

The global standard for data exchange

UN/EDIFACT

CONTENT

eBusiness Standards & Content





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Contents

Contents.....	3
UN/EDIFACT Standard - The worldwide standard for data exchange	4
GEFEG and EDIFACT	5
UN/EDIFACT & GEFEG.FX	5
UN/EDIFACT as a Module in GEFEG.FX	5
Powerful support for EDI tasks with GEFEG.FX Software	6
Interested in using UN/EDIFACT?	6

UN/EDIFACT Standard - The global standard for data exchange

Developed in international cooperation, UN/EDIFACT has become the globally used standard for data exchange. For more than 30 years, UN/EDIFACT has been maintained and continuously enhanced and updated with the active participation of experts from all over the world. UN/EDIFACT is short for United Nations Directories for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport.

EDIFACT has been developed in order to define generally accepted, structured rules, in the form of standards, directories and guidelines, for the exchange of data between correspondents using electronic data communications media.

Maintenance and continued development of the UN standard are performed by UN/ECE, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. Procedures have been defined for input by working groups on specific topics. The results of the standardization work are published semiannually as "EDIFACT directories".

GEFEG and EDIFACT

UN/EDIFACT & GEFEG.FX

GEFEG.FX is used to maintain and publish the EDIFACT syntax data by UNECE/CEFACT's and ISO/TC 154's joint working group, the Joint Syntax Working Group (JSWG). This syntax data also includes the "electronic envelope" of an EDIFACT message, which is an important component in the proper processing of the data interchange format. The syntax is published in ISO 9735, Application Level Syntax Rules. The Directory Audit Team (DAT) in the UN/EDIFACT Working Group uses GEFEG.FX for testing and quality assurance of EDIFACT data before its semiannual publication. GEFEG itself participates in this team as the official German delegate.

All UN/EDIFACT directories from 89.2 on are available for the GEFEG.FX software. In addition to the original directories, all ISO and other code references (such as currency and country codes) are incorporated so that the GEFEG.FX version of UN/EDIFACT data simplifies work with standard data. New releases are integrated in GEFEG.FX immediately upon adoption by the UN bodies, and all users subscribing to the EDIFACT Module are regularly supplied with the data update in a convenient database format.

Using GEFEG.FX and in cooperation with GEFEG, the German standardization institute DIN compiles the German language version of EDIFACT which is published in parallel to the English version. This EDIFACT version is also supplied in GEFEG.FX and is known as "EDIFACT Normdatendienst des DIN".

UN/EDIFACT as a Module in GEFEG.FX

UN/EDIFACT is available as a module for GEFEG.FX. Following the official bi-annual releases by UN/CEFACT, a new version will be available for the GEFEG.FX user community. The module contains all versions beginning with 89.2 release.

Powerful support for EDI tasks with GEFEG.FX Software

EDI managers and teams will profit from GEFEG.FX

- as an information source for all directories and UN/EDIFACT message types
- in developing subsets, specifications, or guidelines based on UN/EDIFACT, such as GS1 EANCOM®
- in developing EDI interfaces and describing them in guides
- in testing EDI messages
- in developing and documenting mapping from UN/EDIFACT to other formats and vice versa
- by visualizing UN/EDIFACT or application guidelines in HTML projects
- in exporting EDI guides to XML for conversion to XML structures such as DTDs and XSDs
- in mapping UN/EDIFACT based guidelines to data models, XML schemas or both
- by providing data for translators

Interested in using UN/EDIFACT?

- Are you interested in using UN/EDIFACT in your company?
- Would you like to learn how you can use UN/EDIFACT with GEFEG.FX?

Contact us by [e-mail](#) or via [LinkedIn](#) - we will be pleased to get back and promptly assist you.