

WHAT IS UN/CEFACT?

UN/CEFACT, the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business, supports activities dedicated to improving the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transition economies, to **exchange products and relevant services effectively**. Its principal focus is on facilitating national and international transactions, through **the simplification and harmonization of processes, procedures and information flows**, and so contributing to the growth of global commerce.



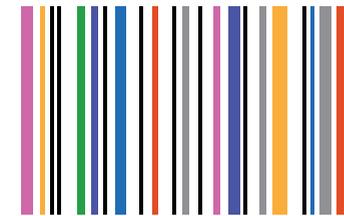
UN/CEFACT has a global mandate. Participation in the UN/CEFACT Forum is open to all. There are some 300 experts representing every region in the world.

Within the framework of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) serves as the focal point for **trade facilitation recommendations and electronic business standards**, covering both commercial and government business processes that can foster growth in international trade and related services. In this context UN/CEFACT was established, as a subsidiary, intergovernmental body of the UNECE.

For more information: <http://www.unece.org/cefact>
<http://tfig.unece.org/>
cefact@unece.org

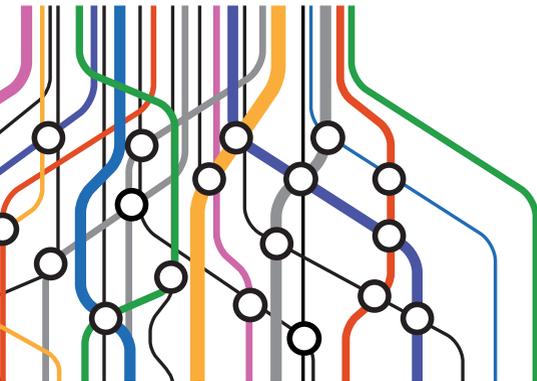
UNECE secretariat: +41 22 917 3254

Lance Thompson
UN/CEFACT Support Unit



UN / CEFAC T

United Nations Centre for
Trade Facilitation and
Electronic Business



CONNECTING COUNTRIES

UN/CEFACT standards, recommendations and guidelines provide a bridge between international trading partners worldwide

DRIVING PROGRESS

At the UN/CEFACT's Forum, experts produce best-in-class instruments to expand global trade, including for Least Developed Countries

IMPROVING LIVES

UN/CEFACT delivers opportunities to reduce procedures for international traders, rendering economic benefits to people everywhere, notably to small and medium sized enterprises

SINGLE WINDOW

UN/CEFACT developed the first guidance on Single Window and that definition has been used as the basis for all subsequent work. Our guidance covers implementation, data, legal, interoperability.

DOCUMENT LAYOUT

Since the 1960s UN/CEFACT and its predecessors have provided standards for the standardization of the layout of trade documents. The UN Layout Key is the basis of almost all cross border trade documents.

E INVOICING

The UN/CEFACT Cross-Industry Invoice has been chosen as one of the obligatory formats for all public procurement for certain countries and its use will facilitate cross border exchanges.

PROCESS DRIVEN

Traditional electronic messages reflect their original paper documents rather than supporting modern process collaborations such as blockchain. UN/CEFACT is leading the path in this new approach.

These are some examples of UN/CEFACT's deliverables. The full list can be found and downloaded free of charge on our website: www.unece.org/cefact

UN/EDIFACT

The first global electronic data interchange format, UN/EDIFACT is still today the most important centrally developed and maintained EDI standard covering transport, regulatory, supply chain and more.

NTFB (National Trade Facilitation Bodies)

Trade facilitation is not just the domain of the public sector. To be truly effective, private sector concerns and input must be fully considered. This is reflected in UN/CEFACT Recommendations 4 & 40.

TOURISM

Improving tourism capabilities at a local level helps to improve lives and economies. UN/CEFACT develops and maintains a series of messages designed to enable small scale lodgings to enter markets.

SUSTAINABLE FISHERY

The UN/CEFACT FLUX messages are used in more and more countries to declare fish catches, conformity to regulations & port entries. Their use allow cross-border communication of the information seamlessly.

E SPS CERTIFICATES

Sanitary and Phytosanitary certificates are a regular part of imports and exports. The UN/CEFACT eCert is used to communicate these in international trade.

