



# Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in Voyager

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Document released: October 2009

Web address: <http://www.exlibrisgroup.com>

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# 1

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## Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) is a mechanism that can be used to communicate between vendors and your Voyager® Acquisitions module. The information that can be transferred by this method includes purchase orders, invoices, serial claims, and serial claim responses. By implementing EDI, your library can benefit from notable time and cost savings with staff not needing to enter in order, invoice, and serial claim information that would normally come into the organization in a hard copy format. Using EDI, this information is uploaded into and sent from your Acquisitions module through FTP.

### EDI in Voyager®

Voyager uses the internationally recognized EDIFACT (Electronic Data Interchange for Administration Commerce and Transport) Standard for communication of transaction messages. An EDIFACT file is composed of ordinary text characters that are arranged according to special coding rules that are developed and maintained by EDItUR<sup>1</sup> (<http://www.editeur.org>). The transmission is subdivided into *segments*. Segments are strung together in the order specified by the protocol to create messages, which are in turn strung together to create *transmission units*. Each transmission unit begins with a UNB segment and ends with a UNZ segment. Each message begins with a UNH segment and ends with a UNT segment. Before the first transmission unit, there is usually a UNA segment that specifies the control characters for the transmission.

Sample of a partial EDI invoice:

```
UNA:+.?'
UNB+UNOB:2+HAR:ZZ+EXLIBRISUNIV:ZZ+970227:1420+2++++++1'
UNH+0000340001+INVOIC:D:93A:UN:EAN007'
BGM+380+0000231954+9'
DTM+137:20090120:102'
```

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<sup>1</sup> EDItEUR is the international group coordinating development of the standards infrastructure for electronic commerce in the book and serials industries

NAD+SU+++OTTO HARRASSOWITZ:BOOKSELLERS & SUBSCRIPTION  
AGENTS:::ZS+TAUNUSSTR. 5::P.O.BOX  
2929+WIESBADEN+GERMANY+65019+DE'  
RFF+API:HARRAS'  
NAD+BY+++ACQUISITIONS DEPARTMENT:FORBES LIBRARY:EXLIBRIS  
UNIVERSITY+MANHATTAN & ANDERSON  
AVES.+DESPLAINES, IL+IL+60018166+US'

Additional information about the EDIFACT standard can be found in the Voyager® Acquisitions User's Guide in the chapter titled *Electronic Data Interchange*.

## Implementing EDI

### Implementing EDI in your library:

- 1 Determine if your vendor is certified.

There is an up-to-date list of certified vendors and the message types that they are able to transmit on the Ex Libris Documentation Center (Doc Portal).

If your vendor is not certified for EDI with Voyager you can request that testing and certification take place by submitting an incident via [eService](#).

- 2 Contact the vendor to get an envelope address for your vendor and for your library.

The envelope address is a mutually agreed upon unique code that identifies your library to your vendor and your vendor to your library. This information is required in order to create an EDI Connection Profile in Acquisitions.

- 3 Create a new EDI Connection Profile in your Acquisitions module.

Detailed information about this process can be found in procedures titled “Creating an EDI Connection Profile” in the Voyager® Acquisitions User's Guide.

- 4 Once you have successfully completed the procedure, you can begin sending and loading EDI messages.

Additional information about EDI can be found in the Voyager® Acquisitions User's Guide.