

Date
2008-06-12

Press release

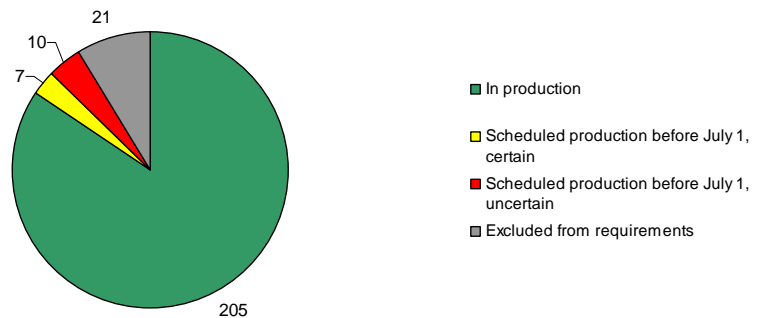
Peter Norén
Responsible E-
business
+ 46 8 690 45 96
+ 46 708 90 45 96

www.esv.se

The government agencies ready to e-invoice on time

The Swedish government has decided that all government agencies shall handle invoices electronically by July 1 2008. This will generate government savings of €400 million over the coming five years. Just two weeks before deadline The Swedish National Financial Management Authority (ESV) sees that the government agencies will be ready on time with the implementation.

ESV is leading and coordinating the introduction of e-invoicing in the central government. Every month a follow-up is done of the work in agencies. The diagram below summarises the situation:



The results for June 1 show that 205 out of 222 government agencies can send and receive invoices electronically. 17 additional agencies are scheduled to finalise their implementation on time before July 1, but some 5-10 of these might not make it on time regarding all parts of their projects. Furthermore 21 government agencies are excluded from the obligation to introduce e-invoicing, mainly due to major re-organisations.

The mandatory introduction of e-invoicing in government is a very large and unique project that has been carried out with short time frames. This has required hard work from all parties involved – government agencies, ESV and the system providers (Itella, Agresso, Contempus and Expert systems).

- - The well functioning collaboration between all involved parties has been an important success factor for our good results this far. Now it is important that private companies start invoicing the government electronically on a large scale to reach the full potential for both buyers and sellers, says Ms Yvonne Gustafsson, Director General at ESV.

ESV has received a positive response in contacts with the 100 largest suppliers for the government. A number of companies have already started sending e-invoices to the government and more are about to start.

- - For the companies it is a great advantage that the standard Svefaktura can be used for all the government agencies and several local authorities and regions, states Mr Peter Norén who is responsible for the work on e-business at ESV.

ESV will continue to support to the government agencies regarding e-invoicing after July 1 and will also continue informing the private companies. The government agencies will work on optimising routines and processes.

Next step to introduce electronic business in the Swedish government is the introduction of electronic procurement processes (e-ordering). ESV has presented an interim report in May with proposals to the government on how introduction of e-ordering should be carried out. The final report of this preliminary study will be presented on October 1.

Facts: Information to companies

ESV is putting an effort in informing companies, mainly via the web page <http://www.e-fakturera.nu>. The 100 largest suppliers for the government are representing 40 percent of the total invoice volume and have been contacted directly for information on the implementation of e-invoicing in government. The 500 largest suppliers have been given information and have been invited to seminars directed to specific sectors. ESV will arrange more seminars of this kind during autumn 2008.

Facts: Svefaktura

Svefaktura is the government standard for e-invoices. The standard has been chosen because it is easy to use and appropriate according to buying patterns. The government has a large number of suppliers with few invoices each. Svefaktura can be used both for goods and services. Support for Svefaktura is available in a large number of ERP-systems and other e-business solutions. Svefaktura is developed by Single Face To

Industry (SFTI), the body for e-business standardisation in Swedish public sector. Svefaktura is a subset of the international standard Universal Business Language (UBL). More information on Svefaktura is found at <http://www.svefaktura.se>. SFTI is participating in international standardisation within UNCEFACT and on the European level within CEN and IDABC.