



# **ELECTRONIC SUPPLIER COMMUNICATION WITH FORD**

created by **GSEC**, Global Supplier Electronic Communications

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## Brochure map

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# Who is GSEC?

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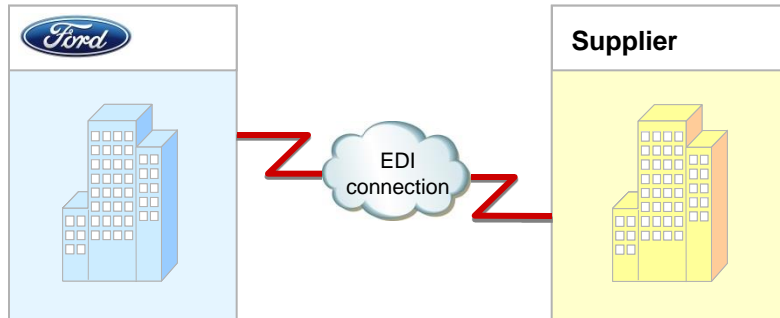


## Global Supplier Electronic Communications

<b>Mission Statement</b>	GSEC is a single point of contact for trading partners that delivers reliable, efficient and secure network connections.
<b>Background</b>	The Global Supplier Electronic Communications (GSEC) department was established to become the primary focus between Ford and suppliers in matters relating to the transfer of electronic data. GSEC provides communication support for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) and Direct Data Link (DDL). Additionally, it provides implementation for Collaborative Product Creation initiatives (C3P) and for various other Ford business areas to European supplier and trading partner sites. Non-European supplier sites predominantly are covered by the GSEC department within Ford USA.
<b>Strategic Direction</b>	Ford's strategic direction is to use TCP/IP for data communications with suppliers, and to use service provider connections instead of Ford-managed connections.
<b>GSEC offices</b>	Spain, UK, USA



## What is EDI?



- ⇒ EDI consists of standardized electronic message formats (called transaction sets) replacing or enhancing common business documents and communications. These electronic transaction sets enable the computer in one company or organization to communicate with a computer in another without producing paper documents or requiring human intervention.
- ⇒ EDI is more than computer-to-computer communication and more than simple freeform electronic mail messages. EDI communications go from one application (business system) to another in a form that does not have to be rekeyed. For example, using EDI, orders go directly from one company's purchasing system to another company's order entry system.
- ⇒ There are many benefits that the proper implementation of EDI can provide. Anywhere in an organization where quicker, more accurate, and increased throughput can improve operations, EDI helps. It automates and makes more efficient what is there.



# Overview: Connecting to Ford

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## Connection options:

In order to establish an EDI connection to Ford, you have the choice of the following connection types:

### Direct Connection to Ford

⇒ **OFTP2**

OFTP2 is an extension of the OFTP (Odette File Transfer Protocol). It provides strong authentication and encryption and can therefore be used directly over Public Internet.

⇒ **SFTP**

SSH File Transfer Protocol. It uses SSH to provide security to secure the file transfer.

### Indirect Connection to Ford

⇒ **VAN (Value Added network)**

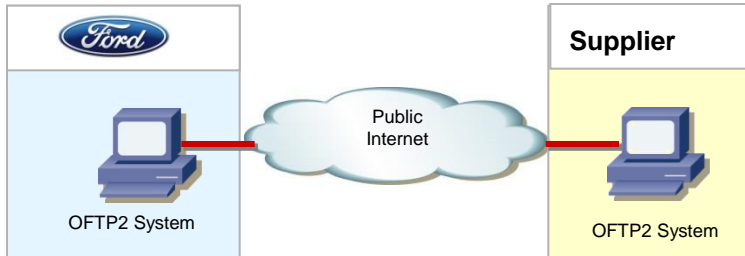
It is a hosted service that acts as an intermediary between business partners sharing EDI data. The connection between the VAN and Ford will be through OFTP2. The connection between VAN and the Trading Partner must be agreed between them.

⇒ **Existing connection**

If one of your company sites has already a connection with Ford EU, it can be used to transfer EDI files to Ford.



# OFTP2 Connection



## Function

- Ford OFTP2 software connects to supplier OFTP2 software and sends EDI files
- Carrier connects to Ford OFTP2 server to submit EDI files.
- The OFTP2 software uses the digital certificate to encrypt the connection.

## Requirements for supplier

Application

- OFTP2 software.
- Digital Certificate.

## Recurring costs

- OFTP2 software license (if applicable).
- Digital Certificate (if applicable).

## Timing

- OFTP2 configuration at Ford takes 1 week after the Trading Partner has sent the OFTP license.

