EDI directly from ERP – 100% EDI ready with ecosio.ERPEL

The IT service provider Griesser EDV specializes in the organization and implementation of business software. Since its foundation in 1988, the owner-operated company has been developing "commercial software" (organization of operational procedures, programming of adaptations, interfaces, or tailored solutions).

For Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Griesser EDV uses the cloud based "myfactory", which includes the business areas of purchase, distribution, warehousing, sales, and management of information about clients, suppliers, and articles (material/ service). "myfactory" is used in a variety of sectors, including commerce, manufacturing companies, and service providers.

> *„We found ecosio rather by coincidence, but I quickly understood that ecosio had the solutions we need for our ERP software.“*
>
> Werner Griesser, Owner, Griesser EDV

ERP with built in EDI functionality

EDI connections used to be rather cumbersome for Griesser: an individual interface had to be programmed every time a Griesser client needed an EDI connection. This all changed when ecosio got involved, because ecosio.ERPEL is the perfect product for EDI with ERP.

ERPEL (ERP Exchange Language) is ecosio's leading EDI innovation. ERPEL makes it possible to connect ERP systems via direct integration, a single standardized transmission channel, and a unified document format. In order to integrate the ecosio.ERPEL functionality in an ERP system, ecosio provides a modern REST-API that allows ecosio.ERPEL's complete scope of functions to be seamlessly integrated in the ERP system's user interface, making it 100% EDI ready. It didn't take long to figure out this was the perfect solution for Griesser.

ecosio.ERPEL was first put to the test when Griesser received a request for an ERP system with "built in EDI." A client, "Trend & Trade" (T&T) needed to implement a complex ordering process (drop shipping) via EDI for their client XXXLutz, including communication with the logistics provider Fiege.
The implementation had to take place quickly, because XXXLutz was preparing a campaign of special promotions.

Drop shipping means that the end user orders goods from a retailer (XXXLutz), for example using their online shop, and these goods are delivered to the end user directly from the manufacturer (Trend & Trade). Delivery is managed by a logistics provider (Fiege). The end user pays the retailer (XXXLutz) directly, and the manufacturer (T&T) invoices the retailer. The logistics provider (Fiege) communicates with both companies.
Every step in the process includes communication using a variety of documents such as orders, delivery notes, delivery confirmations, invoices, etc.

One contact person – one EDI interface

A detailed look at the individual steps of business processing:

- ORDERS are transmitted from XXXLutz to T&T.
- T&T confirms the ORDERS using ORDRSP to XXXLutz.
- The logistics company Fiege receives the transport order (IFT-MIN), which includes the end client's delivery address.
- Fiege confirms the transport order (Transport Status / IFTSTA). This document includes shipping number, tracking URL, etc.
- T&T reports the delivery to XXXLutz by sending the delivery note (DESADV), including delivery details like the tracking URL, etc.
- XXXLutz receives the invoice (INVOIC).

> *"I don't believe there's a future for ERP systems that don't have the possibility of a professional, flexible EDI connection!"*
>
> Werner Griesser, Owner, Griesser EDV

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Werner Griesser summarizes his requirements for ecosio: "As the provider of the all-in-one ERP system "my factory", it was essential that we use a single interface to connect with various partners (suppliers and clients) with whom our clients communicate. EDI directly from the ERP system had to be efficient, cost effective, and above all, implementable on short notice when needed."

Optimizing business processes with ERP integrated EDI

ecosio is an all-around provider of EDI services dedicated to smartly networking twenty-first century companies. ecosio enables enterprises of all sizes to continually optimize their business processes and prepares them for Industry 4.0 and flexible supply chain management. ecosio's products grow along with client needs while remaining user-friendly, cutting edge, and cost-efficient. ecosio's team looks back on many years of experience with EDI, and continues to take on leading roles in national and international standardization projects, including ebInterface, UN/CEFACT, and others.

