



Infor System21 EDI Application Interface

Product Guide

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About this guide

The purpose of this document is to describe the functions that can be used within the EDI Application Interface Module.

Intended audience

The guide is intended for any users of the AI EDI Application Interface business module.

Related documents

You can find the documents in the product documentation section of the Infor Xtreme Support portal, as described in the "Contacting Infor" section.

Contacting Infor

If you have questions about Infor products, go to the Infor Xtreme Support portal at www.infor.com/inforxtreme.

If we update this document after the product release, we will post the new version on this Web site. We recommend that you check this Web site periodically for updated documentation.

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Introduction

Electronic Data Interchange is not a new concept. In the early 1960s many large multi-nationals, such as Philips and General Motors, started to transfer internal information and instructions electronically between different application systems, whether by tape or telecommunications.

Since then, technology and business practice have evolved to the point where [EDI](#) is virtually a condition of trade in some business sectors.

The application of EDI has accelerated as companies have come to realise that EDI can bring many measurable benefits:

Speed

EDI sends and receives documents quickly. There is none of the delay associated with mailing the documents.

Accuracy

Since EDI transmits documents electronically, there is no need to re-enter the information, thus reducing keying errors.

Cost Savings

The quick turn-around of documents reduces inventory overhead and increases the available cash flow. EDI also reduces mailing costs.

Productivity

Employees are free to perform different tasks. They are no longer needed to enter documents or address, stamp and mail envelopes.

Using Application Interface

You can use the [Application Interface](#) with the following System21 applications:

- Inventory Management
- Sales Order Processing

- World Trade
- Customer Scheduling
- Advanced Shipping
- Purchase Management
- Vendor Scheduling
- Advanced Receiving
- Accounts Payable

The [Application Interface](#) supports the import and export of a number of [EDI](#) documents; including:

- Inbound sales orders and order amendments
- Outbound and inbound acknowledgements
- Outbound and inbound advice of despatch
- Outbound sales invoices and credits
- Outbound purchase orders and amendments
- Outbound vendor schedules
- Outbound ASNs
- Outbound catalogues
- Inbound supplier invoices (onto the Accounts Payable log)
- Inbound schedule orders
- Inbound advanced shipment notes
- Inbound POD transactions

Refer to the source applications for further details on these interface activities.

The Application Interface adds new function for users of Sales Order Processing, Vendor Scheduling and Purchase Management; for example, you can prepare electronic purchase orders. There is full exception and audit reporting.

You can use this application in two ways:

- With the Premenos EDI product, EDI/400

This converts the in and outbound messages into and out of standard message formats. This link to EDI removes the need for repeated manual intervention in the conversion and transmission process.

- As an electronic batch transaction facility

For example, you can transfer sales orders entered by the field sales force on portable computers. You can load these orders onto the host system using the Application Interface.

Configuration

To set up the [Application Interface](#) to send or receive documents you must create:

- Documents

Define all document types in the Application Interface; for example, purchase order, sales invoice. You must specify the document ID for each EDI message standard used.

- Trading Partners

Within Application Interface, you must define all customers and suppliers with whom you communicate using EDI. You select the document types sent to each partner and specify whether the document is printed as well as sent using EDI. You must also define the details needed to support the document translation and communication functions in EDI. Before you can add translated documents to the EDI mailbox send queue automatically, you must define the trading partner.

- Location References

If you deliver to multiple locations, you must define a set of agreed location reference codes, used to establish the correct delivery address.

- Translation Maps

You must define a translation map for each trading partner and document combination. This defines the EDI message standard used for this transmission.

- Code Translation Tables

You must define a code translation table. This converts codes to the appropriate message standard codes when you send documents, and converts the standard codes into your codes when you receive documents. These codes include units of measure and sales tax.

Company Profile [1/AI]

Use this task to enter the details for the [Application Interface](#) company profile.

Maintain EDI Company Details Window

To display this window, select the Company Profile task.

Use this window to enter the details for the AI company.

Fields

Tax Number

Enter the company's tax number.

This is used for reporting purposes for Intrastate and the SPEX documentation software.

EAN Location Number

Enter the [EAN](#) (European Article Number Association) location number of the company.

EDI Translator Software

Enter the translation software you use with the Application Interface.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to select from the EDIS [EDI](#) Software Supported pop-up.

You define the available options in the Inventory Descriptions file, major type EDIS.

Select **Update (F8)** to save the changes.

Documents [2/AI]

Use this task to define the types of documents that you send and receive using the EDI network and the System21 [Application Interface](#).

