

CASE STUDY

Driving Value Through Portfolio-Wide Spend Visibility


FourCentric

Outcomes are Everything™

IN BRIEF



4C acted as strategic advisor to a global private equity firm, identifying the need for portfolio-wide spend visibility



Anvil Analytical delivered the analytics solution, consolidating data from multiple portfolio companies across Europe



Around a dozen portfolio companies analysed within just eight weeks



Billions of dollars in spend drawn from 30+ ERP systems



£42–67M in potential cost savings and £4.2M in working capital opportunities identified



4C continues to advise the firm on portfolio-level procurement strategy and insight generation

Transforming fragmented spend data across multiple countries into strategic portfolio insight.

BACKGROUND

A leading global private equity firm with a diverse portfolio spanning facilities management, financial services, and industrial operations wanted to strengthen procurement performance and identify opportunities for value creation across its European investments.

Acting as strategic advisor, 4C introduced its sister company, Anvil Analytical to deliver a scalable, high-speed spend analytics solution that consolidated procurement data across multiple portfolio companies and geographies.

The collaboration across the FourCentric group provided the PE firm with a unified, data-driven view of its portfolio spend for the first time, enabling greater transparency, faster decision-making, and improved alignment between its investment team and portfolio company leaders.

Throughout the engagement, and continuing today, 4C has remained the strategic advisor, helping the firm interpret the insights, shape its procurement strategy, and prioritise value opportunities.

CHALLENGES

Each portfolio company operated independently, using separate ERP systems and inconsistent data structures. This fragmentation made it difficult to identify common suppliers, benchmark spend or assess procurement efficiency.

The firm needed a way to turn disconnected data into a clear, comparable view of spend across its investments—one that could highlight synergies, reveal inefficiencies, and provide a fact-based foundation for future value creation. Delivering that insight quickly, across multiple sectors and geographies, was critical to demonstrating what a connected view of procurement could achieve.



SOLUTIONS

Anvil Analytical deployed a rapid “cube of cubes” spend analytics programme, an approach that combined individual company-level spend cubes into a consolidated portfolio view.

Speed to insight

Within eight weeks, the team processed data from multiple ERPs and systems, consolidating billions of dollars in spend.

Cross-portfolio visibility

A unified spend cube allowed the PE firm to see aggregated data across its European holdings, identifying overlaps in suppliers, payment term opportunities, and category spend patterns.

Actionable insight

Each portfolio company received a tailored

spend summary, while operating partners gained portfolio-wide intelligence to guide discussions with CFOs and procurement leaders.

A proof of concept in invoice scanning was also delivered for one German portfolio company, overcoming fragmented ERP visibility and demonstrating broader analytics potential.



OUTCOMES

- £42–67M in identified cost savings opportunities
- £4.2M in working capital improvements
- 12 portfolio companies processed within 8 weeks
- 34 ERP systems integrated into a single analytics framework
- Portfolio-wide visibility enabling better decision-making and collaboration across investments

Although execution varied by company, the project demonstrated how consolidated analytics can accelerate opportunity identification and strengthen investment oversight.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Rapid analytics create early momentum and drive fast insight post-acquisition
- Aggregated spend data helps private equity firms benchmark performance, negotiate better terms, and identify cross-company synergies
- A flexible, repeatable analytics framework allows the model to evolve as the portfolio grows
- Even with robust data, impact depends on each company's appetite and capability to act

Discover how **FourCentric's** group of specialist companies can unlock the hidden opportunities across your supply chain, operations and procurement and drive change that sticks.

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