

Introductory Documentation of the EDI Server

This introductory documentation is meant to provide a quick overview of the EDI server, support the software installation and enable functionality tests respective basic software handling. A complete manual is currently only available as "Help.INI". Further information (especially concerning special system integrations) will be provided by your software support.

Operating Mode

The EDI server works as a link between your internal application and a business network. The EDI server connects an already existing EDP system, further on referred to as "host" or "inhouse system", to the POET "Clearing Center". The clearing center provides personalized in-mailboxes in which registered users can place EDI documents and personalized out-mailboxes for retrieving EDI documents. Communication with the clearing center is passive and must be initiated by the user.

The EDI server runs on a PC as a prefix to your inhouse system. The software basically conducts three passes when sending or receiving EDI documents:

When sending EDI documents are

1. picked up via file transfer from the host in an inhouse format (optional),
2. converted, zipped (optional) and archived,
3. transmitted via a secure IP connection to the clearing center.

When receiving EDI documents are

1. picked up via a secure IP connection from the clearing center,
2. unzipped (optional), converted and archived,
3. transmitted via file transfer in an inhouse format to the host (optional).

Apart from the functionality of sending and receiving documents the EDI server supports the following tasks:

- splitting bulk files according to the respective receivers
- compact log of sending and receiving instances for each partner with number of records/positions (Auskunftsjournal)
- data archiving with automated reorganization of the archives

System Requirements

To run the EDI server you will need a PC with a minimum of 1 GB free disk space and an operating system Windows XP SP2 or newer (32 or 64 bit). If you need to setup a file transfer to your host, you will have to provide an applicable network script or a standardized file transfer software, preferably the one already in use at your company.

The communication to the clearing center is run via a secure https/SOAP connection. The standard interconnection ist done by "IP via LAN" and can be optionally configured through a proxy.

If you need to use a proxy insert the row "HTTPS_PROXY <name or ip:port>" anywhere in the configuration file .\ECONNECT.CFG.

Operation

The EDI server works directory-based. Incoming documents are intermediately stored respectively archived in the directory IS\I, outgoing documents in the directory IS\O. All activities are constantly being logged. The logs are organized by days and can be conveniently viewed with the user interface of the software.

The EDI server can be operated in the following modes:

- manually via the user interface (single mode operation)
- command driven (program mode operation)
- automated round-the-clock (automatic operation) via integrated scheduler for transmission direction, document type (time slice or discrete timings)

You can put the documents intended for sending directly into the folder IS\O\INH. Make sure that the format of the documents complies with the standards of the business network. In single operation you start the transmission via **Transfer -> RemoteTransfer-> Send**.

Pick up documents from the clearing center via **Transfer -> RemoteTransfer -> Receive**. Received documents will be located in the folder .\INH and can be either viewed or further processed (e.g. via file transfer).

Note:

If the interconnection does not work during a sending operation, please, do not re-supply the data. Instead fix the interconnection problem and restart the sending operation. The data remains on hold for transmission.

