

# Al-Powered Sourcing Automation – Market Overview and Provider Landscape

July 2024: Complimentary Abstract / Table of Contents



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## Background of the research

In today's dynamic business landscape, procurement teams are under increasing pressure to identify and secure the best possible suppliers. Traditional sourcing methods, while effective, often lack the efficiency and scalability needed to meet these demands. This has led to a surge in interest in Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven sourcing solutions.

Al-driven sourcing offers a transformative approach to sourcing, leveraging advanced algorithms and machine learning to automate tasks, analyze vast datasets, and generate data-driven insights. This research initiative covers the technology landscape of Al-driven sourcing solutions to enable informed decisionmaking with respect to the adoption of tools/technologies in this space.

In this report, we focus on:

- Adoption drivers for Al-driven sourcing tools
- Al-driven sourcing overview and technology provider landscape
- Capability assessment of technology providers
- Provider profiles

Scope of this report

Geography: global

**Industry**: all

Process/function scope: sourcing tools

Technology providers: 12 leading

sourcing technology providers

## Overview and abbreviated summary of key messages

This report examines the global autonomous sourcing technology provider landscape. It focuses on different types of providers within the autonomous sourcing space, best-in-class features that enterprises should look out for across sourcing activities, the breadth and depth of provider capabilities, and key autonomous sourcing technology provider profiles.

#### Some of the findings in this report, among others, are:

#### Transforming sourcing with AI

- Sourcing includes multiple steps such as supplier identification and qualification, sourcing event preparation, sourcing event administration, supplier evaluation, and negotiation and supplier selection
- The increased adoption of AI in sourcing is driven by improved efficiency, enhanced transparency, and its ability to improve compliance with procurement policies
- Organizations are using Al-driven sourcing tools to execute sourcing activities in low-risk scenarios to gauge the potential impact and efficacy of these tools
- The landscape of Al-driven sourcing technology features a wide range of providers, each offering distinct capabilities and specializing in various aspects of sourcing activities

#### **Autonomous sourcing**

- Organizations streamline their entire sourcing workflow to select the most suitable suppliers, uphold top-tier business satisfaction standards, and cultivate robust supplier relationships
- Best-in-class autonomous sourcing solutions act as comprehensive tools, empowering organizations to conduct all the sourcing activities. With highly customizable features, these solutions enhance the speed of the sourcing process and allow the sourcing professionals to focus on more strategic activities thus improving their productivity

#### Autonomous sourcing provider landscape

- The autonomous sourcing provider landscape consists of multiple providers that either offer automation capabilities across the entire sourcing workflow or specialize in automating specific sourcing activities
- Autonomous sourcing tools are assessed against best-in-class features for each sourcing activity to evaluate their capabilities. Although most solutions have automation capabilities across all the activities, significant differences were observed in the depth of these capabilities

## This study offers four distinct chapters providing a deep dive into key aspects of autonomous sourcing technology landscape; below are four charts to illustrate the depth of the report

#### Sourcing activities with examples of automation



#### Adoptions drivers of AI in sourcing



Automation of repetitive tasks reduces manual effort and time required, in turn helping sourcing professionals to focus on more strategic activities



#### Standardized processes

Automation facilitates the standardization of processes across numerous sourcing projects, paving the way for better quality



#### Easy scalability

Automated sourcing seamlessly adjusts to evolving business needs without the need for additional personnel: this adaptability helps in better navigating dynamic market landscapes



Stakeholders can gain better visibility into sourcing project status and supplier relationships, which can help promote better decision-making.



#### Improved compliance

Automation safeguards sourcing activities against the pitfalls of human error, thereby upholding rules and regulations with precision.

#### Autonomous sourcing technology landscape

























#### Provider capabilities and offerings

Capabilities and offerings		Available Partially available Not available		
Functional capabilities				
Supplier network	Bid sheet creation and evaluation	Supplier communication	Generative Al support	
Supplier recommendations	Automated supplier reminders	Multi-round bidding	Negotiations support	
Questionnaire creation and evaluation	Bundling requests	Supplier support	Award scenarios	
Features				
User-based access	Alerts and notifications	Sourcing management workflows	Dashboards and visualizations	
Additional support				
Product training and implementation	Multi-language support	Ongoing support	Integration support	

## Research calendar

## Procurement and Supply Chain

	Published Current release Planned
Reports title	Release date
Transforming Supplier Relationship Management with Technology – Market Overview and Provider Landscape	January 2024
Talent Demand Trends   India IT Services – H2 2023	February 2024
Procurement Transformation in the Age of Generative AI	February 2024
Smart Logistics: Harnessing Technology for Seamless Supply Chain Operations	March 2024
Catching the Buyer Pulse: Redefining Partnerships Through Strategic Procurement Outsourcing (PO) Engagements	June 2024
Al-led Business Transformation – Review of PegaWorld iNspire 2024	June 2024
BPS Top 50 – 2024	July 2024
Al-Powered Sourcing Automation – Market Overview and Provider Landscape	July 2024
Procurement Outsourcing (PO) Service Provider Compendium 2024	Q3 2024
Procurement Orchestration Solutions: Streamlining Procurement Processes with AI	Q3 2024
Procurement Outsourcing (PO) – Services PEAK Matrix® Assessment 2024	Q3 2024
Exploring Circularity in the Supply Chain	Q3 2024
Exploring Supply Chain Management (SCM) Planning Providers 2024	Q4 2024
Evolution of Spend Analytics in Procurement	Q4 2024

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	Published Current release Planned
Reports title	Release date
Transforming Supplier Relationship Management with Technology – Market Overview and Provider Landscape	January 2024
Talent Readiness for Next-generation IT Services – Provider Compendium 2024	January 2024
RFP Questionnaire: Identity and Access Management (IAM) Services	January 2024
Webinar Deck: Key Issues in EMEA: Addressing 2024's Challenges and Emerging Sourcing Trends	February 2024
Leveraging Generative AI for Procurement Excellence	February 2024
Talent Demand Trends   India IT Services – H2 2023	February 2024
Webinar Deck: Impact Sourcing: Empowering Communities, Transforming Business, and Creating Long-term Impact	March 2024
Modern Infrastructure – Review of Google Next '24 Product Launch	April 2024
Optimizing Sourcing Operations Through Autonomous Sourcing Tools	May 2024
RFP Questionnaire: Procurement Outsourcing (PO) Services	June 2024
Al-Powered Sourcing Automation – Market Overview and Provider Landscape	July 2024
Category Strategy – Insurance Business Process Services (BPS)	Q3 2024
Managing the Hybrid Resourcing Model in Global Business Services (GBS) Organizations	Q3 2024
Accelerating Sustainability in Your IT Sourcing Initiatives: Actionable Insights for Procurement	Q3 2024
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