

Automating Invoice Coding in IFS: What Finance Leaders Need to Know

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Why leading IFS users like **Polarteknik**, **Pimatic** and **Nordic Paper** are turning to **Snowfox AI** to eliminate manual work in purchase invoice processing and future-proof finance operations.

1. Introduction: The Automation Plateau in IFS Finance

In our work with IFS customers, we often see the same challenge. Finance teams have invested heavily in digitalisation, but when it comes to purchase invoice processing, most are still stuck in manual mode.

Despite having IFS in place, around **80% of non-PO invoices are still coded by hand**. It slows everything down, introduces errors, and **costs between €4–8 per invoice**. Teams are left chasing approvals, fixing coding mistakes and spending time on admin that should have been automated years ago.

So what's holding automation back? And how can finance leaders finally move beyond this bottleneck?

This paper shares what we've learned from **helping IFS users** automate invoice coding with Snowfox AI, including how it connects easily, delivers results fast, and doesn't require a single rule to be built.

“ The addition of Snowfox to our ISV Partner Program reflects our commitment to innovation and collaboration. Their AI-driven automation perfectly complements IFS Cloud, helping our customers accelerate transformation and unlock measurable business value.”

Martin Gunnarsson - Senior Vice President
Product & Partner Strategy, IFS



2. What Traditional Automation Misses

IFS is a powerful ERP. But when it comes to automating invoice workflows, many teams still rely on older tools; like static rules, OCR engines or template based systems. These tools can help in simple cases, but they don't scale in the real world.

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Why?

- Building invoice automation rules is time consuming and often requires specialist knowledge
- Rules must be maintained constantly as invoices change (i.e. new suppliers, changes in coding dimensions, changes in company structures)
- Most companies only have a small share of recurring invoices, often just 20 percent
- Supplier-specific rules fall short when suppliers send multiple invoice types
- Rules depend on perfect data. If the wrong field is used or a reference is missing, the automation fails
- And most importantly, AP teams don't have time to build or maintain this logic alongside their day-to-day work

The result? Automation stalls, exceptions pile up, and manual work creeps back in. We've seen this play out time and again with IFS users. The problem isn't effort or intention. It's the limitations of the tools. What's missing isn't more rules. It's a smarter, self learning layer that adapts automatically to how your business really works.

3. AI as the New Layer in the Finance Stack

That's where Snowfox AI comes in.

It connects directly to the backend of your IFS Finance environment as an add-on and uses your historical invoice data to build a self-learning AI model. There's no need to build rules, reconfigure workflows or change how your team operates. Without Snowfox, most non-PO invoices arrive in IFS with empty coding fields – like GL account, cost center, tax code or project. The accounts payable team, or someone in the business, then has to manually fill in all of this information. It takes time, introduces delays and often leads to errors.



Snowfox changes that. From day one, the AI predicts how to fill in these fields automatically and routes the invoice for approval, often skipping the AP team altogether. This means less manual work, faster approvals and fewer errors throughout the invoice process.

The impact is felt at every level:

- AP teams spend far less time on repetitive tasks
- Business departments receive pre-coded invoices, ready to approve
- Finance teams gain consistency, speed and visibility without adding workload

Most importantly: your team doesn't need to change how they work. There's no new interface. No change to your existing IFS workflow. Just smarter automation happening in the background and getting better with every invoice.

And because trust is critical, Snowfox AI includes a confidence score with every prediction. This score indicates how certain the model is in its recommendation, for example, which GL account or cost center to assign. If the confidence is high, the AI can enter the value automatically.

If it's low, the prediction can be flagged or excluded from automation altogether. You decide the confidence threshold that works for your business, giving you full control and visibility. It's another way Snowfox helps finance teams scale automation without losing oversight or sleep.

4. Case Proof: IFS Customers Using Snowfox

That's where Snowfox AI comes in. Snowfox is already live with multiple IFS customers across Europe, helping finance teams move from manual effort to intelligent automation in just weeks. These are not tech pilots or AI experiments, but fullscale implementations delivering measurable results, fast.

Polarteknik connected Snowfox to IFS with minimal IT effort. Within weeks, the AI was accurately coding more than 90% of their non-PO invoices. The finance team reported a major drop in repetitive tasks, and a smoother approval workflow overall.



