



# Freight and Logistics Document Automation

Advanced Data Automation processes 1,500-page document with 100% data accuracy

CASE STUDY



### Client

Safety and protection hardware manufacturer

### Document type

Freight and Logistics Documents

### Project

Saving 32 working hours a month  
with automated data capture

## Introduction

Accuracy and speed are vital to processing freight documents. Mistakes can be costly and upset customers, and delays could result in late payment and penalties. Here's how Advanced Data Automation helped one company with a huge processing challenge, in its own words.



## Background: Processing a 1,500-page document

We're a manufacturing company that produces safety and protection hardware. Every week, we receive an invoice from our carrier. The document, which is written in Spanish, details individual shipments, tracking details, and customs duties. It's 1,500 pages long, with each page containing a separate shipment.

In the past, processing this document was a huge task. It took us almost a whole week – averaging a couple of hours a day for each team member – to manually key in all the data and perform checks. A senior team member had to make sure the data was accurate, which removed them from other important responsibilities.





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Director of Operations, Advanced  
freight and logistics partner

## A complex task

Wanting to cut down the time needed for this task, we tried to automate the document processing with optical character recognition (OCR) technology, but it was unable to handle the complexity of the document.

We approached one of Advanced's partners, which has an omnichannel commerce platform in the logistics sector, for help. Advanced and its partner worked together to implement a new Advanced Data Automation solution that could automate the end-to-end capture process and remove the need for us to manually print, scan and input the document.



## Saving 32 hours a month

Advanced Data Automation captures, extracts and validates data with 100% accuracy, every time. It extracts information from the data layer of the PDF, capturing every freight line on the document. Then, the system automatically passes this information to our back-office processing application in individual transactions. The whole process is digitised and automated from end to end, with no human intervention required.

The Advanced Data Automation solution includes business-specific validation rules, which convert and validate data points like carrier name, Bill of Lading (BOL), charge details, container numbers, weights, delivery route, customer name, 'bill to', and 'ship to'. Plus, it converts carrier codes referring to freight methods (air, sea, and land), container size, weight, perishable goods, temperature and humidity control, helping us to remain compliant.

Because Advanced Data Automation operates 24/7, it starts processing the document as soon as it's received. Depending on its size, processing can take up to 14 hours, and the data is available the next day in our host system. This is a huge improvement from our previous timescale of nearly one working week, putting 32 working hours back into our business every month. It frees our employees from repetitive manual processes, allowing them to instead focus on our core business objectives.

“This is a perfect example of the power of intelligent document automation. By using the Advanced Data Automation platform, which uses the data layer of the PDF rather than the image, we're able to guarantee 100% data accuracy and straight through processing to our platform. It's ideal for line level accurate extraction, validation and augmentation.”

Director of Operations, Advanced freight and logistics partner



## We would love to hear from you

We hope this was a useful insight into how a freight and logistics partner streamlined their operations and cut back on admin time. If you would like to find out more about how Advanced Data Automation can help your business and ensure you are ready to meet the challenges of the future, get in touch with us today.

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