WF The EDI Interface - Basis

The following Help Topics are available:

The EDI interface - general description

The data flow in outbound processing

The data flow in inbound processing

Setting up the EDI interface

Administration of the EDI interface

Testing the EDI interface

Example of an Intermediate Document for a Purchase Order

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The EDI interface - general description

This section provides an overview of the EDI interface.

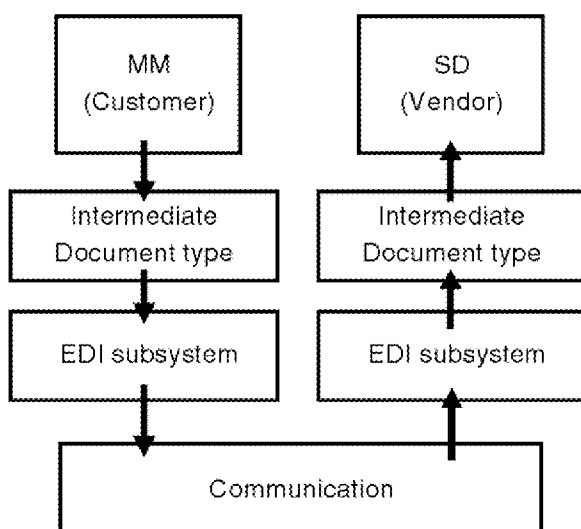**The EDI architecture**

The Intermediate Document type

EDI subsystem: requirements

The EDI architecture

EDI stands for Electronic Data Interchange, and is the electronic exchange of structured data between different applications.   The EDI architecture consists of:

- EDI-enabled applications

  They support the automatic processing of business transactions.

- EDI interface

  It has been designed as an open interface.   The technical and administrative aspects can therefore be separated from the application-specific aspects.   The EDI interface consists of the Intermediate Document types and function modules that form the interface to the application.

- EDI subsystem

  It converts the Intermediate Document types to EDI message types and vice versa.   This element of the EDI architecture is not provided by SAP.

The following figure displays the EDI architecture.

```
┌─────────────┐        ┌─────────────┐
│     MM      │        │     SD      │
│  (Customer) │        │  (Vendor)   │
└──────┬──────┘        └──────▲──────┘
       │                      │
       ▼                      │
┌─────────────┐        ┌─────────────┐
│ Intermediate│        │ Intermediate│
│Document type│        │Document type│
└──────┬──────┘        └──────▲──────┘
       │                      │
       ▼                      │
┌─────────────┐        ┌─────────────┐
│EDI subsystem│        │EDI subsystem│
└──────┬──────┘        └──────▲──────┘
       │                      │
       ▼                      │
┌──────────────────────────────────┐
│          Communication           │
└──────────────────────────────────┘
```

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