“ Thanks to Snowfox, we've drastically reduced manual work in our purchase invoice process. It's a practical, intelligent solution that just works. ”

Jyrki Penttinen, CFO



Pimatic's finance operations were slowed down by manual and inconsistent invoice coding across entities and delayed invoice routing. Snowfox delivered both speed and consistency. With automated coding and workflow routing, the team gained less manual work, faster approvals and improved consistency without adding complexity.



“ Snowfox has delivered us an actual value-adding AI tool to improve invoice handling efficiency. From smooth and successful implementation to continuously publishing new features that actually improve already measurably good performance, they have been there for us. Sincere recommendation to any other IFS companies. ”

Martti Tapanila, CFO

Nordic Paper: With a decentralised structure, Nordic Paper struggled with invoice handling across multiple business units. Snowfox enabled centralised visibility and automation, helping teams reduce admin and shift focus toward analysis and strategic finance.



“ “Snowfox has made a positive difference to our AP process! The collaboration has been smooth and straightforward throughout. Snowfox invoice coding automation has already helped us a lot and we are looking forward to significant help regarding invoice coding automation in the near future with constantly improving results.” ”

Emma Rienas Sandin, Finance Director

Each of these companies are live, running Snowfox AI inside their IFS Finance environment – proof that AI can be implemented quickly, and deliver real results, inside the systems finance teams already use.



5. How It Works: A Simple, Powerful Model

Snowfox AI is trained on your real invoice and coding data, and connected directly into your invoice workflow.

Here's what happens when you connect Snowfox to IFS:

We **extract 6-12 months** of historical invoices and coding data



Snowfox **builds a tailored AI model** based on your invoice coding and approval real logic



The model starts **predicting coding dimensions** and workflow routing



Invoices move through your **standard IFS approval workflow**



Any changes to the coding values made during approval are **sent back as feedback** and the model improves



All activity flows into real-time analytics so your team can monitor AI performance transparently

You also get **access to powerful admin tools** for managing and improving the model within our data platform



AI feedback loop means Snowfox gets smarter with every invoice. And there's no need to ever build or maintain a single rule.

6. Business Case: From Manual Cost to Intelligent ROI

If you're coding thousands of invoices manually, the cost adds up fast – usually €4-8 per invoice. **Snowfox operates on a volume-based monthly pricing model, giving you predictable costs aligned to invoice volume and automation coverage.**

That means:

- **Immediate cost reduction with over 90% of invoices automated** from go-live
- Better consistency, better audit trails
- Huge reduction in admin time and cost
- Most teams see a **return on investment in the first quarter**, alongside improved employee experience and better data quality for downstream reporting



7. Forget the IT Headache – Connecting to Snowfox Is Simple

Let's address the big question: "How hard is it to connect?"

The answer: **it's surprisingly easy.** Snowfox is an official IFS compatible add-on. There's no infrastructure change. No system replacement. It connects natively to your IFS Finance environment – and it's live in weeks.

Here's what implementation involves:

A quick connection setup with IFS (no custom development needed)

- **Data extraction and AI model training**, led by our team
- **Testing, go-live and monitoring**, all supported by Snowfox
- We've done this with **companies of all sizes, and across industries**. The most common feedback we hear is: "That was easier than we thought."

8. Conclusion: Future-Proofing Finance in IFS

Finance leaders are ready to move beyond incremental improvements. You want automation that actually works and scales with your team.

Snowfox AI gives you that automation, inside IFS, with no disruption. It's a fast, intelligent and proven way to eliminate manual invoice handling, while improving accuracy and visibility.

If you're ready to reduce costs, speed up approvals and free your team from repetitive invoice coding – Snowfox is ready to connect.





7. Forget the IT Headache – Connecting to Snowfox Is Simple

Run a free AI accuracy test using your own IFS invoice data.

We'll take 6 to 12 months of your historical invoice and coding data and simulate how accurately Snowfox could automate your non-PO invoice coding. You'll receive a detailed report showing prediction accuracy across each dimension, giving you a clear picture of potential automation impact before you commit. Based on your invoice volume, we'll also outline what a monthly pricing structure could look like – no surprises, just simple value.

Speak with our team to map out your case.

We'll walk you through the integration, answer any technical questions, and help you build a business case for finance AI inside IFS.



About Snowfox

At Snowfox, we help finance teams eliminate manual invoice handling with smart, self-learning automation. Our AI-powered add-on integrates seamlessly with IFS and other ERP systems to automate invoice coding and approval routing – with no rules, no templates and no interface change.



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