Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in the Retail Industry

EDI is used in the retail industry to improve operational efficiency and reduce transaction cost across the retail supply chain, which comprises of Large Retailers, Manufacturers, Suppliers, Logistics providers, etc. EDI technology enables a large retailer to place orders to manufacturers across the globe. The entire process from sourcing of goods to delivery has to be very cost-effective and efficient in order for the Retailer to be competitive. Hundreds of container trucks will arrive at the retail store every day, which have to be quickly dispensed with.

Examples of organizations using EDI in the Retail Industry
- Wal-Mart, Makro, Pick n Pay, Shoprite/Checkers, SPAR, Woolworths, Toys R Us, Sears, Bon Marche, Amazon, Family Dollar, Hagar Clothing Company, Halfords, Macys West, Target.

Association for EDI in the Retail Industry: Zellers, Bi Mart, Roundys Supermarkets, Kmart, Topco Associates LLC, Target, Value City, Amazon, Amazon DC, GS1 - Retail Industry

Some of the popular EDI messages used in the Retail industry include:

Order related
- Price/Sales catalog, Purchase Order messages, Invoice

Shipping related
- Advanced shipping notice (ASN). Shipping manifest, Merchandize Return

Finance related
- Payment Order/Remittance Advice

Report related
- Product Activity Data

Inventory Related
- Warehouse Inventory Adjustment Advice, Inventory Inquiry/Advice

Popular Data Formats: X12, EDIFACT, XML, Proprietary formats, Web services

Benefits of EDI in the Retail Industry:
1. Supply chain is visible on EDI documents (orders, invoices, ASNs).
2. Helps in faster ordering and shipment; thereby helping in lowering the inventory costs.
3. Reduced reconciliation issues and hence faster payments.
4. Increased flexibility in the response to the ever-changing demands of customers.

Does this interest you?

To explore EDISPHERE - Data Integration Solution for integrating your trading community with your internal applications, please contact info@edisphere.com

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