



Facilitating interoperable electronic procurement across Europe



ePRIOR

A word cloud on a blue background featuring various terms related to e-procurement. The words are rendered in white and light blue, with varying sizes and orientations. The most prominent words are 'paperless', 'standards', and 'e-procurement'. Other significant terms include 'interoperability', 'reusability', 'automation', 'cross-border', 'platform', 'post-award', 'faster', 'savings', 'high-quality', 'interconnect', 'flexible', 'simplify', 'environment-friendly', 'transparency', 'services', and 'pre-award open-s'. The words are arranged in a dense, overlapping manner, creating a sense of interconnectedness and complexity.

paperless
standards
e-procurement
interoperability
reusability
automation
cross-border
platform
post-award
faster
savings
high-quality
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Benefits of e-procurement

Process benefits:

- Generates cost savings on data encoding
- Enhances data quality
- Allows meeting tighter timelines
- Reduces payment deadlines
- Ensures transparency for the suppliers

Organisational benefits:

- Improves the image of the organisation
- Automation helps providing efficient and high-quality services
- Attracts better offers due to faster invoice/ payment processing
- Uses a paperless process that is environment friendly



“ Europe needs better administrative cooperation to develop and deploy cross-border public online services. This includes the implementation of seamless e-procurement. ”

Source: European Digital Agenda

What is e-PRIOR?

e-PRIOR is a service-oriented platform developed by DIGIT under the ISA programme. It exchanges post-award documents by using web services or over the PEPPOL network through its built-in gateway. PEPPOL (Pan-European Public

Procurement Online — <http://www.peppol.eu>) is a large-scale pilot funded by the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) focusing on cross-border e-procurement.

e-PRIOR also implements the emerging e-procurement standards.

Who uses e-PRIOR?

e-PRIOR is the solution used by the European Commission, the European Union Agencies and Institutions, and their suppliers.

What about Open e-PRIOR?

Open e-PRIOR is the open-source version of the platform targeted at the Member States, offering the same functionality as e-PRIOR.

Main features of e-PRIOR

- Can interconnect multiple suppliers with multiple back-office systems, while guaranteeing the authenticity of origin, integrity and readability of all transferred documents
- Provides a built-in gateway to the PEPPOL network
- Complies with the following: CEN/BII profiles, e-invoicing directive, standard identifiers and code lists, WS-Interoperability guidelines
- Is capable of processing unlimited attachments per invoice (XLS, PDF, DOC)
- Is able to route documents from multiple suppliers to the appropriate back office on the contracting authority's side.

- Covers the whole post-awarding cycle of e-procurement : e-Catalogue, e-Ordering, e-Fulfilment, e-Invoicing...

Included applications

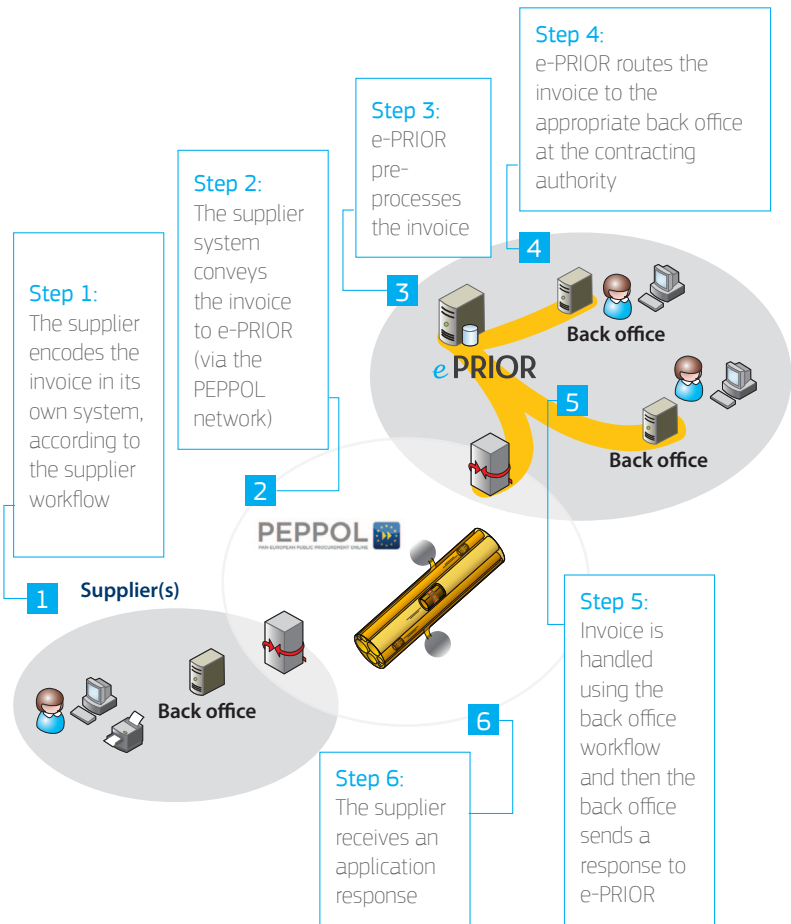
- **Supplier Portal e-Invoicing:** web portal allowing SME and individuals to encode their invoices using a web form and submit them to their customer
- **Central Catalogue Management System:** web application allowing users to browse and validate supplier catalogue