## Further info:

<https://www.supcomm.ford.com/europe/NetworkProtocols/OFTPv2.aspx?Tip=C>

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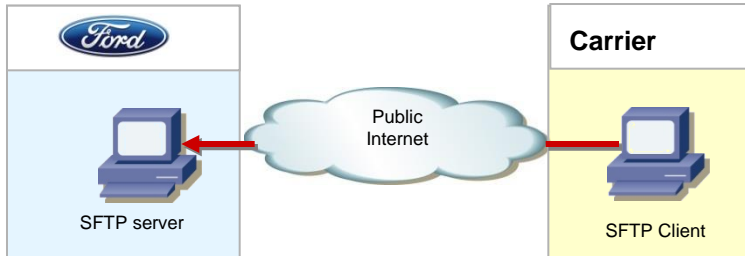
- Bidirectional connection. The set up allows the connection to send/receive files from both sides.
- Easier to automate file transfers.
- Additional security options: It can encrypt and sign the EDI files

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- A bit more difficult to set up if compared with SFTP.



# SFTP Connection



## Function

- Carrier connects to Ford to pick up EDI files.
- Carrier connects to Ford submit EDI files.
- Optional: If you want that Ford push the files to you a new additional connection must be set up.

## Requirements for supplier

Application

- SFTP software.

## Recurring costs

- SFTP software(if applicable).

## Timing

- SFTP configuration at Ford takes 1 week after the Trading Partner has sent the EDI license.

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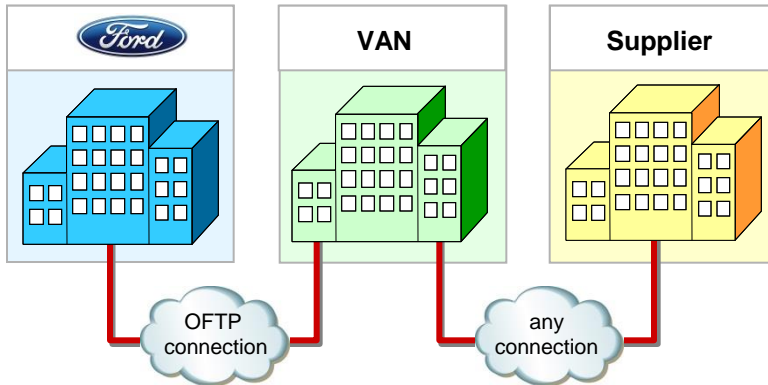
- Easier to set up and use if compared with OFTP2.

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- Non bidirectional connection. Carrier will have to connect to pick up and send files.
- Depending on the SFTP software the automatic EDI file transfer is not easy.



# Connection using a VAN Service Provider



## Function

- ⇒ Ford sends Carrier information Records.
- ⇒ The VAN forwards Carrier information Records to supplier
- ⇒ Supplier submits Advance Carrier Input information to the VAN and the VAN forwards it to Ford.

## Requirements for supplier

- ⇒ Supplier needs to find a VAN and establish data link with the VAN to meet Ford Business requirements (e.g. send ASNs to Ford within 15 minutes)

## Recurring costs

- ⇒ Depending on the VAN cost.

## Timing

- ⇒ 1 week after supplier and the VAN completed their setups and GSEC received completed OFTP license.

## Important notes


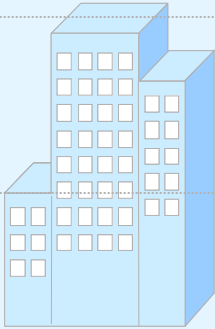

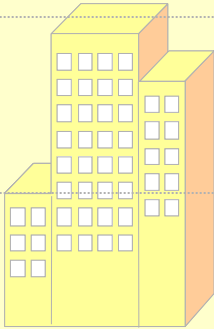
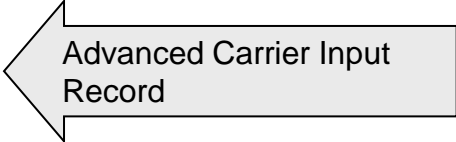
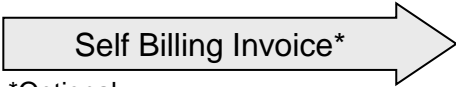
- ⇒ FORD will not be liable for any problems caused by the VAN provider chosen by the TP.
- ⇒ It is the TPs responsibility to assure the correct transmission of the EDI data through the systems of the VAN provider.
- ⇒ FORD reserves the right to disconnect a VAN from FORD in case of problems regarding security or quality of service.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supplier can arrange any technical connection with the VAN</li> <li>- Supplier can arrange any data format with the VAN</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional cost for the VAN service</li> <li>- Highly dependent on the VAN</li> </ul>





## Overview: Data Formats for Carriers

	Message	Supplier	Format	Explanation
	Advance Carrier Information 		VDA record 611	Used by Ford to advise Business Partners of vehicle movements and delays
	Advanced Carrier Input Record 		VDA record 631	Used by Trading Partners to advise Ford of vehicle movements and delays
	Self Billing Invoice*  *Optional			Self Billing Invoice, i.e. invoice generated by Ford on behalf of the Trading Partner

\* optional