CASE STUDY: POWER BELT

A 253-line supplier delivery document arrives.

Power Belt's team must match the supplier's product codes to its own product IDs before the information can be entered into the system.

A real document. A real operational bottleneck.

SUPPLIER DELIVERY DOCUMENT · ITALY		253 LINES
DELIVERY NOTE 2272104 · YOUR ORDER 00688/25-TSR		
ZS2301226	SS. Straight adaptor JIC M - BSP M 3/4" 16H UNF 3/4" BSP	12 PC
ZS2301221	SS. Straight adaptor JIC M - BSP M 3/4" 16H UNF 1/2" BSP	12 PC
DELIVERY NOTE 2273260 · YOUR ORDER 00613/25-TSR		
66.105.822 **STA WSVL 22 M 26X1.5**	Banjo coupling only body Ø 22 L M26X1.5	2 PC
DELIVERY NOTE 2273261 · YOUR ORDER 00674/25-TSR		
66.106.022 **ACJS 10**	Cutting ring with captive seal & O'ring Ø 10 S 630BAR	25 PC
66.105.820 **STA WSVL 15 M 18X1.5**	Banjo coupling only body Ø 15 L M18X1.5	2 PC
DELIVERY NOTE 2273264 · YOUR ORDER 00542/25-TSR		
66.001.631 **241161004**	Metric banjo-straight M10X1 DN 1/4"	25 PC

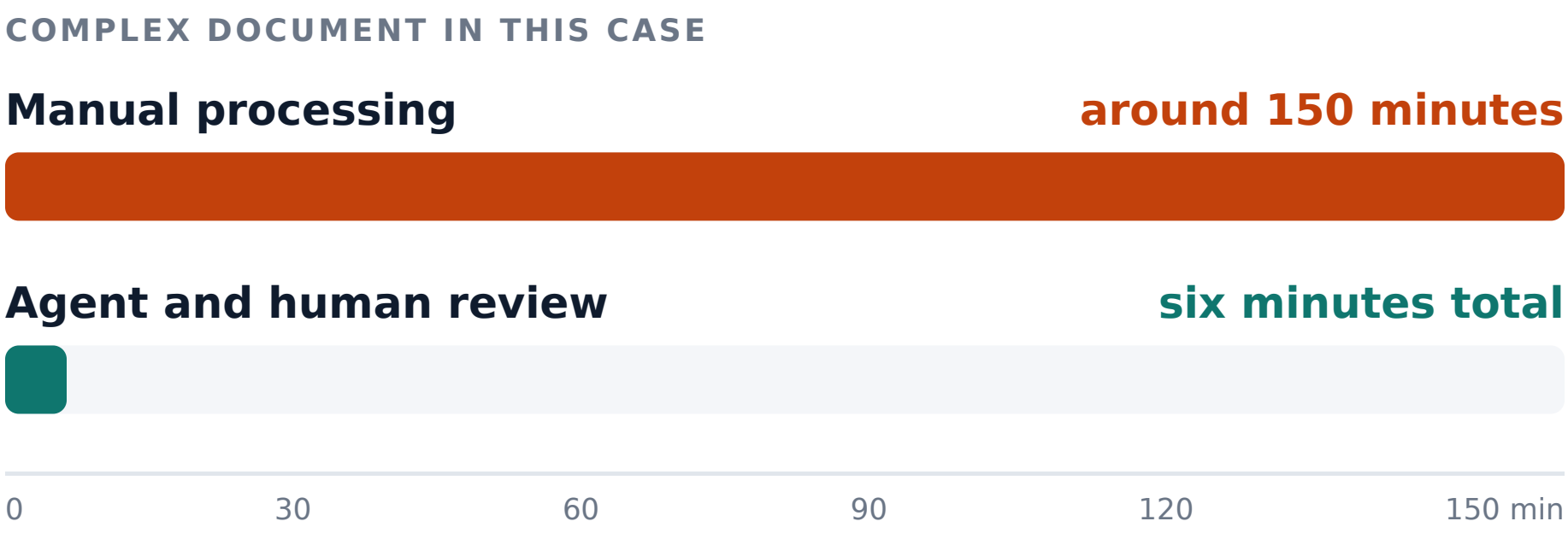
THE PROBLEM

90% or more of the effort goes into manual matching and checking

Power Belt is a European wholesaler with around 200 employees. Its team handles 700–800 supplier documents a month, largely arriving as PDFs by email.

