The State Treasury, which produces internal services for public administration, is developing the financial and personnel administration and management processes of Finnish government agencies in collaboration with OpusCapita.

“Efficient and sound practices will help to reduce the pressure on central government finances and support improvements in productivity in government agencies and departments. The digital transformation of our financial management will play a major role in the digitalization of Finland’s public administration in general, as the effects will extend to the agencies’ own service processes,” says Mikko Kangaspunta, Head of Division at the State Treasury’s Financial and Personnel Administration.

Firm understanding of development needs

OpusCapita has acted as partner to the State Treasury for well over ten years in building electronic invoicing processes, and it now transmits the purchase and sales invoices of the government’s agencies and departments. The collaboration with OpusCapita has broadened from an invoice transmission service to a development partnership. During the present contract period the focus has been especially on improving efficiency in the purchase-to-pay process. In addition to this, OpusCapita produces other services for government agencies, such as document digitization services.

“A long-term contract gives us the opportunity to develop processes as a whole. OpusCapita is an active and broad-based partner for us. It knows how to collaborate successfully and its approach represents the leading edge in this sector,” says Kangaspunta.

Automation for purchase invoice processing

In 2014, Finnish government agencies and departments received a total of 1.2 million purchase invoices. Almost 90% of these were e-invoices. OpusCapita forwards all incoming invoices in electronic form for processing in the government’s Kieku information system. The system is used by the Finnish Government Shared Services Centre for Finance and HR and by the government agencies.

“Together we have developed a purchase invoice handling process that includes au-
The digital transformation of our financial management will play a major role in the digitalization of Finland’s public administration in general.”

Mikko Kangaspunta, Head of Division, Financial and Personnel Administration, State Treasury.

OpusCapita’s service
- OpusCapita transmits all central government purchase and sales invoices, which amount to an annual total of more than 10 million invoices. OpusCapita also provides government agencies and departments with document digitizing services and the iPost printing service. Each year millions of letters are printed for government agencies and departments.

Benefits of the service
- Efficient and reliable transmission of purchase and sales invoices in a consistent manner for all government agencies and departments.
- Joint development of practices in the government’s financial administration and management in order to improve efficiency and productivity and to further the digitalization process in public administration. An example is the use of automation to improve efficiency in the purchase invoice handling process.
- Automated posting and automatic reconciliation of invoices with orders and procurement contracts. New practices are being introduced in the agencies, and the aim is that in just a few years 90% of all invoices received will be processed automatically,” explains Kangaspunta.

This will bring a productivity improvement of as much as 20–30%, according to Kangaspunta. Greater efficiency in expenditure processing is also one of the goals of the Government Program, which specifies a total annual saving of EUR 15 million in this area by 2019.

Infrastructure for digital transformation of society
Government agencies send out about 9 million sales invoices each year. E-invoices currently account for 15% of these. The State Treasury is monitoring this percentage closely with the aid of OpusCapita’s reports. In the Finnish Tax Administration, for example, electronic invoicing of real estate taxes has proceeded well, says Kangaspunta, and the aim is to launch activation campaigns in other agencies too to encourage invoice recipients to switch to e-invoices.

“We have also talked about making use of software robotics, among other things. If we’re looking to achieve digitalization at a deeper level throughout public administration, then software robotics is an area of great interest. There is a variety of potential applications in the agencies’ processes, including areas outside financial and personnel management.”

Valtiokonttori
Statskontor
State Treasury

The State Treasury develops and provides internal financial and personnel services for central government and manages government assets, loans, accounting and accident compensation. The State Treasury is subordinate to the Ministry of Finance and is the Ministry’s main partner for implementing the government’s control and guidance arrangements.

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