**FCA US – EDI Roadmap**

**Business Requirement**

All FCA suppliers and carriers are required to establish an **Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)** connection. FCA is committed to improving communication within the supply chain, and replacing current information sharing methods with modern day technologies. EDI is considered FCA’s primary method of communication with its trading partners to support the Procurement, Material Releasing, and Financial business processes.

DIRECT Suppliers should look at GPSIS on the esupplierconnect.com portal and refer to Clause 190 that states EDI 856 ASN is required.

**Who Will/Should Participate**

EDI is accessible worldwide using low-cost easy-to-use technologies. Suppliers with one or multiple locations (domestic or international) are able to establish EDI connections with FCA. EDI users should periodically access the Global Supplier Portal, Reference section, EDI Implementation Guidelines link to obtain additional EDI documentation. The EDI Manual is updated when changes occur; no user id or password is required to access.

FCA understands that this cultural transformation takes time to implement. However, it is your responsibility as an FCA supplier to understand our position with these requirements. Those suppliers and carriers who choose not to participate in this new process will process will eventually fall outside of the information loop; those who do will become effective Information Technology (IT) partners and may prosper with FCA in the global automotive economy.

**Suppliers shipping through a NAFTA LCC Warehouse**

All suppliers shipping through a NAFTA LCC Warehouse are required to have two EDI communication connections: one for the manufacture location outside the United States and one EDI communication connection for their NAFTA LCC Warehouse for material management.

**Project Timing and Rewards**

All suppliers are required to establish an EDI communication link within 30 days after supplier receives the FCA Welcome Letter. At that point, FCA will systematically eliminate access to other avenues of information currently mail or faxed.

FCA’s Corporate Accounts Payable Department will no longer process paper invoices 30 days after suppliers are notified of their requirements. Additionally, FCA will eliminate the paper check and require Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to pay for supplier services and products. The check stub detail is available through the EDI Remittance Advice (820) transaction set.

The EDI process improves the procurement to payment timeline and reduces complexity within the business process. Purchasing, Releasing, and Financial requirements are better understood and managed due to the elimination of paper, mail time, manual processing of information, and reconciliation of receivables. Studies have shown that suppliers with EDI have reduced manpower, decreased elapsed time within the payment process, and improved relations with external customers.
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**Benefits/Costs**

**Benefits**

Establishing an EDI connection with FCA will immediately take paperwork out of the document processing routine. Purchase Orders and Material Releases will be available immediately, as well as supplier invoices processed within a 12-hour window. Because of its own technology FCA is able to reduce manpower expenditures, expedite document processing, and satisfy its customer requirements efficiently. Each supplier in turn is capable of achieving similar results by implementing a communicating technology and mechanically process incoming and outgoing information without manual intervention.

A supplier using EDI instead of a manual order-entry process has the opportunity to remove waste from their system. A supplier may reduce premium freight costs by 20% and increase inventory turns by 10%. The less automated a supplier is in their order-entry process, the greater the cost-saving opportunity. A supplier that converts from a complete manual process to an EDI automated process could realize a total-cost reduction of 85%.

**Costs**

Costs for establishing an EDI program will vary. Production Suppliers are required to support more EDI transaction sets and communicate real-time information to FCA. Non-Production suppliers have less cost due to support a lesser number of transactions sets and not requiring sophisticated releasing activities.

Cost to establish an EDI communication process is broken into two areas.

- The most expensive and sophisticated solution is **Supplier purchased or developed EDI software**. The supplier will call FCA directly using in most cases a PC, modem (HTTPS EDI software), ($1,500-$3000), and yearly maintenance costs (ave. $600) See the Global Supplier Portal, EDI Implementation Guide, EDI Software Providers list website for more information.

- The least cost solution available is ‘EDI over the Internet’. FCA has established a low cost solution utilizing the **GXS TradeWeb** service from Global Exchange Services. This option is optimal for small (Production, Non Production and Service & Parts (MOPAR) suppliers that receive/send between 1 and 350 business transactions per year. The supplier will communicate to GXS Tradeweb through the public Internet (avg., $20 month) using a PC, async modem ($50-$100), and web browser (free). All documents sent from FCA to the supplier are at no cost. The GXS Tradeweb user is charged for transactions submitted to FCA at a per document basis ($2-$5), dependent upon subscription fee and volume. Visit the GXS Tradeweb, [http://gxstradeweb.gxsoic.com](http://gxstradeweb.gxsoic.com) website or speak to a GXS representative at (800) 474-2694, press option 2, then option 3, for more information.
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Suggested Technology Usage and Requirements

FCA has established EDI transaction sets in alliance to its business process and opportunities. In working with FCA’s business units (Procurement, Manufacturing, and Finance), and in conjunction with the Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG) (www.aiag.org), common EDI standards and processes are refined.