> *„Griesser EDV's requirements were complex, especially considering the tight timeframe. But ERPEL is our leading product for the ERP market, so the implementation went smoothly!"*
>
> Marco Zapletal, Managing Director, ecosio GmbH

For Griesser EDV, ecosio completely integrated ecosio.ERPEL in "myfactory" (ORDERS, ORDRSP, INVOIC, DESADV, transport order (IFTMIN), transport status (IFTSTA)), including using an API and end-to-end monitoring – and it went off without a hitch.
"Our cooperation was very intense during the first few projects, since we first had to integrate the ERPEL connector. We worked in close connection with the team at ecosio, and they proved to be very reliable partners," explains Werner Griesser, owner of Griesser EDV.

> *„Projects with Griesser EDV clients (like T&T/ XXXLutz and Schranz/hogast) consistently show how well ecosio.ERPEL is suited for ERP-EDI solutions. We anticipate integrating our leading product in multiple current ERP systems"*
>
> Christoph Ebm, Managing Director, ecosio GmbH

End to end solution & monitoring directly from the ERP user interface

Griesser EDV's clients were pleased to capitalize on the new offer. The advantages of one universal interface were clear: a quick, efficient, and cost-effective EDI connection with all business partners. That the initial investment can be used for additional partner connections was a deciding factor: clients pay for the "myfactory ERPEL connector" only once. Costs are not incurred until new connections are implemented.

"One thing I particularly liked about ecosio was that we knew our contact people and they were always the same," explains Werner Griesser. "Especially during the implementation and test phases, their availability was exceptional! Right from the beginning, ecosio was incredibly professional. It was clear that ecosio is highly specialized in EDI. Marco Zapletal has led all of our projects until now, and his personal involvement has been remarkable."

Schranz Hotelausstattung is another Griesser EDV client. ecosio created a dedicated "hogast interface" for their EDI connection with the hogast Group – a comprehensive tourist enterprise service provider for food & beverage, consumer goods & capital assets, financial services, personnel recruitment, etc. Now all companies that do business with hogast can use this interface.

> *"ecosio.ERPEL has proven its value. With the help of this cutting-edge solution, we've been able to fling a door to the EDI world wide open. Without making any fundamental changes, we can now offer our clients connections with various suppliers and clients, without long lead times or significant additional costs."*
>
> Werner Griesser, Owner, Griesser EDV

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„Anyone who plans to rely on EDI in the future is in good hands with ecosio."

Werner Griesser, Owner, Griesser EDV

IN A NUTSHELL

Requirements
- » Complete ERPEL integration in myfactory (ORDERS, ORDRSP, INVOIC, DESADV; transport order (IFTMIN), transport status (IFTSTA)), including end-to-end monitoring and API use
- » Implementation of a complex drop shipping process including coordination of logistic processes using EDI

Implementation
- » Analysis of XXXLutz (and Fiege) requirements
- » Request of test ORDERS from XXXLutz
- » Approval of the ORDRSP generated by T&T based on test ORDERS from XXXLutz
- » Coordination of the formats for transport instruction and transport status with Fiege (Fiege uses the native ERPEL format)
- » Exchange of test IFTMIN/IFTSTA with Fiege
- » Restoring IFTSTA test data for Griesser
- » XXXLutz approval of DESADV and INVOIC
- » End-to-end test and coordination with all parties
- » Going live

ecosio advantages
- » One contact person – one EDI partner – one interface
- » EDI experts and excellent customer service
- » Tailor-made products and solutions
- » ERPEL is integrated as a native feature in "myfactory.ERP"
- » Innovative add-on for maximum client value
- » Only minor adaptations required before the interface is ready to use
- » Minimal initial costs and mapping costs for ERPEL to ERPEL

Technical details for ecosio.ERPEL
- » Supports all business partner communication protocols (X.400, AS2, OFTP2, SFTP, etc.)
- » Supports all business partner document formats (EDIFACT, VDA, CSV, ebInterface, ZUGFeRD – inbound and outbound, UBL, various XMLDialects, FlatText etc.)
- » Supports special requirements such as digital signatures
- » Proven ecosio end-to-end monitoring directly integrated in the ERP user interface
- » Exchange (send/receive) of price catalogues (both partial and complete catalogue data) – possible to convert to EDIFACT PRICATs

Technical details for myfactory.ERP with ecosio.ERPEL
- » Web-based ERP solution with built in EDI functionality
- » Cloud-based or installed in house
- » Operating system independent
- » All data always accessible everywhere, also from mobile devices

V3.0