

# UAE E-Invoicing

---

Preparing for the incoming electronic invoicing mandate in the United Arab Emirates

**SOVOS**



## UAE: Leading the e-invoicing journey in the Middle East



The United Arab Emirates is providing a future-proof model for other Middle Eastern countries, taking the lead on digitally transforming its invoicing approach. Oman, for example, is following the UAE's lead and working towards deploying mandatory electronic invoicing— Bahrain and Qatar are expected to also follow suit.

This shift has been years in the making globally. Countries usually employ an e-invoicing approach for a few reasons: fighting tax fraud, improving efficiency, boosting business digitization and reducing paper waste, and obtaining greater transparency into organisational tax.

It's not easy, though—and that's why countries give its residents a fair warning and timeline to adapt to upcoming tax and e-invoicing regulatory changes.

UAE's e-invoicing plans are clear, and this eBook will provide a transparent snapshot into what's to come, when it's all happening, and how your organisation can adapt with minimal effort (but maximum efficiency).

Businesses don't have much longer to prepare for the upcoming e-invoicing mandates, and this applies when dealing with both government entities and other businesses.

This is your guide to navigating the upcoming period of change in the United Arab Emirates.

## E-invoicing mandate changes in the UAE

E-invoicing is currently not mandatory in the United Arab Emirates—but it will be. It is allowed on a voluntary basis, provided both parties have consented and the integrity and authenticity of the e-invoices is ensured.

The rules for e-invoicing exchange are a lot less strict than those in the upcoming requirements.

Phased mandatory implementation of e-invoicing in the United Arab Emirates begins on 1 January 2027 - but large businesses (over AED 50M annual revenue) have to move earlier than that. They must select an Accredited Service Provider (ASP) to facilitate electronic invoicing by 31 July 2026.

In terms of choosing an ASP, the government has specified that organisations must use a single provider for both accounts receivable (AR) and account payable (AP) flows. Businesses must select their ASP from the official list of accredited providers published on the Ministry of Finance's website, as only accredited service providers are authorised to validate and exchange e-invoices in the UAE.

The nation's e-invoicing model will take a 5-corner approach, much like mandates in countries such as France, meaning that all invoices must be issued, transmitted and received through an intermediary.





## 5-corner model

UAE's system for e-invoicing adopts a Decentralised Continuous Transaction Control and Exchange (DCTCE) model which is based on the Peppol 5-corner infrastructure, where the supplier (Corner 1) and buyer (Corner 4) each connect to their own Accredited Service Provider (Corners 2 and 3) to exchange invoices securely over the Peppol network, while both service providers simultaneously report tax data to the Federal Tax Authority (Corner 5).

Why? The model ensures that electronic invoices are exchanged in a secure and standardised model, while also providing real-time visibility to tax authorities.

The upcoming mandate's compliant process will be as follows:

1. The supplier sends invoice data to their Accredited Service Provider (ASP).
2. The supplier's ASP validates and converts the data to UAE XML format (PINT UAE).
3. The supplier's ASP transmits the e-invoice via the Peppol network to the buyer's ASP.
4. In parallel, the supplier's ASP reports tax data to the Federal Tax Authority (FTA).
5. The buyer's ASP validates the e-invoice and acknowledges receipt to the supplier's ASP. It delivers the invoice to the buyer.
6. The buyer's ASP also reports tax-relevant data to FTA.
7. The FTA confirms reporting to the Accredited Service Providers.
8. The supplier's ASP forwards all confirmations to the supplier to ensure legal certainty that the obligations set by the Ministry of Finance have been correctly fulfilled.
9. The buyer's ASP also forwards all confirmations to the buyer.

# Key dates for UAE e-invoicing

There's a plan in place by the UAE's tax administration for the implementation of e-invoicing. It gives taxpayers enough time to adapt to the requirements, including selecting an Accredited Service Provider from an official list published on Ministry of Finance's website.

The rollout of the mandate is fast once the ball gets rolling, however. Larger taxpayers are first up to adapt with the new electronic invoicing requirements, with smaller organisations following suit.

Here are the key dates taxpayers in the country need to be aware of:

## 1 July 2026

Pilot phase begins. The Ministry will directly invite selected businesses to participate; inclusion requires written agreement. Voluntary implementation also opens to all businesses from this date.

## 31 July 2026

Deadline for businesses with annual revenue of AED 50,000,000 or more to appoint an Accredited Service Provider.

## 1 January 2027

Mandatory electronic invoicing begins for businesses with annual revenue of AED 50,000,000 or more.

## 31 March 2027

Deadline for businesses with annual revenue below AED 50,000,000 and for Government Entities to appoint an Accredited Service Provider.

## 1 July 2027

Mandatory e-invoicing begins for businesses with annual revenue below AED 50,000,000.

## 1 October 2027

Mandatory electronic invoicing begins for Government Entities.



The revenue threshold is based on organisation's gross income as reported in most recent financial statements — if these are unavailable, the FTA may accept alternative supporting documentation.

