



# Electronic Data Interchange Manual (EDI)

---

## **Contacts**

Mercedes-Benz Group AG  
FAO/G department  
HPC T121  
70546 Stuttgart/Germany

Phone +49 (0) 711 - 83126  
E-Mail: [mbox\\_vda-invoicing@daimler.com](mailto:mbox_vda-invoicing@daimler.com)



Copyright © Mercedes-Benz Group AG. All rights reserved. Any titles from this document may not be reproduced in any form (by printing, photocopying, microfilm or any other method) and may not be processed, copied or distributed using electronic systems without explicit approval from the publisher.

# Table of contents

Table of contents	3
1 Invoice and credit data according to VDA 4938	4
2 Objectives of the invoice EDI	4
2.1 Notes on the use of invoice EDI at Mercedes-Benz	4
2.2 Structure of message VDA4938	5
2.3 Test procedure	7
2.4 Communication process during data interchange	7

## 1 Invoice and credit data according to VDA 4938

Die Mercedes-Benz Group AG, other group member companies and their subsidiaries are working hard to design more effective administrative processes. To this end, our aim is to only receive invoices in electronic form in the future.

To establish a standardized and efficient process between suppliers and recipients that will be beneficial to both sides in terms of costs and quality, we have implemented the VDA 4938 T2 Recommendation (UN/EDIFACT INVOIC D.07A) universally throughout group member companies.

## 2 Objectives of the invoice EDI

The following main objectives are achieved by transmitting invoice data by EDI:

- Rapid transmission of invoice data from the service provider to the service recipient
  - => basis for punctual payment
- Avoidance of renewed data entry by the invoice recipient and thus avoidance of incorrect entries and the resulting payment delays
- No loss of documents along the postal route, and consequently less time spent on dunning procedures
- Standardized processes for all plants & subsidiaries of Mercedes-Benz in Germany, our plants in Hungary, Romania, Poland and the associated third-party companies

### 2.1 Notes on the use of invoice EDI at Mercedes-Benz

#### 2.1.1 EDI agreement between the invoicing party and invoice recipient

An EDI agreement must be signed in paper form or Esigning between each company of the supplier and each legal entity of the purchaser before productive operations begin.

The agreement is always made from the point of the view of the purchaser – Mercedes-Benz orientates itself on the VDA Recommendation (likewise contained in VDA4938 T2)

#### 2.1.2 Recipient plant of invoice EDI

The invoice processing of many plants/companies largely takes place in a Shared Service Center. Consequently, the following procedure is used for invoice EDIs.

The invoices must be transmitted in separate data transmission packages per company.

Within the respective legal entity, these can be grouped together.

In doing so, a differentiation is made between Odette ID in the UNB code and the plant in segment RFF+PE and NAD+IV.

The factory detail in this segments is a necessary component of the VDA messages.

See also on the Supplier Portal (URL <https://supplier.mercedes-benz.com>) the corresponding plant overview (under COLLABORATION / ACCOUNTING / Invoice Transmission).

#### 2.1.3 Scope of the electronic data interchange

To achieve invoice EDIs of maximum efficiency, one invoice should be created per delivery note. All the invoices to a company must be gathered in a single data package and sent to that company on a daily/weekly basis.

## 2.2 Structure of message VDA4938

The invoice data is transmitted via EDI according to "VDA Recommendation 4938 - T2".  
For detailed information, please refer to the current attachment  
„VDA4938 Strukturdokument\_VDA\_4938\_11\_2021\_EN.xls“

### 2.2.1 Core data fields per accounting area

Depending on the accounting object, the following segment contents are required by Mercedes-Benz in addition to the other mandatory fields:

#### Allgemeine Daten

#### General Data

Bezeichnung / Denomination	Position / Position	Segment (Nr.) / Segment (No.)	Zulässige Festwerte / Allowed fix values
Dokumentenart Document name code	Kopf/Header	BGM (3)	380, 381
Rechnungsdatum Billing date	Kopf/Header	DTM (4)	137
Liefer-/Leistungsdatum Services rendered date	Kopf/Header	DTM (7)	1

#### Materialbezogene Daten

#### Material Related Data

a) Produktionsmaterial

Production Material

Bezeichnung / Denomination	Position / Position	Segment (Nr.) / Segment (No.)	Zulässige Festwerte / Allowed fix values
Verarbeitungsinformation Processing Information	Kopf / Header	GEI (11)	PM
Sachnummer Kunde Buyer's Article number	Position / Line item	LIN (44)	IN
Werk Plant	Position / Line item	RFF (69)	PE
Abladestelle Place of discharge	Position / Line item	LOC (67)	11
Lieferscheinnummer Despatch note document ident.	Position / Line item	RFF (62)	AAU

## b) Andere Materialien

## Other Materials

<b>Bezeichnung / Denomination</b>	<b>Position / Position</b>	<b>Segment (Nr.) / Segment (No.)</b>	<b>Zulässige Festwerte / Allowed fix values</b>
Verarbeitungsinformation Processing Information	Kopf / Header	GEI (11)	OM
Sachnummer Kunde Buyer's Article number	Position / Line item	LIN (44)	IN
Werk Plant	Position / Line item	RFF (69)	PE
Abladestelle Place of discharge	Position / Line item	LOC (67)	11
Lieferscheinnummer Despatch note document ident.	Position / Line item	RFF (62)	AAU
Bestellnummer Purchase Order number	Position / Line item	RFF (62)	ON

## c) Dienstleistungen

## Services

<b>Bezeichnung / Denomination</b>	<b>Position / Position</b>	<b>Segment (Nr.) / Segment (No.)</b>	<b>Zulässige Festwerte / Allowed fixed values</b>
Verarbeitungsinformation Processing Information	Kopf / Header	GEI (11)	S
Bezeichnung Item description	Position / Line item	IMD (46)	
Werk Plant	Position / Line item	RFF (69)	PE
Bestellnummer Purchase Order number	Position / Line item	RFF (62)	ON

## **2.3 Test procedure**

The technical setup between supplier and T-Systems (service provider of Mercedes-Benz) is commissioned by FAO/G.

The contact person on the supplier side is to be communicated in advance.

The content tests are carried out by FAO/G.

Tests are required for each accounting area before productive operations start.

Test data must be identified through use of test indicator "1" in the segment UNB, data element 0035 (see also Appendix 1 of the EDI agreement).

The EDI agreement can already be signed in parallel during the test phase and must be signed before going live.

## **2.4 Communication process during data interchange**

For every invoice/credit transmission, the service provider T-Systems sends CONTRL and APERAK messages as a standardized receipt acknowledge message and error communication for accounting documentation purposes. This procedure creates a standardized exchange of confirmations/feedback, especially of error messages and warnings, during the processing of accounting documentation according to VDA 4938 T2 (APERAK VDA 4938 T5).