

eCommerce Exchange

Connecting providers to suppliers electronically



The Vizient eCommerce Exchange improves financial and operational efficiency by providing a direct link to contracts, real-time price verification, and a user-friendly interface.

Investing in technologies and implementing efficiency strategies are key enablers for a successful health system purchasing operation. With limited resources, purchasing functions can become decentralized with disparate buying practices across facilities. This fragmented approach can lead to poor internal controls that enable rogue purchasing, manual data entry, a backlog of work discrepancies and unnecessary time spent fielding questions. These inefficiencies will continually erode the value of the contract portfolio and coverage.

Automate purchase orders and increase price accuracy

The Vizient eCommerce Exchange is a proprietary ecommerce platform that automates many of the tedious, time-consuming back-office tasks related to purchase order processing. The platform electronically connects providers to suppliers to enable a quick and simple exchange of a variety of supply chain-related documents, including purchase orders (POs), PO acknowledgments, advanced shipment notices, invoices and price catalogs.

Vizient eCommerce Exchange includes a web-based portal to manage transactions in addition to a robust suite of analytics that provide deeper insight and visibility to supply-chain operations. The solution is compatible with all major enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems in health care and currently supports transactions between more than 1,500 health care facilities and more than 500 integrated suppliers.

Improve operational efficiency and financial results

- Take advantage of tight integration with the Vizient Contract Catalog to enable real-time price verification of transactions against national, Member Business Ventures, local and custom contract pricing
- Provide visibility into purchasing operations through dashboard reports with spend profiling and transaction analytics
- Improve contract compliance through visibility into off-contract purchases
- Decrease overhead costs by automating manual tasks
- Minimize integration costs by providing a single point of connectivity
- Reduce the number of paper invoices that require filing and archiving

Up to 60% automation

On average, only 37 percent of all health system purchase orders are automated, leaving 63 percent of orders to be manually placed and managed.

Vizient automates up to 60 percent of purchase order volume while verifying contract price accuracy in real-time.

Figure 1. Service delivery



Member benefits and technical features of eCommerce Exchange

Automates purchasing, receiving and invoicing to minimize manual processes and errors

Processes electronic orders within 10 minutes of receipt

Provides access to more than 500 integrated vendors

Provides direct access to national, local, custom and Member Business Ventures contracts

Provides three-way price match (purchase order price = vendor price = contract price) for real-time price verification

Streamlines communications and exception management

Provides visibility into purchasing operations through dashboard reports; includes spend profiling and transaction analytics

Standardizes procurement business rules and policies

Activity tracker logs all line activity, including dismisses and notes

Sends proactive e-mail notifications, including a direct link to the purchase order, when exceptions are received from the supplier or when an order is unconfirmed and late

Hover-over function shows contract details and item purchase history

Attaches comments to purchase orders with message feature

Searches by purchase order number, SKU, item number and invoice number

Procure-to-Pay Solutions

- eCommerce Exchange is part of Vizient Procure-to-Pay Solutions. Use the full suite to reduce the overall costs of procurement operations
- eCommerce Exchange
- Transaction Management

As the nation's largest member-driven health care performance improvement company, Vizient provides network-powered insights in the critical areas of clinical, operational, and supply chain performance and empowers members to deliver exceptional, cost-effective care.