You must define the document ID for each EDI [message standard](#) used. The most common IDs for purchase orders are:

Document ID	Type	Standard
ORDFL	PO	Tradacoms
ORDERS	PO	EDIFACT
850	PO	ANSI X12
ORDERR	PO	Odette

For example, if you send purchase orders to some suppliers using [Tradacoms](#) and others using [EDIFACT](#), you must define both standards.

When you pass the documents into the [EDI](#) translating software, the document IDs identify which [message standard](#) to use.

Note: All companies defined to [Application Interface](#) use these Document IDs.

Maintain Document IDs Selection Window

To display this window, select the Documents task.

Use this window to select the document type to maintain.

Fields

Document Type

Select one of the document types from the drop-down list.

Select a document type and then press Enter to display the Maintain Document IDs window.

Maintain Document IDs Window

To display this window, select a document type and then press Enter on the Maintain Document IDs Selection window.

Use this window to define document IDs. You define one document ID per [message standard](#), for the selected document type.

Fields

Document ID

Enter the document ID, as defined by the relevant [EDI](#) standards organisation. The EDI translator uses this document ID to identify the document type.

Type

For some standards, you must specify a document type, for example [ANSI X12](#).

Note: *The software does not validate the document ID and type, because the number of standard documents is constantly growing and [trading partners](#) can create their own document standards.*

Description

Enter a description. This is for information only.

Press Enter to save the changes. The Maintain Document IDs Selection window is re-displayed. Select **Exit (F3)** to leave the task.

Trading Partners [3/AI]

Use this task to define all [trading partners](#), either customers or suppliers, with whom you exchange documents using [EDI](#). You also assign the document types, defined using the Documents task, to the trading partner.

The Print functions check whether you have defined the supplier or customer as a trading partner.

Note: *You must enter further trading partner details to handle the translation and communications aspects of EDI in the [EDI/400](#) module.*

Maintain Trading Partners Selection Window

To display this window, select the Trading Partners task.

Use this window to select the [trading partner](#) you want to maintain.

Trading Partner

Enter the customer or supplier and address code.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to display the Trading Partner Selection pop-up. You must select a category from the drop-down list to refine the prompt. The categories are: Existing, Supplier, Customer, AP Supplier, AR Customer. You can then select from the next pop-up presented.

The address code should be for the customer or supplier site to which you want to transmit documents.

Note: For invoices, this may be the delivery point or statement address (defined in Sales Order Processing).

Based on Trading Partner

If you want to copy the details for a new [trading partner](#) from an existing partner, enter the existing partner and address code here.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to select from the Trading Partner Selection pop-up, which gives a list of existing trading partners.

When you have entered a trading partner, press Enter to display the Maintain Trading Partners window.

Maintain Trading Partners Window

To display this window, enter a [trading partner](#) and then press Enter on the Maintain Trading Partners Selection window.

Use this window to assign document types to the selected partner. The selected trading partner is displayed at the top of the window.

Fields

Tax Registration Number

Enter the tax registration number of the trading partner.

Note: If the current country code is USA, neither this field nor the EAN Location Number field is displayed.

EAN Location Number

Enter the [EAN](#) location number of the trading partner.

Note: The exact documents displayed depend upon the supplier or customer selected.

SDQ Required

You can specify whether outbound invoices and credits require specified destination quantity ([SDQ](#)) details.

Use this checkbox as follows:

Unchecked - If you do not want [SDQ](#) details

Checked - If you do want SDQ details

Note: For each displayed document name, complete the following:

Test/Production

Enter one of the following:

Test (1) - If this document is in test, or parallel, mode

Production (2) - If this document is in production

Active/Inactive

Enter one of the following:

Active (1) - If the document is currently active

Inactive (2) - To de-activate the document whilst any issues are resolved, for example, communication line problems

Generation Number

Enter the generation number.

This displays the last file generation number used for this [trading partner](#) and document type. Each time you send a file containing this document type to the trading partner, this number is incremented by 1.

This is included in the transmitted message header for reference.

Tradacoms Standards

Select one of the following:

Do Not use [Tradacoms](#) Standards (Blank) - If you do not use Tradacoms standards

Use Tradacoms Standards (1) - If you use Tradacoms standards

Functions**EDI Partner Maintenance (F16)**

If you use [EDI/400](#), use this to enter more Trading Partner details. For more information, refer to the EDI/400 product guide.

Press Enter to update the data file, or select [EDI](#) Partner Maintenance (F16) to display the Trading Partner Maintenance window.

Location References [4/AI]

If your [trading partner](#) uses more than one location, you must identify each location with a mutually agreed location reference. Use this task to define those location references.

For incoming documents, the alternative reference received in the [EDI](#) message is converted into the delivery address code for the customer.

For outgoing documents, the receiving address code is converted into the alternative reference code and output in the EDI message to the supplier.

