What is UN/CEFACT?

• UN/CEFACT = United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

• Objectives
  • Simple, transparent and effective processes for global business
  • Efficient and automated exchange of information

• Outputs
  • Global Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business Recommendations and Standards

• Means
  • Public Private Sector Partnership – over 300 experts from government and business
  • Meet virtually every week plus two Forums per year
UN/CEFACT Mission

• UN/CEFACT’s mission is to improve the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transitional 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 contribute to the growth of global commerce.
UN/CEFACT Deliverables

• Recommendations
  • High level guidance on key points in International Trade
  • Internationally agreed and endorsed by the UN
  • Can also provide code lists for key aspects of trade

• Business Requirements Specifications (BRS)
  • A semantic guide on a given commercial procedure
  • A syntax neutral documentation and conformity rules and requirements for the development of an e-commerce solution

• Requirements Specification Mappings (RSM)
  • A documentation that explains how to construct an electronic message around a specific business need
  • Usually paired with a BRS

• XML Schema, EDIFACT...
Single Window Family of Recommendations

• Rec 33 Recommendation and Guidelines on establishing a Single Window
• Rec 34 Data Simplification and Standardization for International Trade
• Rec 35 Establishing a legal framework for international trade Single Window

• Project on Single Window Interoperability
• Project on SW Operational and Governance issues
• Project on Key vocabulary related to SW
Recommendation 33 defines a Single Window as:

- a facility that allows **parties** involved in trade and transport to lodge standardized information and documents with a single entry point to fulfill all import, export, and transit-related **regulatory** requirements.

- If information is electronic, then **individual data elements** should only be submitted once.

Source: “Recommendation and Guidelines on establishing a Single Window to enhance the efficient exchange of information between trade and government,” Recommendation 33, United Nations, 2005

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/recommendations/rec33/rec33_trd352e.pdf
Recommendation 1: UN Layout Key

- Specifically endorsed in the WCO Revised Kyoto Convention and the WTO TF Agreement
- Provides a common basis for the layout of trade-related documents and the information they contain
  - Basis for the EU Single Administrative Document (SAD)
  - Endorsed by key international organizations
- All data elements in UNLK aligned documents have electronic equivalents in UN/EDIFACT, ebXML, ...
- Recommendation text is currently being revised and updated
Use of International Codes / UNECE Recommendations

- **Rec 16**: UN/Locode
- **Rec 19**: Mode of Transport
- **Rec 21**: Package Codes
- **Rec 15**: Shipping Marks
- **Rec 24**: Status Codes
- **Rec 7**: Date Formats
- **Rec 8**: UNIC
- **Rec 9**: INCOTERMS
- **Rec 5**: Country Codes
- **Rec 3**: Commodity Code
- **Rec 20**: Units of Measurement
- **Other EDIFACT Code Lists**
Core Component Library (UN/CCL)

- One of the key deliverables of UN/CEFACT
- Defines all terms related to trade, providing a common semantic content of data and a common format
- Contains over a thousand reusable core components provided in a business context
- Covers all domains of UN/CEFACT (see structure)
- Also integrates requirements from other organizations such as the WCO, SWIFT, GS1, CITES, US Government, German Government, Basel, ACORD, ebXML Asia

- Syntax neutral
  - Can be used to develop messages in specific syntaxes such as EDIFACT or XML etc.
UN/EDIFACT standard for structured business messages

- Comprise a set of internationally agreed standards, directories, and guidelines for the electronic interchange of structured data, between independent computerized information systems.
- Standardized representation of semantics
- Concise data format
- Since approximately 1990
- Semantic directories developed/published by UN/CEFACT
- Syntax jointly developed/published by ISO TC154 and UN/CEFACT
- Probably the largest worldwide use besides paper, with room for specialization (local, industry)
- Decoupling ERP system dependencies in the supply chain
- Over 200 messages covering multiple domains. For example:
  - Customs (customs declaration, cargo report, ...)
  - Commercial (orders, invoices, remittance advice, ...)
  - Transport (Bill of Lading, manifest, ...)
  - Logistics (despatch advice, shipping instruction, inventory report...)
  - Master data (price catalogue, ...)
  - Many industries (retail, DIY, container handling, ...)
Standardizing Business Processes and Data – UN/CEFACT Deliverables

- **BRS**
  Business Requirement Specification
  Creates a high-level semantic description of business processes
  Who? When? What business process?

