



Topics:

The purpose of this session is to introduce you to the WebSphere Business Integration Connect enabling EDIINT for WebSphere Data Interchange.







A value-added network (VAN) is a private network provider (sometimes called a turnkey communications line) that is hired by a company to facilitate electronic data interchange (EDI) or provide other network services. Before the arrival of the Internet, some companies hired value-added networks to move data from their company to other companies.



With the arrival of the Internet, many companies found it more cost-efficient to move their data over the Internet instead of paying the minimum monthly fees and per-character charges found in typical VAN contracts. In response, contemporary value-added network providers now focus on offering EDI translation, encryption, secure e-mail, management reporting, and other extra services for their customers.









Advantage and Disadvantage

Use AS1 when there is a need for simple implementation through existing infrastructure.



Advantage and Disadvantage

Use AS2 when there is a need for FIFO and/or Synchronous acknowledgements.



Advantage and Disadvantage

Use AS3 (not available in WBIC 4.x) when there is a need for interoperable FTP with S/MIME and non-repudiation.











IBM Software Group				IBM
Encryption Algorithms				
	Algorithm		Key Length	
	Symmetric (Secret)	RC2 RC4 RC5	40, 64, 128	
		DES	56	
		Triple DES	168	
	Asymmetric (Public/Private)	RSA	512, 1024, 2048	
		*		18



















As the line between buy side and supply side becomes more difficult to determine, and partner relationships become more complicated, companies must have a way to remain in control. Each side of the business organisation will have a number of trading partners in the extended, integrated value chain. WBIC 4.2 enables visibility across this entire value chain, irrespective of the partner, wherever they are, and how they are involved. Moreover, this visibility enables the incorporation of people, devices and other more esoteric applications into your business processes, which themselves may span many different departments or business divisions.

Those partners may themselves be part of a separate community and it is at this point that we begin to see the extent to which integrated trading communities are not isolated entities, that they can in fact mean one company having a variety of roles in a variety of different communities.

Community participants can assume a variety of roles within an ecosystem. A community manager is likely to concern itself only with those partners which are directly connected to it, it's first tier suppliers and partners. Many times the community manager will sit at the top of a value chain, and have enough control over its constituents to require their integration participation.

The peer participant, is the largest and most fluid of all. Peer participants will, at different times and according to their business circumstances, assume all the roles possible in an integration community. They will have many relationships both as buyers and suppliers and require high levels of visibility into whichever community they are trading. They need to be able to respond to the conditions in real time in order to maximize their returns.



Why is EDI so important?

EDI has been in use by companies for over 20 years. Major investments have been made integrating it into their business process and EDI continues to be a mission critical part of B2B strategies.

And, while XML is now in use by many companies, EDI has not been replaced but coexists with XML.

EDI continues to evolve in response to new requirements from the enterprise, competitive pressures and industry initiatives i.e. HIPAA, an implementation of X12 standards and EDI over the Internet using protocols i.e. AS1 and AS2.

In addition, EDI is being bundled into "integration" type products i.e. WebSphere MQ Integrator.

In terms of integrating with EDI solution offerings (including WDI) the above diagram shows the basic document flow into and out of the EDI transformation engine. In the use of WebSphere BI Connect with non-WDI EDI transformation offerings which may already be installed at a customer site, the technology could interface to WebSphere BI Connect either via JMS/MQ or via Files.



With WBIC 4.2, you can create multiple document flows for a participant so you can build and manage a high number of distinct connections to a single trading partner.

This approach delivers unprecedented flexibility in the creation of a highly focused, process level integration so it can derive the most possible value from its SLAs – rather than simply conduct business with a trading partner, you can have a far more granular trading relationship that identifies the profitable parts of the B2B exchange and maximises them for mutual benefit. The visibility of the integrated community you get from implementing WBIC 4.2 is the key to being able to identify where the profit lies but it is also true to say that the partner readiness and assessment services play a significant part in this analysis.



Data Translation application: WDI operates on multiple platforms including Windows 2000, AIX, OS/390 and z/OS.

Data Mapping Tool: WDI Client operates on Windows platforms including WIN 98, 2000 and NT.



DataInterchange v4.1 (OS/390 and z/OS only) provides Any-to-Any data transformation. The DI Client v4.1 interface includes a new Create Map Wizard and new mapping screens to support Any-to-Any.



Supported formats including SAP IDOC (intermediate document). To improve productivity, WDI Client can import Cobol copy books from business applications including SAP.



HIPAA: represents an industry implementation (subset) of the X12 standards. WDI support includes availability of HIPAA transactions (subsets) and validation maps which comply to SNIP level 5.



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Retail Case Study



If we look at industry verticals in general – each industry has B2B trends/technologies which are becoming standards. This compliments our industry based approach for WBI. Every day the list grows longer and ... by the way ... standards never get retired – the inventory just continues to grow. Some of there standards and affiliated organizations include:

Finance: FpMl - Financial Products Mark-up Language, EFP - Electronic Payment Forum, FINXML - Financial Markets XML, FIXML - Financial Information eXchange Markup Language, FSTC - Financial Services Technology Consortium, GSTPA - Global Straight Thru. Processing Association, SET - Secure Electronic Transactions

Insurance: Acord - Insurance Industry Standards Group

Electronics: CompTIA - Computer Technology Industry Association, EIDX - Electronics Industry Data Exchange, EIA - Electronic Industries Alliance, EICX - Electronic Component Information Exchange, IPC - Institute for Packaging Electronic Circuits, SMDX - Semiconductor Manufacturing Data Exchange Standard

Petro/Chemical: PIDX - Petroleum Industry Data Exchange, API - American Petroleum Institute, GISB - Gas Industry Standards Board, CIDX - Chemical Industry Data Exchange

Heavy Manufacturing: AIAG - Automotive Industry Action Group, AIA - Aerospace

Pharmaceuticals: LPA - Lab Products Association, NWDA - National Wholesale Druggists

Healthcare: HL-7 - Health Level 7, HIBCC - Health Industry Business Comm Council

Consumer Packaged Goods: Supply Chain Efforts, NRF-ARTS - Nat'l Retail Federation Association for Retail, Technology Standards

Gov't & Education: DOD's Joint Electronic Commerce Program Office

CPFR/VICS - Collaboration, Planning, Forecasting, and Replenishment

CommerceNet

OBI - Open Buying on the Internet

DISA - Data Interchange Standards Association

UCCNet - Uniform Code Council Network

EISC - Enterprise Integration Standards Council

HR-XML

ICE - Information and Content Exchange

MDC - Meta Data Coalition

NAPM - National Association of Purchasing Management

OAGI - Open Applications Group

OASIS/XML.org - Organization for Advancement of Structured Information Standards

OMG - Object Management Group

Ontology.org

SCOR - Supply chain council

XML/EDI Group









Why is this important? Because UCCNet, a subset of the UCC, now governs the document standards and communication standards. The UCS Uniform Communication Standards endorsed EDIINT and will drop Bi-Synch communication in the Retail industry for EDI documents. This creates an interesting future for EDI as RosettaNet provides more industry PIPs.



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