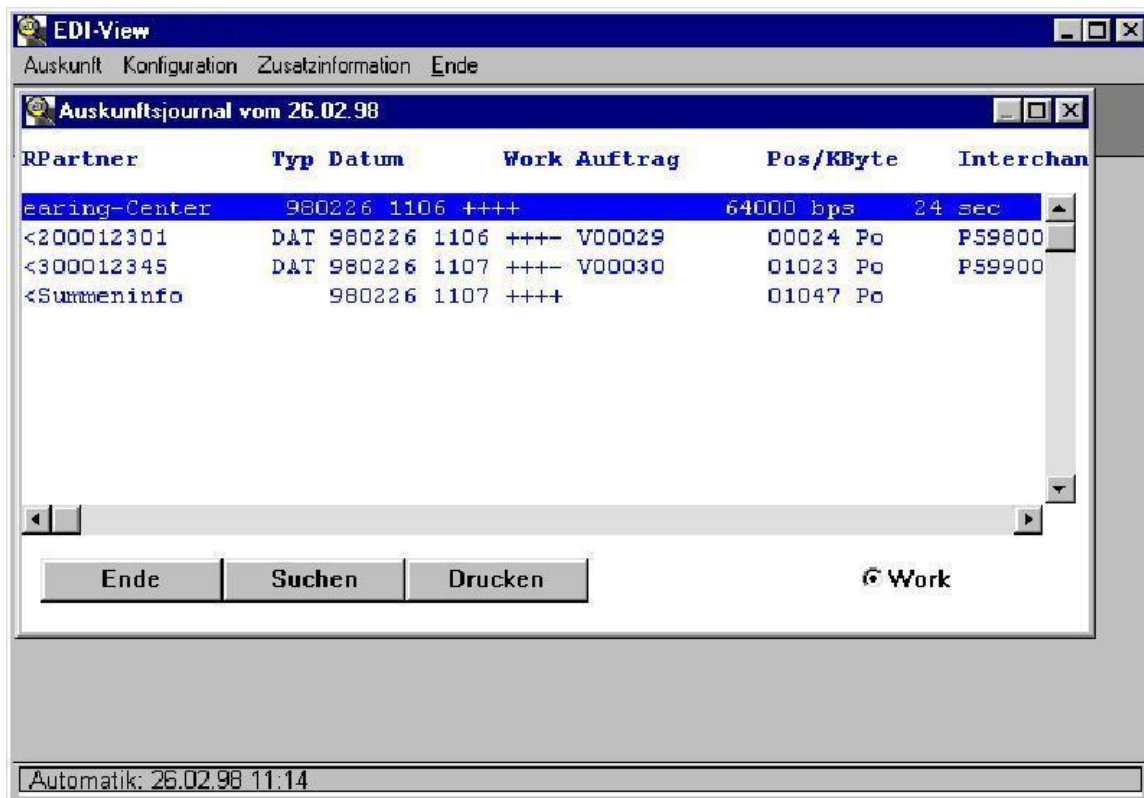
Transmission Control

Via **Options -> Journal** you can start EDI-View, a text viewer, that enables you to look at the logs with the processed and transmitted documents. As a default the log of the current day is displayed. If the log of the current day does not exist, a list with the available logs will be displayed. Logs are being created on a daily basis. The names of the log files are generated with a prefix "A", the current date in the format YYMMDD and the extension ".TXT" (e.g. A090226.TXT). The log files are located in the subdirectory .\LOG of the EDI server. They are simple text files, that must be interpreted line-by-line and can be easily printed, if desired. Thus the information in the log files can serve as a proof of successful document transmission.

The allocation of information in the log display of EDI-View is context oriented. Via double-click on a row in the log you can draw up further information associated with the specific activity.

EDI-View is a program that runs independent from the EDI server.

You can use the log file .\LOG\ERROR.SIG to setup an automated error check with your inhouse system.



R	direction of transmission: > send, < receive	
Partner	Clearing-Center:	contact to the clearing center
	Host:	file transfer
	Partner ID:	depending on the transmission direction the mailbox identifier of the partner will be displayed
	Summeninfo:	summary of the previous transmission
Typ	document type	
Datum	begin of the processing, format: YYMMDD HHMM	
Work	Four tracers (one for each processing step of the EDI server) are displayed. The tracers can take on the following values:	
	+: successfully completed	
	-: not processed yet	
	E: error during the transaction	
	denotation of each tracer position when sending >:	
	1 & 2: internal processing of the EDI document	
	3: transmission of the data to the clearing center	
	4: This position is currently not in use and thus is always displayed as "-".	
	denotation of each tracer position when receiving <:	
	1: EDI server picking up data. Always "+" in the log.	
	2 u. 3 internal processing of the EDI document	
	4: This position is currently not in use and thus is always displayed as "-".	
Auftrag	internal order number (serially allocated by the EDI server)	
Pos/KByte	Po:	number of positions/ records
	KB:	number of kilobytes (1 KByte = 1,024 Bytes)
Interchange	interchange number (unique identification number of a document within the clearing center)	

Special System Integrations

Linking the EDI server to internal applications can be done via configuration of the host or file transfer interface. You can include special transfer scripts to connect to your hosts and applications.

Depending on the connection possibilities (file transfer software) there are basically two types of data exchange options for linking up to a host (application that provides data for sending or that expects data that has been received):

1. data exchange via network (using shared disk space)
2. data exchange via standard file transfer software (for mainframes)

About 90% of the host links can be accomplished by using the "data exchange via network" option. There are two default folders within the installation directory of the EDI server, which you should adjust for linking up with a network drive. The change is done via **Options -> Configuration -> Edit -> Host**. Choose the transmission direction with "Direction" where "from Host" indicates the data flow from the host to the EDI server and "to Host" the data flow from the EDI server to the host. The source and target folders are located in the parameter "Folder". Save the changes with "Okay". Please, make sure that you have two folders for exchanging data with the host (one for sending data and one for receiving data)!

Backup

A standard install will setup the EDI server incl. all working directories in the folder IS. There are no entries in the Windows registry. Thus, you will only need to backup the EDI server folder including all the subdirectories.

Backups can be run directly on new hardware without any further installation. The folders .\I and .\O are not necessary for a re-installation. The configuration data is located in the following files: TABELLE.TXT, ECONNECT2.CFG, INO_SRV.CFG, SEND.BAT, RECV.BAT. The individual archive and report data is located in the folders: .\I, .\O, .\LOG.

The interchanges are generated using the information in the files .\NUM_*.TXT. To avoid duplicates you should delete the three NUM files after a re-installation. Interchange generation will then start from the beginning again. Please, do not repeat this process in short intervals.

The EDI server has an automated archive management. Please, do not delete or change any of the archive and report files. The EDI server performs the file management by itself as required and depending on the configured values (3,000 KB and 28 days).