

Partner Success Story
Mazars UK & ApprovalMax

Approval-driven Bill Automation for larger clients and international subsidiaries

#XeroPlatinumChampionPartner

#Charities

#Retail

#Multi-Entity

#BillAutomation

#UK

“When it comes to managing supplier invoices, clients may have complex authorisation processes that require time-consuming and error-prone manual orchestration. This means they constantly have to validate where in the authorisation queue each invoice is and who’s currently responsible for its approval.

Using ApprovalMax to automatically pick up and route new supplier invoices for approval eliminates manual work and human errors. It also ensures that all proper authorisations are in place before an invoice is paid. We now have clear, real-time visibility into our clients’ invoices, and our clients really appreciate the ease and convenience of using the ApprovalMax mobile app while away from their desk, or whilst travelling on business around the world.

We love ApprovalMax! It’s one of the easiest apps to share the benefits with our clients because it works, our clients immediately see the positive impact of the increased control and time-saving for their business, and it’s so easy to implement.”



FAY BORDBAR
Assistant Manager



Company

Mazars are one of Europe’s largest audit and accounting firms and a top ten UK player, with 17 offices, 140 partners and 1,700 team members in the UK. Internationally, Mazars operate in 86 countries and territories around the world, with 20,000 professionals across 300 offices.

Services

Both traditional and contemporary business advisory as well as financial and accounting services

Location

UK

Challenges of providing services to larger clients

As part of a large international audit and accounting firm, Mazars UK works with a substantial number of UK subsidiaries of international companies as well as larger clients in multiple verticals; including financial services, charities, property holding and investment companies, retail and hospitality businesses and recruitment firms.

As organisations grow they become increasingly complex and approval chains can become extended. This brings with it delays and a lack of transparency as to where an invoice might be within that process. Add in an international element and there are typically approvers in multiple locations and time zones which again can delay the process of getting an invoice from receipt to payment. These delays can then lead to frustration both with suppliers and the operational team.

Part of the services provided by Mazars UK are payments on behalf of their larger clients, such as payments for supplier invoices. This process used to involve email conversations and sometimes even paper invoices which required physical signatures and phone calls. The sheer volume of bills plus multiple levels of authorisation for many larger clients made the whole approval process very time-consuming and inefficient.

“We love ApprovalMax! This application is so simple to use and easy to implement. It’s also really robust – it just always works. Our clients are very happy with it,” – says **Fay Bordbar, Assistant Manager**.

The solution: approval-driven bill automation

Because of the tried-and-tested implementation of ApprovalMax by other Mazars countries, Mazars UK selected ApprovalMax as the core of their approval-driven bill automation Xero based application stack. As part of its Partner Programme, ApprovalMax provided the product and implementation training which enabled the Mazars UK team to successfully introduce ApprovalMax to multiple clients, including well-known charities and international retail clients, and really putting it to the test with an international investment group with multiple entities.

ApprovalMax is now Mazars’ standard application for workflow-driven authorisation. Once bills have been created in Xero, ApprovalMax automatically pulls and then routes them according to the approval matrix, which Mazars UK and their clients jointly define. Some of these approval matrixes are quite extensive. One client, for instance, has more than 40 approvers and multiple authorisation levels based on the amount and nature of each expense.

All approvals are performed via ApprovalMax, with a full audit trail and history of approval-related communications automatically recorded. The status of all approval requests is immediately visible to both Mazars UK and their client, providing full transparency on the approval chain.

Results

- ✓ **Efficiency: no more overhead of paper- and email-based approvals**
- ✓ **Visibility: details and status of all supplier invoices are up to date and available in real time**
- ✓ **Confidence: automated approval rules ensure that all invoices are properly authorised**
- ✓ **Convenience: clients love using the mobile app for approving invoices on the go**



The Approval App You’ll Love Using

ApprovalMax allows accounting and advisory practices to set up approval-driven financial controls for Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable. It replaces paper- and email-based approvals with fully automated multi-role and multi-tiered approval workflows. This ensures full regulatory compliance, simplifies audits and facilitates client collaboration.