Accounts Payable: 10 Trends for 2023



economic uncertainties — these are just some of the challenges that defined the past few years. Accounts Payable (AP), historically known to be slow to change, made a massive leap

A global pandemic, geopolitical unrest, high inflation, supply chain disruptions, and

by seamlessly adapting to these unprecedented changes. From a department that was playing a supporting role, AP's importance in boosting bottom-line performance and overall operations became more apparent to most business leaders. As we step into 2023, let's look at the top trends that will be impacting the AP profession

in the next year:



Trend #2

to stay for the foreseeable future.

procurement, treasury, and suppliers.

Inflation

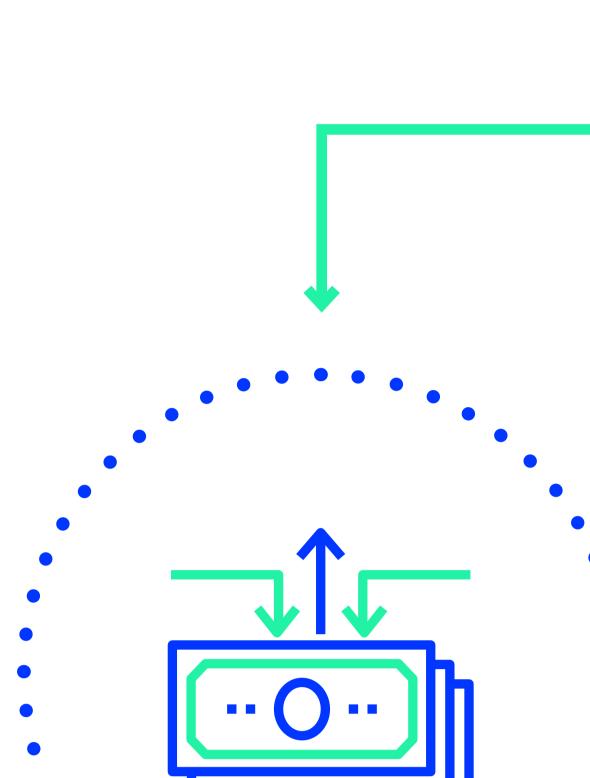
Economic Headwinds

Trend #1

The most impactful trend facing AP this year will be economic headwinds and related uncertainties, including

inflation, rising interest rates, and labor shortages. AP's Role: AP departments are expected to step up and help by reducing costs, improving supplier relationships,

and maximizing cash flows.



With increased competition, higher costs, pressure from revenue and sales, and general market uncertainty, the

Trend #3

The market has experienced high inflation, rising interest

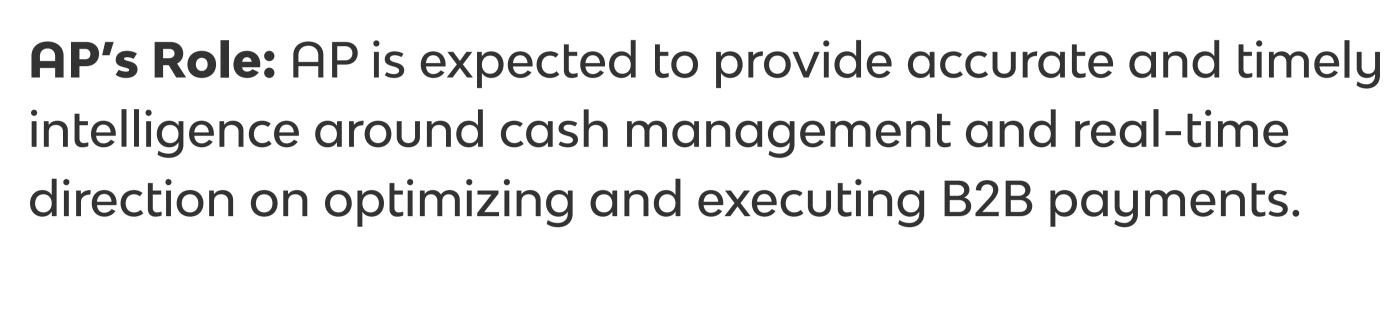
rates, and increasing debt since 2021, which are expected

