

# Rethinking GR/IR clearing

## Using machine learning to automate essential finance activities

Clearing the GR/IR (goods received/invoice received) account generally requires manual intervention and coordination across multiple departments. The stay-at-home orders driven by the COVID-19 pandemic, however, have had a highly disruptive impact on traditional work environments, making the coordination required for GR/IR clearing much more difficult and time-consuming. This disruption creates significant process inefficiencies and can delay the period-end close.

### A path forward

With COVID-19-related challenges causing many businesses to rethink their finance processes, they can focus on SAP® GR/IR clearing as a way to help boost process efficiency and significantly reduce the need for manual coordination across different parts of the organization. Using machine learning algorithms and enabled with help from Deloitte, the solution can automatically analyze historical data and take the necessary corrective actions to clear the GR/IR balances:

#### Key features

- Automate GR/IR open-item analysis and corrective action
- Conduct accurate variance analysis
- Report logistic invoice verification discrepancies
- Identify fraudulent transactions

### Potential benefits

#### Accounts Payable Organization

- More quickly and easily prioritize high-value variances with a large impact on margin or inventory
- Minimize the time required to analyze open GR/IR items and to write off or write up high-volume PO line variances
- Improve housekeeping of the clearing account and minimize potential fraud
- Increase visibility to repeat offenders, short receipts, and inflated invoice prices
- Achieve real-time GR/IR aging, resulting in faster close cycles

#### Treasury Organization

- Improve cash flow
- Achieve more current accrued liabilities

### How we can help

Addressing the COVID-19 crisis and getting to the “new normal” will likely require industry-specific guidance and a spectrum of skills that extend across business and technology needs. Deloitte can help, providing critical solutions and services for enabling a more resilient organization. Here are a few ways we can help your organization automate GR/IR account maintenance.

- Implement the machine learning tool
- Identify data sets through migrating historical data
- Configure/develop company-specific requirements
- Test the tool and train the business
- Support the tool after implementation
- Integrate new finance solutions with your extended IT landscape and business environment

### The Deloitte difference

Deloitte brings a tested methodology for creating value with the “built to evolve” Kinetic Enterprise™—an intelligent, responsive, cloud-enabled organization powered by a clean core and an inclusive ecosystem of capabilities. When you work with our team to implement SAP GR/IR clearing with machine learning, you get access to Deloitte’s deep industry-specific experience—which grows daily as we help enterprise leaders across the globe reimagine *everything* and use SAP solutions to help solve complex business challenges.

# Deloitte.

### Let's talk

If getting ahead of GR/IR challenges is a priority for your organization, we should talk. Contact us to learn how we can help you take GR/IR clearing to the next level with SAP GR/IR clearing—so you can effectively address COVID-19-related challenges as well as future waves of disruption.

### Contacts

#### Shyam Chulki

Managing Director  
Deloitte Consulting LLP  
[schulki@deloitte.com](mailto:schulki@deloitte.com)

#### Denise M. McGuigan

Principal  
Deloitte Consulting LLP  
[demcguigan@deloitte.com](mailto:demcguigan@deloitte.com)

[www.Deloitte.com/SAP](http://www.Deloitte.com/SAP)

[SAP@Deloitte.com](mailto:SAP@Deloitte.com)

[@DeloitteSAP](https://twitter.com/DeloitteSAP)