

COST ALLOCATION/GL CODING

I. OVERVIEW

Most freight audit and payment providers offer their clients some level of automated cost allocation coding along with payment services with "some" being the operative word. Iron Data has pioneered an end to end solution that guarantees you will pay accurately, shorten payment cycle time, reduce your processing costs, and be able to monitor and control your disbursements.

II. FEATURES

Freight Cost Allocation

Iron Data applies client specific logic rules at the shipment level. We assign the appropriate codes, validate each code individually and validate the "string" of codes to ensure that your AP platform will accept and assign the cost allocation without error. All invoices must be approved before they can be processed for payment. You can update your list of valid codes as your needs dictate. Some customers update them annually, where other customers, particularly those that charge to project codes, update them as frequently as every other day.

Tolerance Logic

Iron Data enables you to set "tolerance" levels that will force certain scenarios to an on-line manual review prior to payment. For instance, you may want to review any shipment whose costs exceed \$1,500 or was shipped by a "non-preferred" carrier.

On-Line Exception Resolution

Any shipment that fails to receive a valid code can be reviewed and corrected on-line. We can also provide you with an inventory status and aging report that will help you manage exception resolution. It identifies by carrier, the number of unprocessed invoices, number of valid/coded invoices, number of invalid/un-coded invoices, dollar amounts for each category, and total dollar amount along with the invoice age. This report will provide you with valuable insight into which invoices you want to focus on. For example, you may want to target un-coded invoices for preferred carriers, invoices that have aged past 60 days or invoices where one \$10 shipment is holding up a \$50,000 invoice from being processed for payment. This report can also be used for accrual purposes.

Information Management by Cost Center

Management is required to make informed decisions regarding budgets, resource allocation and cost expenditures, but the challenge has always been gathering the data to support those decisions. Client specific allocation codes are included as filter parameters in Iron Data. As a result, analysis at the cost center level is as easy as pushing a button.

III. IRON DATA REDUCES YOUR TRANSPORTATION SPEND BY:

- Automating your cost allocation business rules and reducing the number of exceptions while increasing consistency and accuracy of the allocation process can significantly reduce headcount.
- Providing extended business rules to enforce exceptions for payment. Tolerances based on total cost, weight, and/or other parameters can be applied to the exception process can further reduce headcount.
- On-line approval makes the entire process available to the enterprise for maximum efficiency and promotes accountability where appropriate.
- Ensuring timely payment of carriers by providing visibility to invoice aging thus allowing you to maximize your leverage to negotiate better rates.

IV. I.PURCHASING OPTIONS

Iron Data's services and solutions are bundled and typically offered for a single monthly fee or on a transaction basis, depending on the client's preferences. In certain circumstances (such as claims management and content recovery) Iron Data will price on a "gain share" basis. Our customers have found that the savings they accrue by "going beyond the audit" and employing the full range of Iron Data value added services are far greater than would be delivered from the "audit" savings scenario alone.

V. THE IRON DATA DIFFERENCE

Monitoring, controlling and optimizing enterprise-wide shipping used to be a global headache. Now, with Iron Data, it's a cinch to audit, allocate, pay, ship, track, and analyze; all from one secure web site.

- **Multi-Mode Shipment Audit** – Accurate payment - pay only what you owe - Eliminate paper
- **Cost Allocation/GL Coding**– Increase efficiency – Reduce labor costs
- **Bill Payment & Disbursement** – No float – Avoid risk - Prompt & accurate payment
- **Business Intelligence & Reporting** – Control change - Optimize existing processes
- **Multi-Mode Claims Management** – Reduce labor costs – Includes Content Recovery
- **Desktop Shipping & Compliance** – Change enterprise shipping – Reduce freight costs
- **First & Last Mile Tracking** – Consolidate enterprise shipping – Track internal shipments & assets