

RheinBrücke's
MeRLIN
Strategic Sourcing
Simplified

About RheinBrücke

Background

Established in 2014, Germany based RheinBrücke IT Consulting designs and delivers solutions that enable global enterprises to thrive in today's complex business environment. We help our clients achieve measurable business benefits by connecting people and technology.

We bring global Right Sourcing industry know-how and working business knowledge to our enterprise clients. With consulting and deep-rooted technical expertise, combined with best practice processes and stringent QA standards, RheinBrücke offers vision and industry-specific expertise to every enterprise.

Our Service Offerings

- Enterprise Solution and Services on SAP and Epicor
- Consulting and Advisory Services including Program and Project Management
- IT Development and Support on Microsoft and Open Source Technologies
- IP and Product Development Services

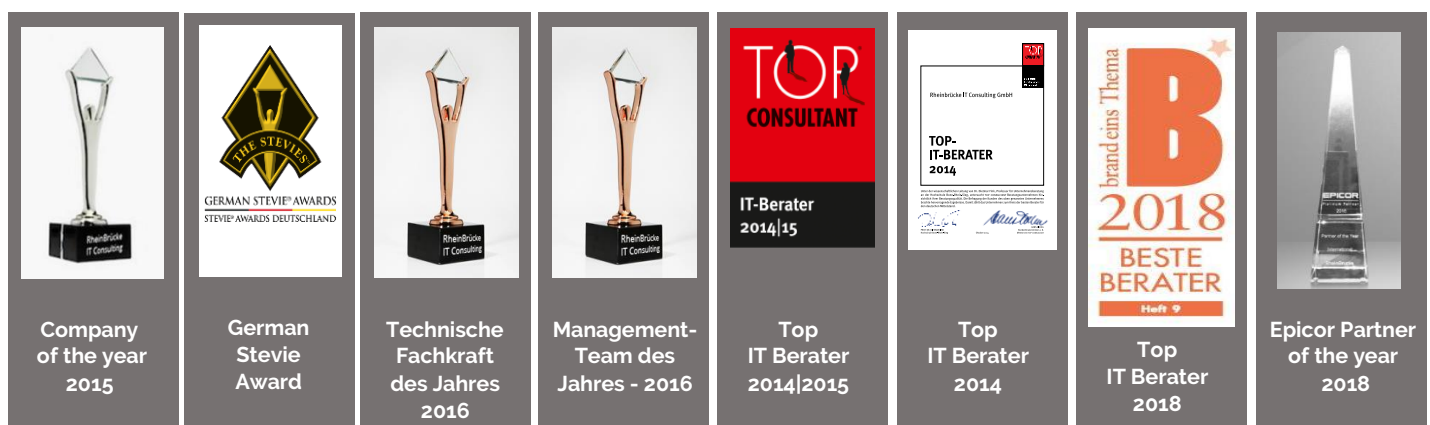
Our Products

- MeRLIN – Strategic Sourcing Solution
- Xpensa – Expense Claim Solution Integrated with ERP
- Epicor Payroll MEA
- Copy Company Tool

RheinBrücke Brings

- Global best practices, proven methodology and track-record of achievement to its customers.
- Experience in building Products, Proof of Concepts -POCs, Industry vertical process models, Collateral, and enabling of Hands on Immersion Lab experience.
- Extensive knowledge of implementing IT solutions across the world for Manufacturing enterprises

RheinBrücke IT Consulting has been awarded the German Stevie Award for Company of the Year, Top IT Consultant Award by the German Ministry of Economy and the Beste Berater Award (Best IT Consulting Company)



Strategic Role of the Sourcing Function

For a manufacturing enterprise, direct material costs have a huge impact on the bottom-line. Yet the organization has a responsibility to its customers, its shareholders and its partners, to make every effort to minimize the impact of commodity price volatility on its supply chain operations. Additionally, Manufacturers are under constant pressure to respond rapidly to changing market requirements by identifying and quickly engaging with the most appropriate suppliers in the ecosystem.

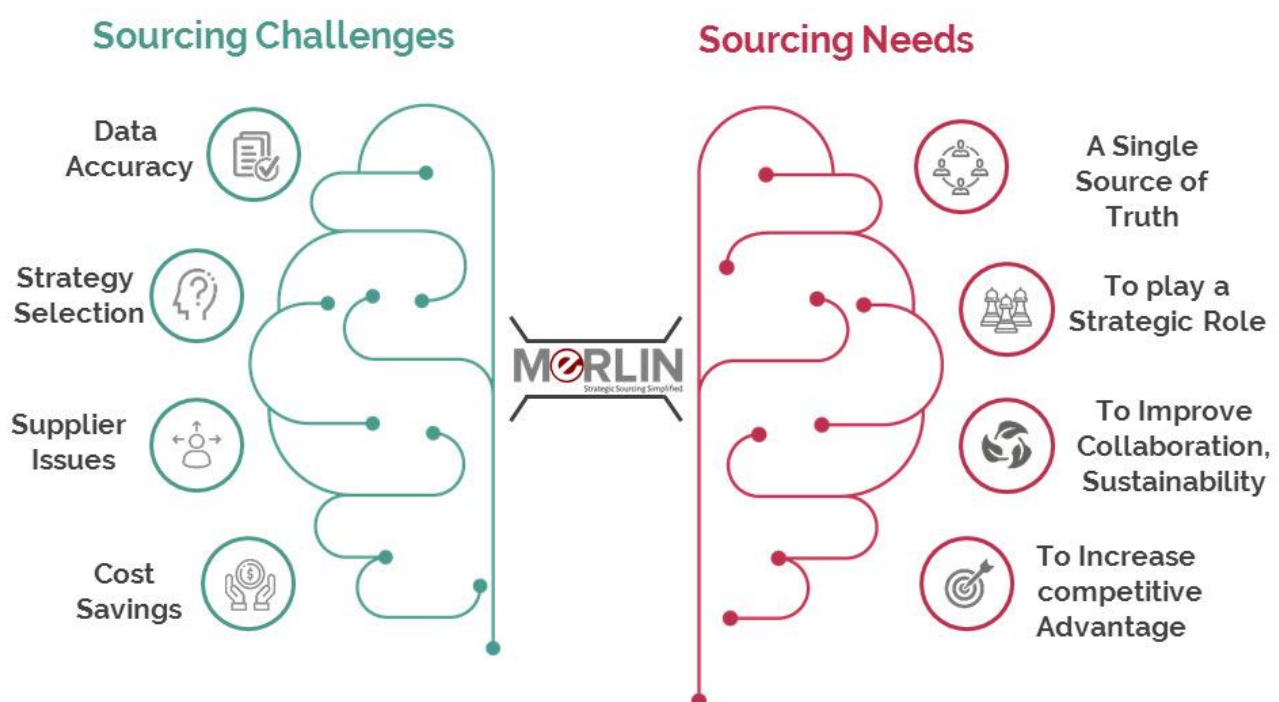
As companies continue to compete for customers and market share, those taking a more analytical and strategic approach to managing the sourcing function will win in this market of rising commodity costs.

