



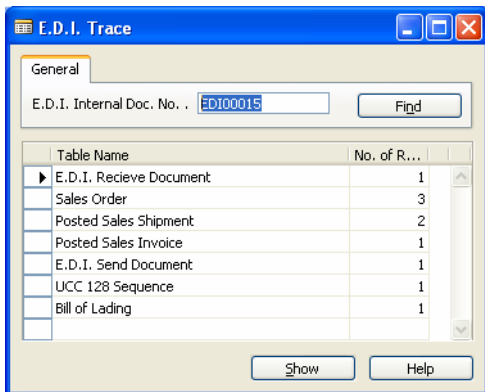
Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

EDI – Electronic Data Interchange

The EDI granule is a logical mapping tool and translator, built inside of Microsoft Dynamics NAV, to allow the seamless integration of EDI transactions with the business system.

Historically EDI translation has been handled outside of the business system, leaving the final linkage to the business system database to external, hard-coded programs and disparate user interfaces. The EDI granule for Dynamics NAV takes a new approach by providing a single mapping and cross-reference process between the EDI segments and elements in the business system database.

As it is used to map and cross-reference, the EDI granule provides a thorough workflow process, tying the incoming or outgoing EDI document to a specific business transaction. This enables the user to drill down from a business document or an EDI document to view the related transactions.



Total Access to Data

The EDI Trace window shows an example of all transactions that were created and associated with an incoming 850 Purchase Order. Users can drill down to view any document displayed on the screen.

EDI Standards

The EDI granule fully supports both the X12 (North American) and EDIFACT (European) standards. In fact, both standards are often supported within a single transmission.

In addition to these standards, each industry has their own specific requirements to support their specific business transactions. The EDI granule operates across all of these standards.

Cross-Reference Engine

Often the most difficult part of the EDI translation process is the cumbersome cross-referencing of incoming data to the business system data. For example, a trading partner typically orders an inventory item using one of several numbers, none of which may be the number used to identify the same item in the business system. Unlike external products, the EDI granule, built inside Dynamics NAV, efficiently handles cross-referencing and mapping in a single step.

The EDI granule cross-references incoming information to Items, Units of Measure, Sell-To, Ship-To, Ship-For, and Distribution Centers.

Specific EDI Requirements

The EDI granule supports specific industry requirements.

Retail Compliance – Total retail compliance, required by large Retail Chains, is accomplished by using the EDI granule in conjunction with the E-Ship granule.

Automotive – The forecast and release process is typically required by automotive manufacturers ordering products for an assembly line. The EDI Granule handles the receipt of a forecast, releases against the forecast, and cumulative total reporting.

Fashion – The Bulk Draw Down process is supported for the Fashion industry, allowing orders to be associated with blanket orders representing the total season commitment by a customer.

Built Inside Dynamics NAV

Perhaps the most important part of an EDI solution is the integration with your internal business processes, yet many companies use a number of software packages, often not integrated, to accomplish this task.

EDI and E-Ship, built inside Dynamics NAV, take a unique approach of integrating all key compliance functions inside a single system, providing "Total Access to Data." From the incoming EDI order, to shipment, Advanced Shipment Notice (ASN), and invoice, the user has a common user interface and access to all the details that make up the day-to-day operation.

Increased Customer Satisfaction

With superior visibility to real-time information, EDI provides you the tools necessary to automate and streamline your business processes, which enable you to respond to your customer demands on the fly, and with accurate information.

Respond Quickly to Changing Requirements

Whether setting up a new Trading Partner, or responding to changes with an existing one, the EDI granule provides you the tools to quickly and efficiently comply with your customer's or vendor's changing requirements.

Key EDI Benefits:

- The EDI mapping and translation tool maps EDI elements directly to the database fields.
- Packaged EDI maps are available for major trading partners.
- Extensive Cross-Reference Engine for customer, distribution center, store, item and unit of measure definition.

Combine EDI and E-Ship

- All modules and functions integrated into a single Supply Chain system, providing "Total Access to Data."
- Pack Line Scanning and Standard Pack options capture package level detail for the Advanced Shipment Notice.
- Bill of Lading for planning and executing shipments.
- Label Formatter for UCC compliant labels and custom formatting.

About the Developer

Lanham Associates began its relationship with Navision in 1997 by creating the product's first distribution functionality, Advanced Distribution. A certified MBS ISV, Lanham Associates, has been creating complementary supply chain planning and execution products inside Dynamics NAV ever since.

Current products include Retail Supplier Link (RSL), EDI, E-Ship, E-Receive, Advanced Forecasting and Procurement (AFP), Credit Card Processing, ADCS Warehousing, History Management, and Security Management.

Lanham Associates maintains high standards for product excellence, and has been the recipient of both the President's Club and Inner Circle Awards each year since being affiliated with Microsoft. Lanham products are available through the extensive Microsoft Business Solutions reseller channel.

Related Fact Sheets

- E-Ship for Dynamics NAV
- Advanced Forecasting and Procurement for Dynamics NAV

Related White Papers

- Retail supplier Link Electronic Data Interchange

Contact Information

For more information contact your local Microsoft Business Solutions reseller or contact Lanham Associates at 678-379-4200, extension 102 or sales@lanhamassoc.com. More information is available on this and other products at www.lanhamassoc.com.