

# Glossary of EDI Terms

**ANSI (American National Standards Institute):** A voluntarily committee that coordinates standards. Its subcommittee, the ANSI Accredited Standards Committee (ANSI ASC) recommends a standard referred to as ANSI ASC X12 or simply X12.

**ASN (Advance Ship Notice or Advance Shipping Notification):** A Notification of forthcoming delivery of product.

**AS2 (Internet Applicability Statement 2):** Specifies how to transport data and the means to connect, deliver, validate and reply to data in a secure and reliable manner. AS2 Software specifically supports transmissions using the AS2 protocol, such as AS2 Complete from 1 EDI Source.

**Communications Session:** The uninterrupted flow of data from one computer system to the other.

**Compliance Checking:** A process for ensuring that the EDI transmissions comply with the established rules.

**CSV File (Comma Separated Values File):** A File format in which the data elements are separated with commas, also known as a Comma Delimited File.

**Data Element:** The smallest unit of EDI information. A data element could be a code, a name, a quantity or any other individual piece of information.

**Data Mapping:** The method by which information in one format is restructured into a different format.

**EDIFACT (Electronic Data Interchange For Administration, Commerce and Transport):** A standard different from X12. It's usually used in European countries and among the automotive industry.

**EDIINT (EDI over the INternet):** The ability to send EDI data directly over the Internet without the use of a VAN.

**Electronic Mailbox:** Term referring to the place (located within a third party's provider system) where an EDI transmission is stored for pickup or delivery.

**Fixed Length:** Term that describes a data field with an established number of characters.

**Flat File:** Alphanumeric and/or numeric files with no control characters used for transferring data.

**Functional Acknowledgement (FA) (997):** An EDI transaction set sent from the receiver of the EDI transmission to the sender. The 997 indicates receipt and acceptability of data and allows the receiver to notify the sender if problems have been encountered within the data.

**FTP (File Transfer Protocol):** Standard Internet protocol for transferring files. FTPs (File Transfer Protocol secure) uses FTP with support for encryption protocols TLS or SSL to provide greater security in transferring files.

**Map:** The pattern in which EDI information is to be arranged.

**ODBC (Open Data Base Connectivity):** A standard software interface for injecting and extracting data to and from computer systems, such as business or accounting software applications.

**Protocol:** Rules that determine the format and transmission of data between the sender and the receiver.

**Segment:** A grouping of one or more data elements that appears as a line of information within an individual EDI message.

**sFTP (SSH File Transfer Protocol):** Using FTP with the SSH (Secure Shell) security protocol for a higher level of security in transferring files.

**Trading Partner:** The business with which you are exchanging data.

**Transaction Set:** The electronic version of a written document.

**Translator:** A software tool that accepts an EDI transmission and converts the data into another format.

**GS1-128 (formerly UCC-128):** Scannable, barcoded label located on the outside of a shipping carton.

**VAN (Value Added Network):** A third-party EDI service provider that supplies a communication link between companies so they may exchange electronic transmissions.

**X12:** A standard of EDI

**XML (Extensible Markup Language):** A simple and flexible text format designed to meet the needs of electronic publishing.