RheinBrücke's MeRLIN

Strategic Sourcing Simplified

RheinBrücke's MeRLIN is a Direct Sourcing Solution that offers a seamlessly integrated sourcing process automation with supplier relationship management and planning functions augmented by advanced analytics functions. It plays a key role in enhancing collaboration between buyers and suppliers of direct materials offering an intuitive and easy to use platform. MeRLIN is modular, flexible, configurable and easy to deploy. It is developed on Microsoft technology platform and can be hosted either on-premise or on the cloud. It is the go-to solution for strategic direct sourcing needs of enterprise sourcing organizations.

Why Do You Need RheinBrücke's MeRLIN?



Key Functional Components of RheinBrücke's MeRLIN



Budgeting and
Planning



Supplier Relationship
Management



Sourcing, eProcurement
and Award Management



Master Data
Handling



Advanced Analytics
and Reports

RheinBrücke's MeRLIN enables **digital transformation** of your procurement function, progressing from supporting cost control to **driving strategic sourcing initiatives**. It's powerful **spend and cost analytics** tools facilitate what-if analysis and help uncover the true potential of your procurement data beyond the productivity gains offered by automating your sourcing function.

Its **Supplier Relationship** module provides the ability to develop and manage the supplier base, rate and analyze their performance, and manage multi-country, multi-site vendors simplifying Global Sourcing activities.

The eSourcing module simplifies RFI, RFQ, Price Discovery and Award Management resulting in significantly **greater efficiency, accuracy and compliance** of direct sourcing functions. It makes procurement planning and sourcing **globally integrated, competitive, compliant and cost effective**.

The procurement team can collect real-time data and evaluate meaningful data points to better meet demands across all levels of the supply chain. This efficiency translates to savings across the business and it frees up **the processing capability and bandwidth** of the sourcing team to focus on business-critical decision making.

This transformation is achieved via a **seamless, integrated solution** since MeRLIN can connect with existing enterprise ERP instances as well as homegrown systems.



Who Needs RheinBrücke's MeRLIN?



Organizations with **decentralized, disparate, disconnected** multi-plant, multi-currency **systems** and do not have a centralized source of supplier and pricing data will reap significant benefits



Discrete manufacturing enterprises that have a high **Buy vs Build** ratio and have a large global supplier base supplying to multiple global locations



Enterprises that frequently need **quick turnaround** of customer requests



Direct sourcing teams that need to handle and analyze **huge amounts of data** with a high degree of **security** and **compliance**

How Does RheinBrücke's MeRLIN Benefit Customers?



MeRLIN is a **single source of truth** for all Direct Sourcing related information, enabling global visibility of part prices for improved competitiveness



It eliminates manual processes thereby **reducing time to respond** and creates seamless data flow by automating processes and approvals as well as Supplier responses



Has **powerful spend analytics** that enables greater control over savings impact of sourcing



It ensures **transparency** of decision-making, providing **complete visibility** of part prices, enables **better price discovery** and is fully **auditable**



MeRLIN can be implemented rapidly when compared to other solutions available in the market, offering **accelerated return on investment**

Why Should You Consider RheinBrücke's MeRLIN?

MeRLIN has been **deployed at a Global Tier 1 Automotive Supplier** and is used for sourcing components of over USD 2 Billion annually from a global supplier base of several thousand for Electrical, Mechanical, Display and PCB/PWB commodities, including Engineering changes and non-design price changes.

MeRLIN offers the next generation solution that anticipates the needs of your Strategic Sourcing functions. MeRLIN significantly enhances turnaround time, accuracy, efficiency, and compliance of not just the buyers and suppliers, but it offers value, visibility and transparency to all the stakeholders across the value chain. MeRLIN can be implemented rapidly when compared to existing Strategic Sourcing suites and offers your organization a **significantly better ROI**.

Next steps

We would be happy to give a demonstration of MeRLIN and showcase the value it offers to your organization.

For more information, please visit www.rheincs.com/MeRLIN where we have a short video explaining the features of MeRLIN.

