Common EDI Documents in Warehousing & 3PL

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"EDI may seem complicated, but in reality, it is a vehicle to standardize and simplify communications between trading partners."-Charles Intrieri: LEAN Inventory Optimization, 3PL, Supply Chain & Logistics Consulting

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For the Distribution Industry

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI):

EDI is the electronic interchange of business information using a standardized format; a process which allows one company to send information to another company electronically rather than with paper. Business entities conducting business electronically are called trading partners.

EDI lets you collaborate more efficiently with your suppliers and push costs out of the supply chain by eliminating inefficiencies and manual interventions. Data Interchange is an industry leader in supply chain integration, for all types of and size of business.

EDI solutions are used to integrate seamlessly with large and small networks of suppliers. Whether you are trading with a small number of SME suppliers, or a large number of suppliers located around the world, EDI can help with any kind of technical and business requirement, and provide support and resources to manage.

EDI may seem complicated, but in reality, it is a vehicle to standardize and simplify communications between trading partners. Retailers, suppliers, distributors, 3PLs, etc. all can benefit by exchanging important business documents on a secure network and in real-time. This translates into: More accurate information, less manual intervention Increased automation and less paper.

ANSI X12:

The ANSI X12 series of **EDI** transaction sets (documents), divides the transaction sets into market verticals for use in that specific industry or vertical. ANSI stands for American National Standards Institute and the ANSI X12 series are a universal set of standard documents in electronic business transactions for different industries For the Warehousing/3PL industry, the 900 series of documents is the most common transaction set, however, documents from other transaction sets such as the 856 (Advance Ship Notice) are also used.

To simplify the process, the following pages comprise a list of the most commonly used Warehouse and 3PL EDI documents, in numerical order, along with their transaction name with explanations as a quick and easy reference guide:

856 Advance Ship Notice/Manifest:

Data contents of the Advance Ship Notice/Manifest Transaction Set (856) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. The transaction set can be used to list the contents of a shipment of goods as well as additional information relating to the shipment, such as order information, product description, physical characteristics, type of packaging, marking, carrier information, and configuration of goods within the transportation equipment.

The transaction set enables the sender to describe the contents and configuration of a shipment in various levels of detail and provides an ordered flexibility to convey information. The sender of this transaction is the organization responsible for detailing and communicating the contents of a shipment, or shipments, to one or more receivers of the transaction set. The receiver of this transaction set can be any organization having an interest in the contents of a shipment or information about the contents of a shipment

940 Warehouse Shipping Order:

Data contents of the Warehouse Shipping Order Transaction Set (940) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. This transaction set can be used to enable the depositor to advise a warehouse to make a shipment, confirm a shipment, or modify or cancel a previously transmitted shipping order

943 Warehouse Shipping Order:

Data contents of the Warehouse Stock Transfer Shipment Advice Transaction Set (943) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. The transaction set can be used by a depositor or an agent of the depositor to advise the recipient that a transfer shipment has been made. This transaction set provides a receiving location with detail information concerning product being shipped to that location.

944 Warehouse Stock Transfer Receipt Advice:

Data contents of the Warehouse Stock Transfer Receipt Advice Transaction Set (944) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. The transaction set can be used by a receiving location to advise a depositor or an agent of the depositor that a transfer shipment has been received. This transaction set provides the depositor or the depositor's agent with detail information concerning product that has been received

945 Warehouse Shipping Advice:

Data contents of the Warehouse Shipping Advice Transaction Set (945) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. The transaction set can be used by the warehouse to advise the depositor that shipment was made. It is used to reconcile order quantities with shipment quantities.

946 Delivery Information Message:

The transaction set can be used by a receiving location to advise a depositor or an agent of the depositor that a transfer shipment has been received. This transaction set provides the depositor or the depositor's agent with detail information concerning product that has been received.

947 Warehouse Inventory Adjustment Advice:

Data contents of the Warehouse Inventory Adjustment Advice Transaction Set (947) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. The transaction set can be used to inform a warehouse/depositor of a quantity or status change to inventory records. This transaction set provides detail information concerning the internal adjustments which occur between a warehouse and a depositor.

997 Functional Acknowledgement:

Data contents of the Functional Acknowledgment Transaction Set (997) for use within the context of an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) environment. The transaction set can be used to define the control structures for a set of acknowledgments to indicate the results of the syntactical analysis of the electronically encoded documents. The encoded documents are the transaction sets, which are grouped in functional groups, used in defining transactions for business data interchange. This standard does not cover the semantic meaning of the information encoded in the transaction sets.

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) is a critical necessity for many warehouses to communicate with customers, partners and retailers. EDI helps your operations run more efficiently, keeps you current with the requirements of your customers, partners and vendors, and most importantly, ***helps you to remain competitive.*** If you have any questions about this article or Supply Chain Management consulting, my contact information is below: - Charles "Chuck: Intrieri.

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