AP's Role: To thrive during an inflationary period,

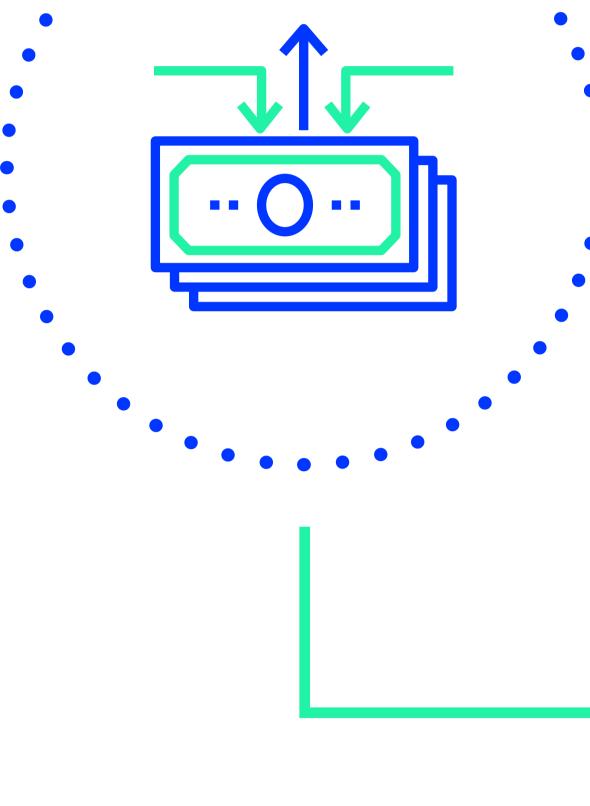
AP needs to work in close collaboration with finance,

relationship between AP and overall cash management has recently been under scrutiny.

Cash Flow and Payment Terms







since the pandemic, which are expected to continue this year. Suppliers today have the power to choose whom they want

them is crucial.

Supply Chain

AP's Role: AP plays an essential role in maintaining strong supplier relationships, including ensuring that invoices are paid on time and accurately.

Many businesses have experienced supply chain disruptions

to do business with, so maintaining a good relationship with





AP's Role: For companies conducting international trade, AP departments need to comply and stay current with the requirements.

regulations for B2B transactions. In 2023, France, Poland,

and Serbia are planning to join the over 50 countries that

have already issued the elnvoicing mandate.





organizations. But today, the introduction of more

to adopt AP automation technology.

affordable technology allows mid-market enterprises

AP's Role: AP departments at the mid-market level

can start exploring AP automation, especially in an

era where efficiency and compliance reign supreme.

Trend #8 Visibility into AP Data In many organizations, AP's wealth of data — from management processes. How AP is affected: AP today is viewed as an "intelligence hub", with business leaders increasingly relying on the

payment processing.

in a cost-effective manner.

transactional, spend, and T&E to payment terms and cash flow data — is underutilized. Today, new and improved reporting and data analytics tools are widely available, allowing business leaders to gain visibility into the spend

