



Supply Chain Operations & Technologies
 Supply Chain Vendor Compliance
 Fraud Detection & Reduction
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Since January 1996

Greetings newsletter readers!

It has been a whirlwind 2014 so for my December newsletter I thought I would recap some of the highlights of the year before I pass along my holiday wishes for everyone.

- I finished up a great 13-month assignment where I helped a company improve its custom Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) software, provide data analytics insights, and migrate a new royalty commissions system.
- I just started on a new ERP migration assignment where I will be managing the project and handling the data conversion tasks.
- I traveled to Dongguan, China for my first international client: a shoe manufacturer. I advised them on how to improve their inventory management and inventory flow into their factory, reviewed their ERP software and discussed "next steps" for implementation of barcode scanning, pointed out bottleneck processes in their manufacturing operations, advised on vendor compliance requirements, and formed and trained a cross-functional operations improvement team to continue the improvements I suggested.
- My book, *Detecting and Reducing Supply Chain Fraud*, is now in over 170 university libraries in over 20 countries plus an organization dedicated to improving living and working conditions sponsored by the European Union. I do not know the private sales but certainly the traceable sales I able to track prove the topic's global interest continues to grow after the publication in 2012.
- I have been working on the most interesting Microsoft Access database project of my career: a data extraction from a Sage MAS® ERP system to perform a cost rollup, something which the MAS software cannot do on its own. Using select tables from MAS, my database dynamically builds each item's bill of material and then steps through the calculations for labor, material, and overhead necessary to produce the cost at each level: manufactured component costs are acquired from the next-lower level for the roll-up while purchased materials are taken from the last cost. Included are audit checks, some subjective based on my client's unique data, others objective based on the nature of a cost rollup project itself.
- I was contacted by the CEO of Proformative (www.proformative.com) and asked to add course content as an instructor to this unique educational and social medial platform for financial professionals with a membership of 1.2M and growing. My first course, *Detecting and Reducing Supply Chain Fraud*, is on the site and already has its first several students.
- I have been honored by being selected as a primary speaker at the 96th annual conference of the Institute of Management Accountants (www.imanet.org) in 2015. My presentation topic will be on the detection and reduction of supply chain fraud. I'll pass along more details on this as the event draws nearer.

Between being busy with clients and university teaching there is much to be professionally thankful for in 2014, and all this will be rolling over nicely to 2015. It has been a tough climb out of the economic doldrums, but with year 19 for Katzscan just one month away I hope I have weathered the worst and it is just clearer days ahead. (And with the weather reference let me add a personal note of thanks that South Florida was spared another hurricane for the ninth year in a row!)

Season's Greetings, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year to you & yours.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Norman Katz, CFE, CFS, CCS, MOS
 Katzscan Inc.

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