

EDI for Business Success in Food Distribution

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) is the computer to computer exchange of business documents in a standard electronic format between a customer and supplier. Therefore, it enables businesses to eliminate cost and inefficiencies from transactional processes.

The electronic exchange of data between applications across a supply chain allows company data to be sent on time with accuracy, efficiency, and cost reduction.

- **Accuracy:** Data quality will be improved with at least a 30-40% reduction in transactions with errors ([Benefits of EDI](#)).
- **Cost Reduction:** EDI will reduce or eliminate paper reproduction, storage, filing, postage, and document retrieval.
- **Efficiency:** Quick processing of accurate business documents leads to less re-working of orders, fewer stock outs, and fewer canceled orders.
- **Mapping** is an important feature of EDI because it creates unity between trading partners.

Stronger relationships are built between business partners due to the accuracy, and efficiency in data that EDI provides. Edible Software has a partnership with EDI provider, SPS Commerce, to make your day to day business tasks more efficient. Our EDI Module allows for the transactions of 850 Purchase Orders, 810 Invoices, 832 Price/Sales Catalogue and 855 Purchase Order Acknowledgement.

Edible Software's EDI system will allow your company to reach its full potential.

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Problem Solved

Businesses that do not use EDI are at a disadvantage because of the expenses and errors that come with handling data manually. EDI will enable your business to gain a competitive advantage by transitioning from producing paper based documents to electronic documents. Hence, reducing costs, increasing accuracy and efficiency.

*... reducing costs,
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Expenses

EDI will reduce or eliminate paper reproduction, storage, filing, postage, and document retrieval, lowering your transaction costs. A major electronics manufacturer calculates the cost of processing an order manually at \$38.00 compared to just \$1.35 for an order processed using EDI ([Benefits of EDI](#)).

Efficiency

Productivity will increase because of the elimination of illegible faxes, lost orders or inaccurate phone orders. Transferring documents from paper to electronic will provide your staff the opportunity to work on higher valued tasks.

- **Quick processing** reduces re-keying of orders, and fewer canceled orders of business documents.
- **Automating** the transfer of data between applications across a supply chain will enable your business' critical data to be sent on time and tracked in real time.
- **Sellers** will benefit from improved cash flow and reduced order-to-cash cycles. Organizations will be able to decrease their order fulfillment times due to the automated nature of importing documents.

EDI also offers businesses the opportunity to cut costs, which increases profits. Errors in manually entered data can lead to delays in shipping and possible charge-backs. With EDI, manual entry can be reduced; increasing productivity and better control over your operations.

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Accuracy

EDI can enhance business cycles by:

Exchanging transactions in minutes instead of the days or weeks of wait time.

Reducing transactions with errors, eliminating illegible handwriting, lost faxes/mail and keying and re-keying errors.

Using EDI can reduce the order-to cash cycle time, improving business partner transaction and relationships.

Edible Software's EDI module allows for the transaction of:

- **850** Purchase Orders used in retail for products to be shipped to a DC/store or end consumer. Can contain a single ship to provided marked for/cross dock packing details.
- **810** Invoice used by retail where supplier requests payment for products or services rendered.
- **832** Price/Sales Catalogue used in general retail to obtain supplier item information and load to their item master file for new good, item updates or discontinued product notification.
- **855** Purchase Order Acknowledgment used by retail as an acknowledgment of the purchase order. Also used by retail and grocery as a suggested PO from the supplier to the buyer for Vendor Managed Inventory. ([SPS Commerce](#)).

Edible Software's EDI module will increase productivity in your company's daily tasks. Eliminating Errors in Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable documents will allow for increased gross profits and better relationships with your business partners. Through Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable, Edible Software is able to focus on customers and Vendors using the 850, 810, 832 and 855 documents.

The major goal within mapping is to avoid the need for custom interfaces as much as possible.

Customer EDI

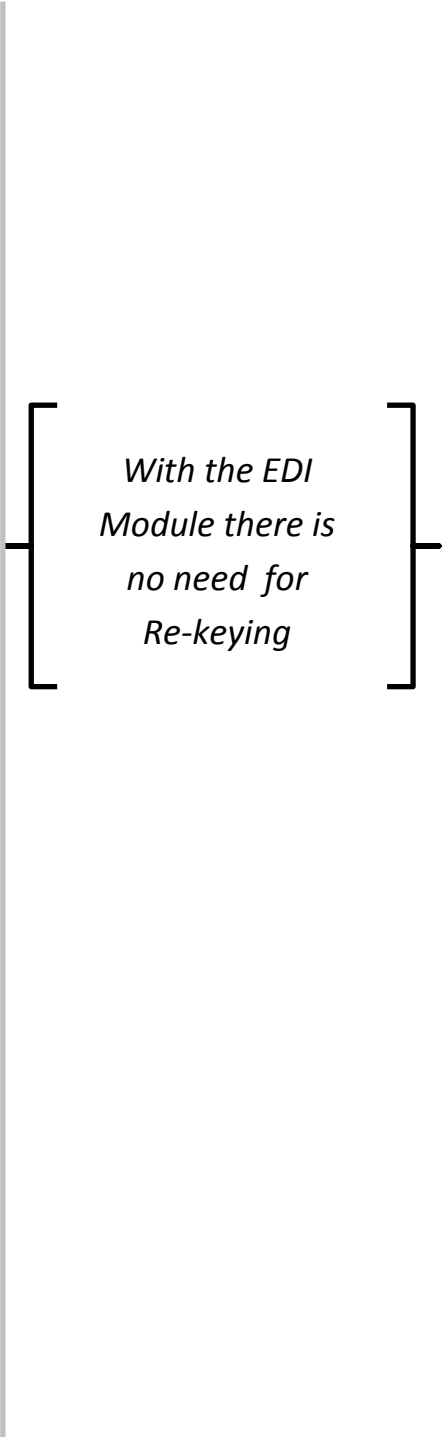
Accounts Receivable in Edible Software allows your customers to send a Purchase Order from their system to Edible Software in which a Sales Order in Edible Software is created. Edible Software will also send an invoice to the customer and an electronic price list.

Vendor EDI

Accounts Payable allows vendors to receive purchase orders, invoices, and prices into Vendor Item Specifications through Edible Software.

Mapping

Mapping is used to create unity between trading partners. The map is defined to the EDI translation software. When a transaction enters the system, the EDI translator uses the map to determine where each incoming field goes and whether the data needs to be reformatted. The major goal within mapping is to avoid the need for custom interfaces as much as possible; especially custom edits per individual business partner. The more standardized the data formats, the better the system performance and the less need for specific programming. Edible Software customizes mapping for every customer.



*With the EDI
Module there is
no need for
Re-keying*

Conclusion

Productivity is imperative to the success of any business. Edible Software's EDI module will enable your company to have a competitive advantage. EDI will strengthen your relationships with business partners and increase your customer base. Please give us a call for more information on how EDI can increase your gross profits!

Mission Statement

Edible Software is the premier provider of inventory control, traceability, and full accounting systems software. We are proud of the accuracy and reliability of our software and the many benefits that it has provided to our clients and their clients. We cherish the close relationships that we have built with our clients and the care that our staff displays towards each of them. Our goal is to be the best wholesale food distribution software company in terms of service, support, and product quality.

Further Reading

"Benefits of EDI" by GXS, Inc.

<http://www.edibasics.com/benefits-of-edi/>

SPS Commerce Testing and Certification

<http://www.spscommerce.com/products/testing-and-certification/>

**For More
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