoicing and documentation support manager at SSAB Strip Production. "We realized that we needed to improve our system, give our customers more options and stop allocating a lot of staff time to routine tasks."

When working with several countries in the way that SSAB Strip Production does, keeping track of each country's invoicing rules can be complicated. Handling VAT is just one problem when issuing e-invoices in several countries. When looking for an e-invoicing solution, the company wanted to make sure the solution met the requirements set by each country's tax authority for integrity and security.

"We looked for an e-invoicing solution in 2007 and quickly realized that the biggest problem was to find a good method to sign international e-invoices," says Mejer. "The EU is full of rules and regulations governing e-signatures in different countries. There's a big risk that invoices are drawn up incorrectly or signed incorrectly so that they're invalid."

StreamServe is the Answer

Since SSAB Strip Production has had great success using StreamServe for paper invoices, the company decided to test StreamServe for e-invoice management as well.

"StreamServe fit us well for e-invoicing as well—especially because it was so easy to integrate into our existing system and flexible enough to meet our future needs," Mejer says.



Today our customers receive their invoices quickly and securely with clear, correct information. Classic paper invoices presented a dilemma in that the delivery often arrived before the invoice, sometimes creating unnecessarily complicated situations. E-invoices are also much more accessible and allow us to greatly reduce the amount of paper and ink we use, thus increasing our savings.”

Fredrik Mejer,
Invoicing and Documentation
Support Manager,
SSAB Strip Production

Satisfied customers

These days, SSAB Strip Production uses also StreamServe Collector for archiving of e-invoices. StreamServe uses different certificate issuers (different signatures) for different countries. This fulfils the requirements of the various tax authorities. The new solution automatically signs the invoices, which removes the risk of an incorrect signature and ensuring the certificates remain valid in their countries.

SSAB Strip Production’s customers also appreciate the new solution:

“Today our customers receive their invoices quickly and securely with clear, correct information. Classic paper invoices presented a dilemma in that the delivery often arrived before the invoice, sometimes creating unnecessarily complicated situations. E-invoices can be accessed by any authorized person at any time and allow us to greatly reduce the amount of paper and ink we use, thus increasing our savings.”

SSAB Increases Sustainability by Sending Over 50% of Invoices Electronically

In addition to the obvious financial advantages, the e-invoice solution is helping SSAB to increase its sustainability of the environment, further improving SSAB’s brand image as an environmentally-minded company.

“Last month 51 percent of our invoices were electronic,” he says. “We want to raise that to 75 percent within a year!”