

IPA Honorar



IPA Honorar fee-accounting system in publishing houses and media companies



News Suite

IPA with its associated companies continue to be leading providers of innovative software solutions for the publishing industry. Throughout Europe, many newspapers rely on solutions from IPA. Editorial, advertising and publishing systems for print-oriented production and innovative online solutions for web-based editorial and advertising systems have contributed to IPA's success.

IPA has just launched a new version of its latest fee-accounting module IPA Honorar, which can be used to automate fee-accounting for newspaper publishers



The fee-accounting module has an XML interface and, as well as being compatible with related IPA products, it can also be integrated into any editorial system that can read XML data.

Increasingly complex accounting

Fee-accounting is a task which most editorial staff do not find easy. The lack of compatible, high-performance universal software forced publishers to make calculations themselves or to find their own solutions. A comprehensive fee-accounting system that can

calculate increasing numbers of multimedia tasks in addition to editorial texts and pictures is beyond the scope of most "home-made" solutions.

Tasks such as Internet research or calculating fees for an article that was only printed in part, or did not appear in a second edition due to breaking news, are just a few of the many examples of such tasks.

Automated calculation

IPA Honorar is a standard product used by publishers and media companies and provides the link between an editorial system and an

accounting or personnel system. On the one hand the editorial system provides figures and job data, and on the other the personnel system provides information about the job types, job units and payees. The personnel system reciprocates by reading job data from the editorial system at defined intervals. The job data contains information about the job, who carried it out, when and for which publication (section, edition, etc.), article or page.

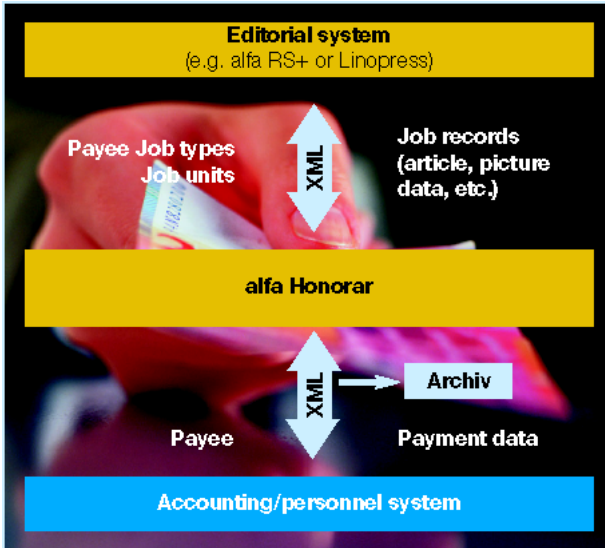
A fee-accounting system can be controlled either automatically or manually. In an automated system, fees are calculated automatically using data from the job record and the available master data from fee scales and fee agreements. If this is not possible, managers can access accounting data flexibly, as in addition to the

automatic acquisition of data, the fee-accounting module can be used to read and update job records manually or to modify and correct data acquired automatically. The system can be configured using acceptance rules in order to define which fees can be calculated automatically and which need to be forwarded to authorised personnel for manual approval.

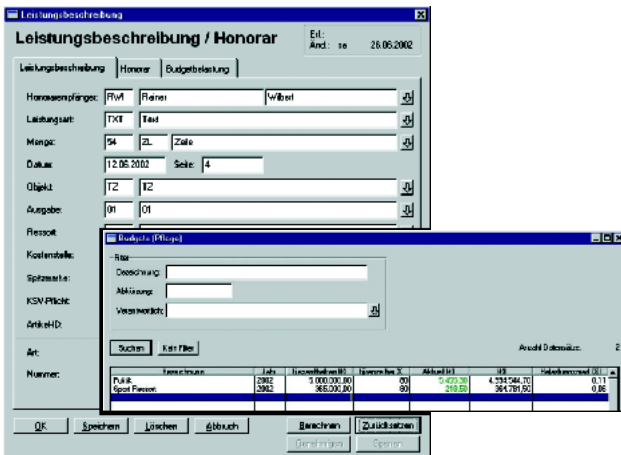
In addition, the IPA Honorar fee-accounting module can provide reports on demand about:

- ~ payees
- ~ their terms and conditions
- ~ as well as statistics for fee-accounting calculations

and much more.....



Example of a job record from the editorial system. Depending on the editorial system, a wide range of information can be transferred to the fee-accounting system. In addition to the budget amount and the name of the person responsible, the percentage value that triggers a warning message is also shown to prevent the budget being exceeded.



Prices, budgets and fees

IPA Honorar can distinguish between different publications, editions and sections. This data can then be evaluated in a separate budgeting exercise. Fee scales establish basic fees and percentage additions and deductions for combinations of job types and job units within a specific period.

Costs can be monitored by establishing budgets and debiting rules for these budgets. The rules for debiting budgets can be made extremely flexible. Fee scales operate on the principle of "specialist down to generalist". A fee scale that comes closest to the job provided and describes it in the most detail is applied first, then the next highest scale takes effect. Fee agreements specify which fee scales apply for which employees, based on a defined validity period. They can also be restricted to a specific publication, edition or section.

Fee agreements

Fee agreements can be divided into three groups: -

- a. Quantity- based agreements: The fee is calculated by multiplying the quantity by the price.
- b. Fixed- price agreements: A flat fee is paid.
- c. Combination of quantity-based and fixed-price agreements: A flat fee is payable up to a certain threshold, above which the quantity-based agreement takes effect.

Fees are calculated according to price and any additions. They are normally calculated using a default calculation and can be itemised in certain cases.

Acceptance procedure

IPA Honorar enables acceptance rules to be defined and maintained. These rules determine which fees can be calculated automatically by the system and which must first be approved.

- Regular statements and provision of fee data for accounting and personnel systems via an XML interface. Direct acquisition of job data from an editorial system via an XML interface.
- Automatic fee calculation using a flexible, rule-based fee acceptance procedure.
- All fee calculations are based on defined job types and job units as well as additions and deductions. Job types and job units as well as additions and deductions are all freely definable. All special cases can thus be taken into consideration and applied in calculations (night work, deficiency or related deductions).

- IPA Honorar has an additional browser client.
- Flexible system adjustment by system administration.

