

Cross-sector collaboration on digitalisation of Finished Vehicle Logistics

Significant savings for outbound logistics chain

Brussels, Friday 3 July 2020



ECG The Association of European Vehicle Logistics
ODETTE VDA Verband der Automobilindustrie

A successful cross-sector collaboration has resulted in the creation of a recommended standard for digital messages which cover all outbound logistics processes.

Two years of collaboration between [ECG – the Association of European Vehicle Logistics](#), [Odette International](#) and the [VDA – Verband der Automobilindustrie](#) has led to the development of a set of recommended standard EDIFACT and XML messages covering digital communication across all outbound logistics processes.

The [joint ECG, Odette, VDA recommendation](#) is available and free to use for all interested parties.

The recommended standard EDIFACT and XML messages will allow vehicle manufacturers (OEMs) and Finished Vehicle Logistics Service Providers (LSPs) to communicate with each other in a more efficient way. They will also avoid a proliferation of many different message types across the finished vehicle supply chain, significantly reducing IT development costs for individual companies.

The joint document gives a process description and information model which develop a digital twin for the entire outbound logistics chain. EDI experts have developed both EDIFACT and XML messages in order to provide alternative electronic communication solutions. Example use cases and sample messages are also provided. All messages and process models have been consolidated and added as an annex to the recommendation.

The developed messages cover the following business processes:

- Transport Forecast
- Transport Order
- Service Order
- Transport Status Reporting
- Vehicle Status Reporting
- Inventory Reporting
- Damage Reporting
- Compound Geofence Mapping

OEMs and LSPs working together to develop these messages have included Antwerp Euroterminal, AFG, Audi AG, Avtologistika, BLG Automobile Logistics GmbH & Co. KG, BMW AG, Daimler AG, DB Cargo Logistics GmbH, FCA N.V., Ford Europe AG, GEFCO, Grimaldi Group

Spa, Groupe CAT, MOSOLF SE & Co. KG, Neptune Lines S.A., NVD Ltd, Porsche AG, Groupe PSA, Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi, UECC B.V., Volvo Cars Corporation, Volvo Group AB and Volkswagen AG, supported by technology providers Fracht SIA, ICL Systems Inc, Inform GmbH, LABAL and ProAct International, with full technical expertise being supplied by GEFEG.

About ECG

ECG, the Association of European Vehicle Logistics, has been the voice of the Finished Vehicle Logistics industry in Europe since 1997. ECG represents the interests of over 130 member companies and partners, from family owned SMEs to multi-nationals, and is the major champion of the European vehicle logistics sector. ECG represents all transport modes at EU level – road, rail, maritime and fluvial. ECG Members provide transport, distribution, storage, preparation and post-production services to manufacturers, importers, car rental companies and vehicle leasing operators across the EU as well as in Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and beyond. They own or operate more than 460 car-carrying ships, 13,600 purpose-built railway wagons, 19 river barges and more than 26,000 road transporters

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About Odette

Odette is a, not-for-profit, pan-European collaboration and services platform for the entire automotive supply chain. Since 1984, Odette has brought together supply chain professionals and technology experts to create standards, develop best practice recommendations and provide services, which support the digitalisation of logistics management, supply chain communications and the exchange of engineering data throughout the automotive industry. The members of Odette are the national European automotive associations, which represent over 5000 companies in the major European automotive producing countries. Odette is a member of the [Joint Automotive Industry Forum \(JAIF\)](#), which brings together the regional supply chain organisations in Europe, North America and Japan to develop automotive supply chain standards for the benefit of the global automotive industry. Odette also has strong links with international standardisation bodies such as ISO, UN-CEFACT and CEN.

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About the VDA

The VDA represents the German manufacturers of passenger cars and commercial vehicles, as well as their suppliers, under one roof. This truly unique membership lends the Association a particularly strong voice both at home and abroad. In addition, the VDA organizes the International Motor Show (IAA), the largest of its kind worldwide. As a result, our work is equally wide-ranging.

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