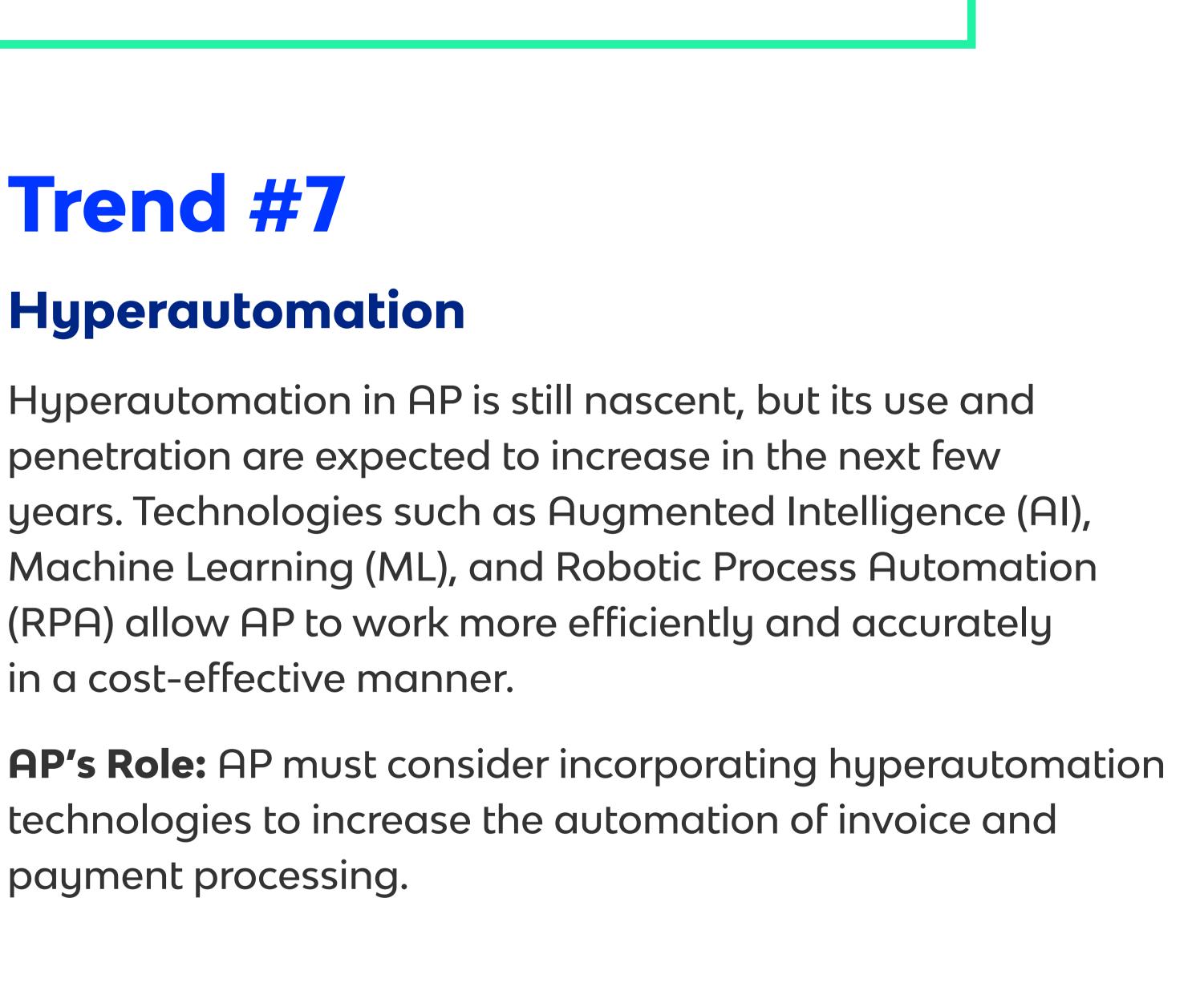
The post-pandemic workplace has forever changed.

New and existing workforces expect organizations

How AP is affected: The changes in workforce

Hybrid Workforce

department for the function and knowledge it can provide.



to provide flexible and hybrid work options. More and more organizations are also moving towards non-traditional hires or gig workers.

structure, including hiring non-traditional hires, will continue to impact AP.

AP is no more a back-office function. Events in the past

Trend #10 **Customer Service Mindset**

few years have pushed AP out of the shadows, and it is now expected to think of itself as a customer-focused operation. AP's Role: The next-generation AP professionals must adopt a customer service mindset and be ready to support internal

and external stakeholders.



Download the full report