Each EDI transaction set is developed and approved by the United States of America accredited ANSI ASC governing body. EDI standards are administered under the direction of the X12 Committee. Each EDI transaction set is managed by version control level allowing for enhancements and changes when business processes change. Suppliers should be aware of FCA’s transaction set standards and review the EDI Implementation Guide to stay informed of current version levels.

FCA’s EDI Conventions Manual is available for download in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format on the Global Supplier Portal website. Implementation guides are developed for Production, Non Production, Carrier, Commodity Procurement, and Service and Parts suppliers. Additional information is also available (e.g., testing, mailboxes, contacts lists, and ASN error code lists,....).

How to Acquire Access?

1. Determine which business type of Supplier or Carrier you are:
   - Production
   - Service and Parts
   - Non Production
   - Inbound Carrier
   - Outbound Carrier
   - Market Center

2. Download the associated business type EDI Implementation Guide located on the FCA Global Supplier Portal website at: https://ps.extra.chrysler.com/sites/itb-ebus/Pages/Home.aspx

3. Determine which communication solution works best for your company:
   - Option 1, Supplier purchased/or developed EDI software
   - Option 2, GXS TradeWeb Internet solution

4. Establish an EDI mailbox
   - Option 1, Testing procedures are documented in the EBMX Implementation guide.
   - Option 2, the EDI mailbox will be created by General Electric

5. Perform a system and EDI transaction test
   - Option 1, testing procedures are documented in the EDI Implementation Guide (EBMX Testing Procedures)
   - Option 2, contact GXS TradeWeb 800-474-2694 press option 1 to discuss testing procedures for FCA documents

6. Contact FCA’s EDI Communications department
   - Option 1, call one of the listed personnel and inform them testing is complete and that your mailbox should be activated.
     - Jeff Besh 248- 576-8635
     - Betty Young 248- 512-1388 EDI manager
   - Option 2, GXS TradeWeb will contact FCA on the supplier’s behalf.
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**Technology Usage for FCA**

FCA uses EDI to communicate information related to customer/supplier business. Data that is processed real-time communicated to a large number of suppliers, or managed within a paper environment are good EDI candidates. FCA administers over 45 unique EDI transaction sets with 204 business applications. Each data file is processed through FCA’s mainframe EDI translator, Gentran from Sterling Software. EDI files are sent and received from two sources, EBMX and Global Exchange Services. FCA’s EBMX network manages up to 14,000 EDI mailboxes supporting over 45 gigabytes of supplier and carrier data monthly.

Most FCA applications process its business transaction once a day, nightly. A few applications process information multiple times during the day (e.g., Non Production Releases, Supplier Receiving Advice,…). The supplier Advanced Ship Notice is processed in real-time.

Suppliers are required to submit the Advance Ship Notice (ASN) immediately after the carrier leaves the supplier’s ship-point destined for an FCA Assembly or Manufacturing plant. FCA processes the supplier’s ASN in less than three minutes of receipt and returns a Functional Acknowledgement back to the sender notifying of acceptance or rejection. Any ASN received by FCA, 30 minutes after the ship time will be considered a late ASN. The ASN is considered FCA’s most important EDI transaction.

Many activity processes are geared toward the success of EDI. Paper and mailing processes are eliminated, and critical decisions made at the plant due to timely and accurate ASN’s. Internal FCA applications use information from EDI transmission to pay suppliers (Evaluated Receipt Settlements), and manage the flow of material. The ASN is used to initiate payment; the supplier Invoice is no longer required. Production Schedules (Material Release) notifies suppliers of FCA’s weekly and monthly forecasted requirements for 52-week.

EDI is considered the backbone and lifeblood to FCA. As the automotive industry continues to be transformed by the effect of technological development, growing international competition and market globalization so does FCA. Using IT to support innovation is the latest challenge towards an integrated computing and communications infrastructure within our business relationships. FCA’s IT investments have been re-focused to deliver faster, more reliable, and easier to use communication of information throughout the supply chain.

**Technology Usage for Trading Partner**

Initial benefits to all suppliers will materialize from receipt of FCA business requirements in hours rather than days and the opportunity to improve the flow of information internally. The second phase of most Supplier EDI programs is the opportunity to receive information and mechanically integrate it into internal decision making applications. A Purchase Order or Material Release request provides the opportunity for the supplier to update a receivables system, initiate a shipment process, and maintain an information efficient Sales department. Possibilities are offered to Suppliers for improving the flow of information, and obtain many business process benefits as achieved by FCA and many other technically capable suppliers.

**Support**

Technical:
- EDI Software provider, EDI Service Bureau, GXS TradeWeb
- AIAG also offers educational classes on EDI within the automotive industry (www.aiag.org)

FCA EDI: FCA EDI Communications
- Betty Young, Manager - (248) 512-1388
- E-mail: betty.young@fcagroup.com

EBMX Help: ebusdesk@fcagroup.com