Documents arrive from 377 suppliers, each with its own codes and layout. Staff must match every line against Power Belt's product ID list of 93,854 items. Both numbers grow with every new supplier.

A complex document can take around 150 minutes to process manually. The 253-line document in this case study took six minutes with the agent and human review combined.



WHY NOT RPA?

Fixed rules struggle when supplier documents vary

Rules-based automation works when the document layout and matching rules are predictable. Power Belt's supplier documents vary in format, line layout, product codes and units. The system must read the document, check the reference data and recognise when a match remains unclear.

Rules-based bot

- Matches codes covered by predefined mappings.
- Reads “5 pallets” as 5 pieces.
- Can struggle with ambiguous or duplicate references.

AI agent with human review

- Extracts information from different document layouts.
- Matches supplier codes against Power Belt's product ID list.
- Flags missing, conflicting or unclear information with a reason.
- Leaves exceptions and final approval to a person.

THE RESULT

58 seconds of agent processing

253	250	3	0
lines read	lines matched	lines flagged with reasons	guesses

The agent prepared a matched spreadsheet from the real supplier delivery document. Power Belt's team focused on the three flagged lines, then reviewed and approved the completed output before entry.

The example below shows straightforward matches and two of the three exceptions that needed a person.

supplier-delivery-document.pdf → matched.xlsx **253 lines**

SUPPLIER CODE	POWER BELT ID	QTY	PRICE	STATUS
ZS2301226	**B1-JIC-34-34**	12	**133.90 €**	● Matched
ZS2301221	2 candidates: B1-JIC-34-12 / B1-JIC-12-34	12	Pending	● Review
66.105.822	**B1-WSVL-22-26**	2	**43.77 €**	● Matched
66.106.022	**B1-ACJS-10-630**	25	**13.63 €**	● Matched
66.105.820	**B1-WSVL-15-18**	2	**22.20 €**	● Matched
66.001.631	Qty in pallets. Unit not recognised.	0	Pending	● Not found
66.000.303	**B1-SWMF-08-16**	10	**7.34 €**	● Matched
66.107.342	B1-RGR-100	2	37.54 €	● Matched

HOW IT WORKS

The agent reads and matches. People judge.

1. **A supplier document arrives as a PDF.**
2. **The agent extracts product codes, quantities and line details.**
3. **It checks supplier codes against Power Belt's product ID list.**
4. **It matches clear lines and flags exceptions with reasons.**
5. **A person resolves the exceptions and reviews the completed output.**
6. **A person approves, corrects where needed and enters the information into the system.**

MEASURED ON THE 253-LINE DOCUMENT

- **58 seconds of agent processing**
- **Six minutes total, including human review**

The agent flags and stops.

No order enters the system without a person approving it.

WHAT CHANGES

Power Belt's systems stay. The matching work changes.

Power Belt keeps

- Inbox
- ERP
- Product ID list
- Team
- Approval process

The matching work

Before a person opens the output, the agent has extracted the lines, checked the product ID list and flagged anything unclear.

The initial workflow does not require ERP integration.

It does require representative supplier documents, access to the relevant reference data and a clear human review step.

THE OUTCOME

The matching got faster and cheaper. The approval step did not move.

A MORE COMPLEX DOCUMENT

~150 min → ~6 min

750 SUPPLIER DOCUMENTS A MONTH

~£5,850
of human matching time every month, at ~350 h

→

~£90
of agent compute every month

Based on a £32,000 gross annual salary across 160 working hours a month.

0
orders entered without a person approving

“We are able to work more efficiently, and new opportunities will open up for various positions. I think AI is a great technology which, if used properly, can work to our advantage.”

Oliver Knapp, COO, Power Belt

NEXT STEP

Could this work on the documents slowing your team down?

If your team spends hours extracting, matching or checking information across purchase orders, supplier delivery notes, invoices, price lists or contracts, let's test the approach on your own documents.

BOOK A 30-MINUTE FEASIBILITY CALL

We look at your documents together and work out what solution is realistic.

If the solution looks feasible, we build a simple working demo on a sample of your documents, so you can see how the product works in practice.

If the demo shows value, we propose a fixed-fee pilot with clear scope, timeline, review gates and human review built in.

100% PILOT FEE MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

If the pilot fails to meet the Pilot Exit Review and Scale Readiness Gate, the success criteria we agree in writing before work begins, we'll refund 100% of the pilot fee paid to us.

calendly.com/zoltan-futureofwork/ai-feasibility-session

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