



Certipost **e-Invoicing**

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Philips goes ‘green’ with electronic invoicing

Sustainability is a core value at Philips. The company aims to keep its carbon footprint as small as possible, both in terms of product development and business processes. That is why, among other things, Philips introduced paperless invoicing in 2006. It selected Certipost as its all-round partner for its outbound e-Invoicing project across various business units, including Lighting and Consumer Lifestyle. By now, the project has already been successfully implemented in several European countries, including the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Poland. It is currently being extended to other delivery channels and other regions.

“Philips takes its corporate responsibility in tackling climate change very seriously,” says Lode Reyskens, ICT Business Analyst at Philips. “We strive to optimise our internal processes to ensure maximum energy savings and efficiency. One of the major projects we have initiated in this regard is the delivery of electronic invoices, replacing the paper version. This enabled us to bring our paper flow down to a minimum, while providing the customer with the required information in a fast and correct manner.”

Certipost as e-Invoicing partner

To facilitate its European e-Invoicing project as much as possible, Philips partnered up with Certipost. Lode Reyskens: “At the start in 2006, it soon became clear that Certipost was the only service provider who could meet all our needs. The Certipost solutions are fully compliant with the EU guidelines, as well as the national legislations regarding e-Invoicing in 27 European countries. Certipost is also highly flexible when it comes to connectivity with other e-Invoicing platforms, which means we don’t need to look for a different provider in every country or region to serve all our customers.”

The decision to work with Certipost turned out to be the right one. Cooperation between the Philips and Certipost technical teams runs smoothly. A good example is the Massive project for Philips Lighting. In just a couple of months a fully integrated flow of more than 50,000 invoices to mainly Benelux DIY outlets was set up. “We truly appreciate the tremendous input, flexibility and accessibility of the Certipost Solution Consultant who has coordinated this project,” says Lode Reyskens.



ABOUT PHILIPS

Royal Philips Electronics N.V., more commonly known as Philips, is a leading company active in consumer electronics, lighting and health care, that focuses on improving the quality of people's lives through well-timed innovations. Philips combines technology and design to provide a versatile product range that focuses on people-oriented solutions; all based on a deep understanding of the needs and wishes of the customer, and its "sense and simplicity" brand promise. Philips HQ is based in the Netherlands and the company employs 128,000 people in more than 60 countries.

consolidator model

The Certipost solution is an open platform that allows companies to exchange electronic messages, even if they work with different back-office applications that all use their own specific document format. Certipost converts the data and makes sure that the documents are delivered to the right person in the right format.

Lode Reyskens: "The Certipost solutions support just about any international invoice format and facilitate communication at all levels, such as via Value Added Networks, or via the Internet. This enabled us to quickly start sending electronic invoices to our integrated EDI partners. But Certipost can easily deliver invoices to the customer in other formats too, e.g. on paper or in PDF. That's why we are currently setting up a process for delivery via other channels, so we can offer electronic invoices to all our customers."



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