Alternative Location References Maintenance Selection Window

To display this window, select the Location References task.

Use this window to select the trading partner for which you want to maintain location references.

Fields

Trading Partner

Enter the customer or supplier code.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to display the Trading Partner Selection pop-up. You must select a category from the drop-down list to refine the prompt. The categories are: Existing, Supplier, Customer, AP Supplier, AR Customer. You can then select from the next pop-up presented.

Press Enter to display the Alternative Location References Maintenance window.

Alternative Location References Maintenance Window

To display this window, enter the [trading partner](#) and then press Enter on the Alternative Location References Maintenance Selection window.

Use this window to associate the address code with an alternative reference. This window displays the selected trading partner and a list of locations. For each location, the location code, alternative reference and external trading partner ID are displayed.

Fields

Line

Enter the number of the line you want to amend or delete.

Leave this blank to define a new alternative reference.

Location Code

Enter a unique address for the [trading partner](#).

Alternative Reference

Enter a unique code.

This is included in the [EDI](#) message and is known to both trading partners.

External Trading Partner ID

Enter the ID for any location and alternative reference.

This ID is included in the outbound document records. If you leave this field blank, the default is a combination of the company code, customer number and delivery sequence. You can enter your own ID for outbound documents.

Select **Update (F8)** to save your changes and leave the task.

Common Codes Cross-Reference [5/AI]

Use this task to translate [trading partner](#) code values to the equivalent System21 code values.

For example, a customer uses M as the unit of measure for thousands, but you use TH. With the Common Codes Cross-Reference task, you can intercept and map this inbound data to System21 values. You can also intercept and map outbound data from System21 to the trading partner values.

This cross-reference is used by routines which process [EDI](#) messages received from, or sent to, trading partners set up using the Trading Partner Maintenance task.

Common Codes Cross-Reference Maintenance Selection Window

To display this window, select the Common Codes Cross-Reference task.

Use this window to select the standard and partner for which you want to define cross-reference details.

Fields

Code Mapping Standard

Enter a code [mapping](#) standard identifier.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to select from the CMAP Code Mapping Standard pop-up.

The code [mapping](#) standard groups together customers, groups of customers or whole [EDI](#) messages. You define these in the Inventory Descriptions file, major type CMAP.

Common Code Type

Enter a common code type identifier.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to select from the COMC Common Code Type pop-up.

You define these in the Inventory Descriptions file, major type COMC. This is the class of code that you want to translate to, or from, the System21 value.

Trading Partner

To define cross-references specific to a [trading partner](#), enter an existing supplier or customer.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to select from the Trading Partner Selection pop-up.

Press Enter to display the Common Codes Cross-Reference Maintenance window.

Common Codes Cross-Reference Maintenance Window

To display this window, enter the selection criteria and then press Enter on the Common Codes Cross-Reference Maintenance Selection window.

Use this window to maintain the common codes cross-reference data. For each existing cross-reference, the System21 and alternative value are displayed.

Options

Amend

Use this to change the cross-reference.

The Amend Cross-Reference pop-up is displayed.

Delete

Use this to delete this cross-reference.

You must confirm the deletion by selecting **Delete (F11)**.

Functions

Add (F6)

Use this to add a new cross-reference code. The Add New Cross-Reference pop-up is displayed.

Select **Amend** against a cross-reference to display the Add New Cross-Reference pop-up.

Amend/Add New Cross-Reference Pop-up

To display this pop-up, either select **Add (F6)** or select Amend against a cross-reference on the Common Codes Cross-Reference Maintenance window.

You can use this pop-up to add or amend cross-reference data. The title of the pop-up varies accordingly.

Fields

System 21 Value

Enter the System21 code.

You cannot change this for an existing cross-reference.

Alternate Value

Enter the alternative code.

Description

Enter the description.

Select **Update (F8)** to save the details and re-display the Common Codes Cross-Reference Maintenance window.

Interface Trading Partner [6/AI]

Use this task to maintain [trading partner](#) information. This is a different method from using [EDI/400](#).

Note: Only use this task if you do not use an [EDI Translator](#), as the [mapping](#) is not based on any specific EDI standard.

In this task, you base the customer and delivery on a trading partner ID, a delivery ID (such as a plant code) and a receiving location.

Maintain Interface Trading Partner Selection Window

To display this window, select the Interface Trading Partner task.

Use this window to select the trading partner for which you want to maintain details.

Fields**Trading Partner Identifier**

Enter the [trading partner](#) and address code.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to display the Trading Partner Selection pop-up. You must select a category from the drop-down list to refine the prompt. The categories are: Existing, Supplier, Customer. You can then select from the next pop-up presented.

Functions**Add (F6)**

Use this to add a new trading partner interface.