## Don't wait—the time to act is now

Other providers may be able to help you comply in the UAE, but what about everywhere you do business? And what about the rest of your indirect tax obligations? Sovos' suite of indirect tax solutions covers e-invoicing, VAT filing, determination—mixed with AI-powered analytics for full data visibility—covers 80+ countries. That means a single compliance partner for every country your organisation operates in.

For example, in the United Arab Emirates, we offer more than e-invoicing compliance. We also cover Compliant Archiving, UAE VAT Returns, and with Sovos Intelligence you can run AI-powered error detection across all data sources.

In a recent survey conducted by Studioid on behalf of Sovos, 95% of respondents believe that accurate real-time data reporting within and outside of a company is important or extremely important to improving tax and compliance operations.

This is what Sovos offers.

Our solutions combine tax compliance systems with business intelligence, allowing you to understand your organization and what's possible for it. We also blend specialist, local knowledge with technology to ensure you are compliant - wherever you do business, both in the present and as you grow.



## Act sooner rather than later.

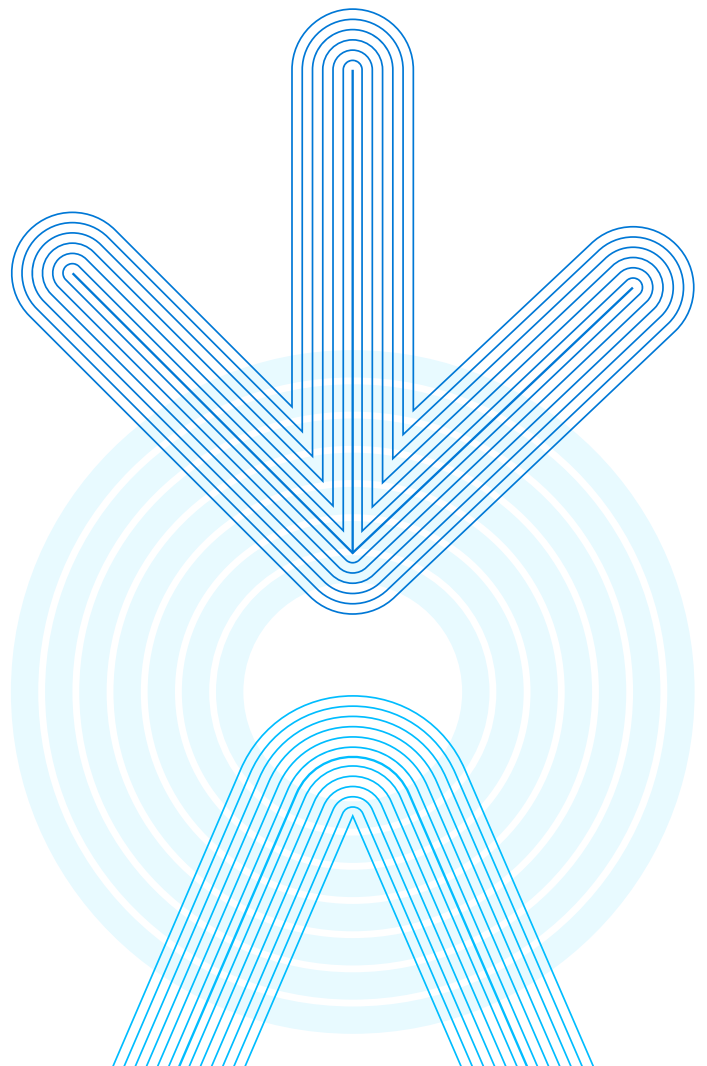
You only have a few months left to choose your Accredited Service Provider, and it won't be long before you must transition to transmitting invoices electronically. Now is the ideal time to choose a partner for all your tax needs, both in the UAE and beyond.

Not to mention that the Ministry of Finance's readiness checklist has 17 steps to complete before you can go-live. Failure to meet these requirements could mean being penalised.

In the UAE, a single error on 500 invoices equals 500 separate penalties. Non-compliance is costly.

Why wait when you can have everything in place now and operate from a place of confidence and readiness?

**Let's talk!**



## About Sovos

Sovos is transforming tax compliance from a business requirement to a force for growth. Our flagship product, the Sovos Compliance Cloud platform, enables businesses to identify, determine, and report on every tax obligation across the globe. Sovos processes nearly 20 billion transactions per year, helping companies scale their compliance strategy in 150+ countries.

More than 100,000 customers – including half the Fortune 500 – trust Sovos' tax and regulatory expertise and unparalleled integration with their business applications. Learn more at [sovos.com](https://sovos.com).



Contact Us: <https://sovos.com/contact-us/>  
[taxregulatoryreporting@sovos.com](mailto:taxregulatoryreporting@sovos.com)

© 2026 Sovos Compliance, LLC.  
SOVOS is a registered trademark of Sovos Compliance, LLC

# SOVOS