IBM ® Supply Chain Business Network Document Conversion Services

On-cloud solution to convert all your fax and other physical documents into EDI format

Highlights

- Enables EDI exchanges with small partners to reduce costs
- Enhances community visibility and reporting to improve process efficiencies
- Automates manual processes to reduce errors and save time
- Enforces business rules at document and process levels to streamline business

Approximately two-thirds of companies still use email, phone, fax, and postal mail for exchanging B2B transactions with at least 30% of their business partners.

Participation in B2B programs remains out of reach for many organizations due to a lack of technical skills, outdated technology, or budgetary restrictions. For enterprises it can be both expensive and inefficient to work with small trading partners who are not participating.

What is Document Conversion Services?

IBM® Document Conversion Services is a cloud-based solution that allows you to convert all fax, email, postal, and all other physical documents from your trading partners into EDI format. It helps extend business-to-business (B2B) capabilities to your business partners, regardless of their size, technical expertise, or budgetary restrictions.

Document Conversion Services is a part of IBM Supply Chain Business Network (SCBN), a cloud-based, digital business network that enables you to streamline collaboration with customers, suppliers, and trading partners across your supply chain by digitizing and automating B2B transactions. SCBN also offers users its inbuilt AI capabilities that deliver deep search and visibility into complete B2B transaction lifecycles to make faster and more informed decisions.

Document Conversion Services is a fax-to-EDI solution that converts faxes, email and postal mail into EDI or XML format to eliminate paper with a high level of efficiency and accuracy. It quickly avoids problems by detecting errors early and handles them more efficiently. It can also help lower B2B costs and improve cycle times and supply chain visibility.

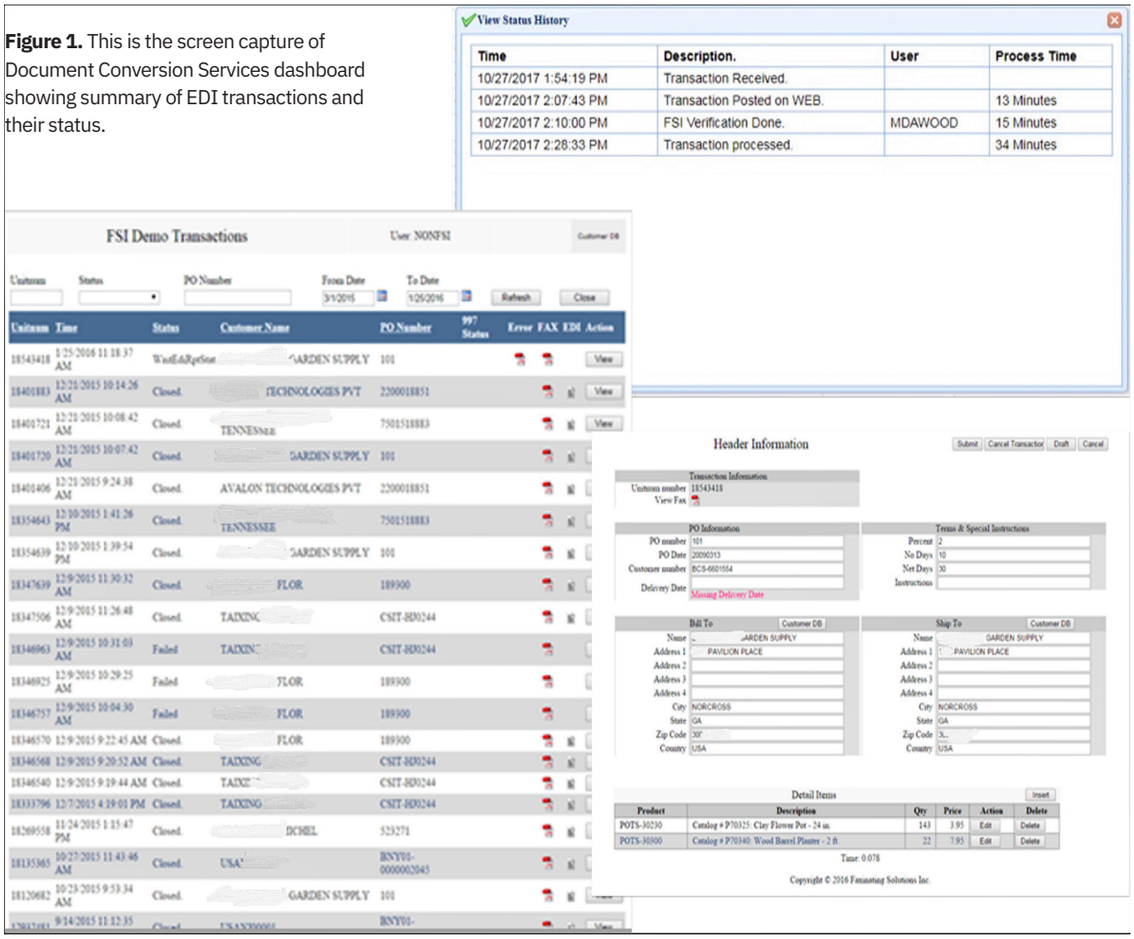

Figure 1. This is the screen capture of Document Conversion Services dashboard showing summary of EDI transactions and their status.

Feature	Benefit
Converts faxes and paper-based documents into EDI or XML format	• Reduces costs by eliminating manual processes of dealing with faxes, email, and postal mail • Detects and handles errors, and minimizes human intervention • Identifies handwriting and supports multiple languages
Business rule customization	• Flexibility of integrating business rules determined by your needs • Assists with a list of possible results for the services specialist to choose
Consolidated business process	• Streamlines your business processes to control spending and protect margins • Eliminate exchange of paper documents, faxes and phone calls with your small and seasonal partners
Community visibility and reporting	• Offers a single view into your community of trading partners • Manage community contact through inbound and outbound document queues • Extracts primary data automatically and secondary data manually
Maximize partner participation	• Minimizes the cost and process impact to small suppliers • Designed to improve supplier cycle times and cash flow • Frees up resources to focus on running the business
System security	• Enforces strict password protection policies, unattended timeouts, and logout features

Conclusion

Fax to EDI solution

Document Conversion Services uses advanced OCR/ICR technology that interprets all images quickly and accurately, which helps in reducing costs and errors that are associated with the manual processing of documents. Document Conversion Services transforms non-structured documents into an EDI or other structured format, thus helping enterprises to aggregate all of their small partner's traffic through existing connection with SCBN. As part of service, IBM will provide a web portal for customers to monitor processing status, review archived documentation, and respond to exceptions.

To learn more about the IBM Small Partner Automation program, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit: https://www.ibm.com/us-en/marketplace/web-edi-forms

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