Press Enter to display the Maintain Interface Trading Partner window.

Maintain Interface Trading Partner Window

To display this window, enter the [trading partner](#) and then press Enter on the Maintain Interface Trading Partner Selection window.

Use this window to maintain the details of the trading partner interface.

Fields

Trading Partner Name

Enter the name for this trading partner.

Trading Partner Status

Select one of the following:

Inactive (0) - If this trading partner is inactive

Active (1) - If you do use this interface to this trading partner

Mapping Method

Enter the [mapping](#) type to use.

Alternatively, use the prompt facility to select from the CMAP Code Mapping Standard pop-up.

You define this in the Inventory Descriptions file, major type CMAP. You use this to find the translation entries for inbound and outbound messages.

Partner Specific Map Utility

Inbound/Outbound

Enter the program to call from the primary outbound or inbound simple interface file-[mapping](#) program.

External Mapping Keys

Interchange Partner ID

Enter the external customer or supplier identifier.

Interchange Our ID

Enter your identifier used by the external customer or supplier.

Delivery ID

Enter the external delivery identifier.

Location ID

Enter the external location identifier.

Press Enter to save the data and re-display the Maintain Interface [Trading Partner](#) Selection window.

Start EDI/400 [11/AI]

If you use the [EDI/400](#) software, use this task to access it.

For more details, refer to the EDI/400 product guide.

Inbound Purchase Order Files [21/AI]

Use this task to re-organise inbound purchase order files, delete any associated work files and clear any AI record locks, allowing you to process inbound purchase orders.

Inbound Purchase Order File Re-organisation Window

To display this window, select the Inbound Purchase Order Files task.

Use this window to submit the batch job that processes the inbound purchase files.

Select **Submit (F8)** to run the batch job which re-organises the files, clears the work files and removes AI record locks.

Appendix A Glossary



ANA

Article Number Association - the standards organisation responsible for the support and development of the [Tradacoms message standard](#)

Application Interface

A System21 application that you use to send and receive documents from a [trading partner](#), using [EDI](#)

ANSI X12

A [message standard](#) developed by the American National Standards Institute - widely used in the United States

Control List

A System21 [Application Interface](#) report providing details of documents sent or received via [EDI](#)

Data Segments

See [Element](#).

EAN

European Article Number

EDI

Electronic Data Interchange - a method of transmitting business information over a network, between [trading partners](#)

The partners must agree to follow approved national or industry standards for translating and exchanging information.

EDI/400

A PREMENOS module, which receives standard documents from a network, translates them and adds them into the System21 [Application Interface](#) database

It also translates documents output from the [Application Interface](#) into standard documents. It then sends the documents to a private or third party network.

EDIFACT

Electronic Data Interchange For Administration, Commerce and Transport

This is a [message standard](#) developed within the United Nations.

Element

A single item of data within a transaction set

Combined elements form [data segments](#).

Mailbox

An area on an [EDI](#) network services computer that holds a customer's transactions

The customer can send to multiple receivers in a single session.

Mailbox Queue

The component of [EDI/400](#) that combines outgoing transactions and receives incoming transactions

Mapping

Shows the relationship between [segments](#) and [elements](#) in a standard document and fields in the System21 [Application Interface](#) database

Message Standard

A pre-defined format that business partners with incompatible internal formats use to exchange documents electronically

The major standards include [ANSI X12](#), [EDIFACT](#) and [Tradacoms](#).

ODETTE

A [message standard](#) used in the automotive industry

Parallel Running

An initial period of time, where [trading partners](#) agree to exchange documents electronically, but still retain a printed version of the documents for back-up purposes

SDQ

Specified destination quantity

A customer may specify specific delivery locations and quantities for each delivery address.

Segment

A pre-defined set of functionally related data [elements](#), identified by an initial three character code

Standard Code

A pre-defined method of representing commonly needed information with a short, unambiguous set of characters

Tradacoms

A [message standard](#) developed and supported in the UK by the [ANA](#)

Trading Partner

A customer or supplier with whom there is an agreement to exchange documents electronically

User File Definition

The description of the record in the [Application Interface](#) database

These exist for incoming and outgoing documents. They include file name, length, position and attribute of each field.

VDA

Verband Der Automobilindustrie - the German Automotive Industry Association

The VDA maintain its own [EDI](#) standards. Nearly all German automotive manufacturers belong to the VDA. The VDA are in the process of migrating to [ODETTE](#) and [EDIFACT](#). Unlike other [EDI](#) standards, there is no naming convention within the VDA specifications for each [element](#). It is likely that each host will require their own internal naming convention, such as a four character numeric code. Its fixed record format does not easily convert to an existing dialect such as EDIFACT or X12.