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HUNGARIAN EDIFACT REPORT

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Hungarian EDIFACT report
March - September 1996

Probably the most important EDIFACT related event in Hungary so far was the signing of a series of cooperation agreements between MATÁV, the Hungarian telecommunications company, and 12 large Hungarian and multinational companies mainly from the trade sector, in June 1996. Within the framework of the agreements MATÁV supplies the companies with the necessary software and facilities, helps with local implementation and training, and applies special charges for the entire project package. Involved in the cooperation is EAN Hungary, which provides the EAN subsets and diverse identification codes. It is expected that these large companies – once their EDI systems are operational – will persuade their clients and suppliers to use EDI.

The feasibility study for a Hungarian Trade Point has been prepared by SZÁMALK-SOFTEC under a contract with the Ministry of Industry and Trade. The study may constitute the basis of further action in the establishment of the Hungarian TP Association.

This year, the first work plan of HUNPRO has come to an end. Its future role, position and staff are currently being examined.

An EDI Forum for organisations using and interested in EDI/electronic commerce is under constitution. The activities of the Forum will include awareness, and the support and coordination of Hungarian EDI implementations and development.

In May, the Ministry of Industry and Trade organized a half day awareness session about electronic commerce for company managers. The event featured speakers from MATÁV and EAN Hungary.

In June, the second national EDI users' conference was organized by HUNPRO's secretariat. The event, which was sponsored by the Ministry of Transport, Telecommunications and Water Management, and MATÁV attracted 140 participants from several sectors of the economy, the state administration and the academic community.

Following the restructuring of standardization work in Hungary, the technical committee for electronic data interchange within the Hungarian Standards Institute has reconstituted itself, and prepared the Hungarian translation of the UN Trade Data Element Directory. The translation of the International Forwarding and Consolidation Summary Message (IFCSUM) and the publication of the ISO 6523 (Structure for the Identification of Organizations) are currently underway.

The Hungarian version of the EFTA booklet „Guide to the implementation of EDI-EDIFACT” is presently in the process of publishing. Another booklet giving the functional descriptions of UN/EDIFACT messages, known as Henry's Yellow Book, has been translated into Hungarian and will be published in October this year.

Budapest, 12 September 1996