Webcast | Using APIs to achieve real ‘real time visibility' in the Automotive Supply Chain

Where API Technology Fits in the Overall Digital Scenario

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OUR SPEAKER TODAY

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Digitalization – the Base for Future Success

Digitalization describes the comprehensive transformation process in society, business and science that is being triggered by developments in electronic systems and the associated data processing methods.
(Source: VDE paper: "Digitalization - An interdisciplinary view")

Data exchange is a term from data processing and stands for the forwarding of data between organizations and companies in a purpose-specific standardized form. Although it is predominantly used in connection with electronic procedures.

Data exchange and thus digitization are constantly evolving and always using the latest technologies to create new opportunities to complement existing processes as they are today strongly mapped via EDI. API can be considered as one of the newest technologies.

API’s in Daily Life

API's are everywhere today

- On your smartphone!
- In the automotive industry, e.g. in the vehicle ("connected car)" or for services ("mobility data")
- API's also common in companies in so called "administrative processes“
- For connections like Cloud human resource management systems (HR) Purchasing portals (SRM), WebShops (at least on the side of the purchasing companies) Etc.
- Or in internal connectivity, e.g. shop floor integration with new machines

Concrete in your daily life when using B2B/B2C marketplaces:

- Check availability: Information about stock/delivery of the item you are looking for in a WebShop
- Configure the new tires and rims for your car in the internet store of a tire dealer

Advantages of API’s

Advantages when using API‘s:

- Easy integration in existing solutions
- Provide & consume APIs for self service implementation
- Open for new processes/messages
- Use for data such as geo-locations
- Consume public services e.g. services for weather, payment, …
- Independent from transport layer
- Easy information transfer by usage of REST API
- High potential for all involved parties due to real time information
- Synchronous use cases => „Real time communication“

A long-term goal that could be achieved:

All processes should be able to be handled in real time, regardless of whether we are handling them in logistics, in production (e.g. as a digital twin) or in another area.

Looking Into Automotive Industry for API Usage

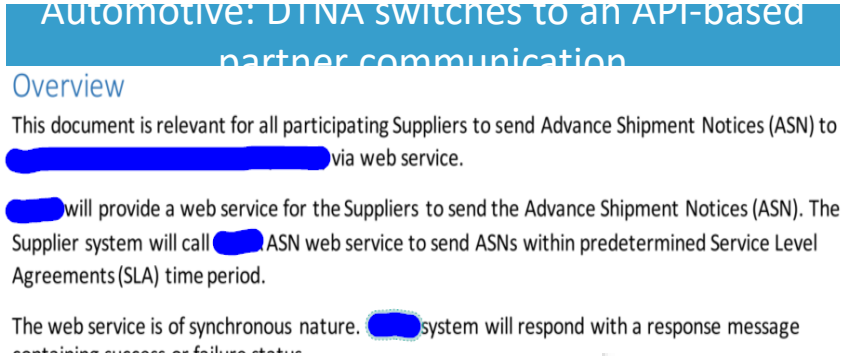
Typical EDI processes: several international initiatives that hit international suppliers:

- DAIMLER TRUCK NORTH AMERICA: replacement of the EDI ASN process via an API (aftermarket)

Driver: to get rid of high VAN costs (North America), not for a process improvement

- FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES, SHANGHAI GENERAL MOTORS, TESLA (… what is 'EDI'?), … they all come up with API requirements for SCM processes
- Logistics: for Track&Trace scenarios to achieve the status of 'paperless transport' finally

- A step forward is ODETTE OA02/VDA4998 **as a standard**.


Automotive: DTNA switches to an API-based partner communication

Overview

This document is relevant for all participating Suppliers to send Advance Shipment Notices (ASN) to [redacted] via web service.

[redacted] will provide a web service for the Suppliers to send the Advance Shipment Notices (ASN). The Supplier system will call [redacted] ASN web service to send ASNs within predetermined Service Level Agreements (SLA) time period.

The web service is of synchronous nature. [redacted] system will respond with a response message

ms, separate from this

API Extends Classical Data Exchange in Automotive Industry

Common sense: no intention to REPLACE EDI by API in Automotive industry

The industry developed a value by ‘digitalization via EDI’

- A connected industry network based on standards, processes, acceptance – and huge adoption
- Standards for communication as OFTP2 gained a huge and fast adoption rate
- Message standards are setup, although we have co-existence of e.g. VDA, ODETTE, EDIFACT, ANSI X.12 and others
- IT solutions are available, from backend systems that adopted to processes to EDI/B2B providers, as well as other contributors as GEFEG
- for SCM driven processes, automotive industry is above ‘80%’, so it might be selected and specific improvements where APIs makes sense (co-existence)

It works perfectly well in ‘our ecosystem’!

The future of EDI

Multi-party collaborative automation is technically feasible today, but requires innovation in business practices, such as using AI agent technology to perform multi-party process orchestration, leveraging blockchain and multi-party application integration.

It also presumes that proven technologies like EDI, APIs for seamless and modern connectivity, as well as ERP and supply chain management applications like order management, warehouse management, and transportation management are already in place and performing their well-proven roles to support the higher-order collaborative process. So, back to answering the question: What is the future of EDI?

> EDI is alive and well and will remain critical to business for many years to come.

However, the true future lies in using and evolving B2B integration alongside disruptive technologies such as IoT, blockchain and AI, to deliver innovative levels of multi-party supply chain collaboration. IBM is at the forefront of driving this innovation.

(Source: IBM)

Agenda

ODETTE Webcast: Using APIs to achieve real time visibility in the automotive supply chain | Tuesday, 24 January 2023

15:00	**Welcome**	**Peter Höfner** **DRÄXLMAIER Group**
15:05	**Where API technology fits in the overall digital scenario**	**Thomas Bäzner** **SEEBURGER**
15:20	**API - the next step in standardising digital communication in the automotive supply chain**	**Jörg Walther** **Odette**
15:35	**Digital Transformation of Partner Communication by hybrid solutions of classic EDI and API**	**Andrea Sümer** **Volkswagen Group Logistics**
15:55	**Utilize API in automotive industry**	**Peter Höfner** **DRÄXLMAIER Group**
16:15	**Sum up, discussion, time for your questions with all speakers**	
16:30	**Planned end of event**	

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