- **RSM**
  Requirements Specification Mappings
  Defines the data elements and business process models which are to be exchanged in a business process
  What data for this business process?

- **UN/CCL**
  Core Component Library
  All of the data elements (as well as the data elements in their business context) are entered into this semantic library
  Data harmonized with all other existing business processes

- **CCBDA**
  Core Component Business Document Assembly
  Creates a subset of the CCL with the corresponding RSM which will reply to this business process

- **CCTS**
  Core Component Technical Specification
  Explains how to create new data elements and their relations within the library

- **NDR**
  Naming & Design Rules
  Defines how to create a XML schema from the UN/CCL

- **XML**
  UN/EDIFACT
  UNTDED
Multi Modal Transport (MMT) Project

- Will produce a subset of the ebXML CCL containing about 250 core components
- Will allow a smooth migration from EDIFACT to XML (or eventually any other syntax)
- Will provide semantic links between CCL and other standards/data dictionaries (UN/EDIFACT, TDED, ITIGG, WCO data model...)

Current status of the MMT project:

- Draft data model and high-level BRS under development

e-CMR project
UN/CEFACT Transport and Logistics Domain

• BRS and/or RSM currently exist for the following:
  • Draft High level Buy-Ship-Pay
  • International forwarding and transport
    • Commercial transport contract for moving of goods
  • Cargo tracing and tracking
  • Proposed SeDAP project [maritime security with IMO]

• Other
  • Support to current UN/LOCODE work
UN/CEFACT Supply Chain

• Supply Chain Reference Data Model (SCRDM) Project
  • Will produce a subset of the ebXML CCL
  • Will provide semantic links between CCL and UN/EDIFACT

• Current status of the SCRDM Project:
  • Project Proposal with five HoD support
  • Presented to the Bureau for approval on August 31st
UN/CEFACT Supply Chain

- BRS and/or RSM currently exist for the following:
  - Invoice
  - Catalogue information process
  - Delivery process
  - Market survey information supply process
  - Ordering process
  - Quotation process
  - Scheduling

- Other deliverable
  - Project schedule and cost performance management

- Under revision
  - Remittance advice
  - eTendering
  - Contract financial execution management
UN/CEFACT – Other work pertinent to logistics

• Agriculture
  • Sanitary/Phytosanitary Certificates (eCERT)
  • Cattle registration information exchange
  • Fishery control
  • CITES

• Environment
  • Transfrontier movement of waste (Basil convention)

• Customs
  • All customs messages are developed at the World Customs Organization.
  • The data model which the WCO produce is based on the same data types as the UN/CEFACT CCL.
  • The data model follows the same semantic framework as the UN/CEFACT CCL.
UN/CEFACT: getting involved

- Participation is open to all experts (with approval from their national Head of Delegation), free of charge

- All UNECE and UN/CEFACT Recommendations, codes, standards and publications are available free of charge on our website subject to the UN IPR policy at:
  
  - www.unece.org/cefact/
  - www.unece.org/
  - www.unece.org/trade
  - www.tfig.unece.org
UN/CEFACT Upcoming meetings

• UN/CEFACT 28th Forum
  • Open to all registered experts
  • September 2016, in Bangkok, THAILAND

• UN/CEFACT 29th Forum
  • Open to all registered experts
  • March 27-31, 2016 in Geneva SWITZERLAND

• UN/CEFACT 22nd Plenary
  • Heads of Delegations and authorized participation only
  • April 3-4, 2016 in Geneva, SWITZERLAND

• Nearly Weekly meetings by working groups by conference calls
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Thank you for your attention.

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