How does it work?

e-Invoicing scenario

The following steps take place when a supplier sends an invoice to a contracting authority through the PEPPOL network using the e-invoicing web service of e-PRIOR.



Why use e-PRIOR?

Enables **reusability** of a solution that has already been implemented at the European Commission

Has been **deployed** and is being used by the European Commission and other EU Institutions

Is worth **three years** of analysis, development and testing

Provides a **free-to-use open-source** version

“ Stimulate trans-border e-commerce by the promotion, and government adoption, of interoperable e-procurement, e-invoicing and e-payment systems based on open and flexible technologies. ”

Source: Granada Ministerial Declaration, 19 April 2010

Allows **sharing** of practical experience and lessons learned

Assistance is provided to Member States, Agencies and European Institutions



And also...

- e-PRIOR uses standards for enabling pan-European interoperability and thus more suppliers are ready to invest in connecting to the platform
- Buyers can adopt a gradual approach for implementing e-procurement
- e-PRIOR provides connectivity to the PEPPOL network via a built-in and turnkey PEPPOL gateway

“Embed innovation and cost-effectiveness into e-government through the systematic promotion of open standards and interoperable systems, development of EU-wide e-authentication schemes and proactive development of e-invoicing, e-procurement (and pre-commercial procurement).”

Source: Granada Ministerial Declaration, 19 April 2010

- Every supplier connected to the PEPPOL network is automatically connected to e-PRIOR.



What's next?

- The pre-awarding cycle is under development



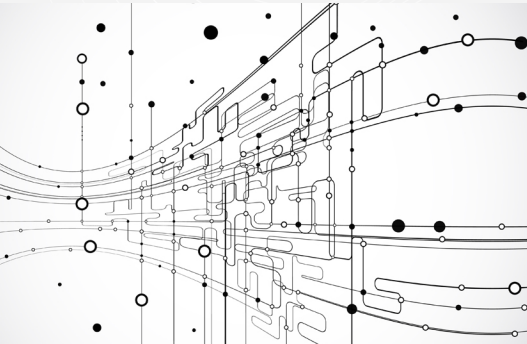
e-NOTIFICATION

e-SUBMISSION

e-EVALUATION

e-AWARDING

e-ACCESS



“ We will ensure that open specifications are promoted in our national interoperability frameworks in order to lower barriers to the market. ”

Source: Ministerial Declaration on e-government, 18 November 2009



Are you interested in e-PRIOR?

- Contact our dedicated e-PRIOR team by e-mail at DIGIT-EPRIOR-SUPPORT@ec.europa.eu

Are you interested in Open e-PRIOR?

Participate:

- Join the Open e-PRIOR community in order to learn more about the project, contribute with your feedback and participate in the making of this platform through <http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/software/openeprior/home>

Download:

- Download the latest version of Open e-PRIOR from <http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/software/openeprior/release/all>
- Read documentation about Open e-PRIOR, including a guide on how to get Open e-PRIOR running and understand the software architecture through <http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/software/openeprior/elibrary/all>

Contact our dedicated team:

- In the forum at <http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/software/openeprior/forum/all>

Related links

- PEPPOL (Pan-European Public Procurement Online):
<http://www.peppol.eu/>
- e-PRIOR case:
<http://www.epractice.eu/cases/ePRIOR>
- ISA (Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations):
<http://ec.europa.eu/isa>





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