B2B Interface Description

Materials Control

Import Supplier's Article Catalog

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1. Remark

The format below does not describe a standard export of article catalogues. We discovered that there is not unique standard for this purpose. This format was developed based on our experiences to enable a simple and „easy-to-implment" data exchange.

But it is still our intension to use a format which is independent from specific suppliers or systems.
We recommend for this: BMEcat©[1] or SINFOS.

2. General

The import of articles and prices will be done trough file import:

- The file contains a unique number for supplier identification
- The file can contain an unlimited number of records. It is necessary that every record can be identified by an article number or packing unit

2.1 FILE CONVENTIONS

The following conventions will be used for the preparation of the file:

1) The file will be defined as ASCII text file (Microsoft-CSV-Datei)
2) Records will be separated with CR+LF or ASCII-Code 13 and 10
3) Fields will be separated with semicolon (;)
4) Decimal separator will be the comma (,)
5) Thousand separator (.) is not required
6) Dates will be displayed in the following format: yyyymmdd = 4 digits for the year, 2 digits for the months, 2 digits for the day
7) Time values will be displayed in the format hh:mm:ss = 2 digits for the hours (0-23), 2 digits for the minutes (0-59), 2 digits for th seconds (0-59)
8) Text will have quotation marks at the beginning and the end. Inside the text quotation marks are not allowed.
9) The field length is always the maximum and does not need to be filled up with spaces.
10) If no information exists the empty filed remains empty in the record (E.g.: empty field between Milk and Ltr: „Milk";;"Ltr").

[1] „BMEcat" is a registred trademark of the german „Bundesverband Materialwirtschaft, Einkauf und Logistik e.V."

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2.2 FILE AND RECORD STRUCTURE

We will use a table view for the description of the record structure. Every element will be shown in a separate line, every line contains 6 columns:

- ***Pos*** – sequential number defines the position of the filed in the record
- ***Description*** – describes the element
- ***M / O*** – Field properties (pls. see description below)
- ***Data type*** – Definition of the type of the field (pls. see description below)
- ***Explanation*** – Detailled description of the content
- ***Example*** – sample data

FIELD PROPERTIES

- M ... mandatory; this field MUST contain data
- O ... optional; this field can be filled and enables additional functionality.

DATA TYPE

- STRING, xx ... Text field with a maximum length of xx, al text fileds will be embedded in quotation marks. The text can not contain quotation marks
- NUMBER ... numeric filed; negative numbers will have a leading minus (E.g.: -3)
- DATE ... Date Field; yyyymmdd = 4 digit year, 2 digit month, 2 digit day
- TIME ... Time field: hh:mm = hour, minute

3. Article Catalog

Pos	*Description*	*M/O*	*Type*	*Explanation*	*Example*
Supplier					
1	Supplier number	M	NUMBER	Number of the suplier in MC	1004
2	Supplier Name	M	STRING, 60	Name of the supplier in MC	Genuss GmbH
Article					
3	Article.No.	M	STRING, 20	Article number in suppliers system	4711
4	Article name	M	STRING, 60	Short description or name of the article	Milk
5	Add. Description	O	STRING, 60	Additional descrition of the article	Fresh Milk
6	BLS-ID	O	STRING, 20	Id of this article in the „Bundeslebensmittelschlüssel“	
7	Alternate Article-No.	O	STRING, 20	e.g. unique article number in a purchasing network	
8	Customer Article No..	O	STRING, 20	Article number of the ordering company	
9	Short Info	O	STRING, 120	Short information for this article	e.g. lead time
10	Text file	O	STRING,60	Name of a file with detailled informations about this article (Data sheet)	Milk.pdf
11	Picture file	O	STRING,60	Name of a picture file	Milk.jpg
12	Article sign	O	STRING,20	Specific sign for this article (e.g.: new article, Consider Lead times)	
Manufacturer					
13	ILN (Manufacturer)	O	String, 20	ILN (Manufacturer number)	

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14	Manufacturer's article number	O	STRING, 20	Manufacturer's article number	
15	Manufacturer	O	STRING, 60	Name or ILN of the manufacturer	
16	Brand	O	STRING, 60	Brand	

Classification					
17	Item Group	O	STRING, 60	Item Group for this article	
18	Over Group	O	STRING, 60	Over Group for this article. Every Item Group should have a unique assignment to an Over Group	
19	Classification	O	STRING, 254	Article classification - Assortment (Special Offer, User defined Assortments)	
Packing Unit					
20	Packing Unit	M	STRING, 60	Name of the packing unit	Box
21	Information for the packing unit	M	STRING, 60	Additional information about the packing unit	Box 12 1/1 Can
22	Sub-Unit	M	STRING, 60	Sub-Unit in the packing unit	Can
23	Content	M	NUMBER	Content of the packing unit in relation to the sub unit	12
24	Weight article	M	STRING, 8	1 = Weight article; others = 0	0
25	Order in Base Order Quantity Units	M	STRING, 8	1 = Order in Base Order Quantity Units possible; otherwise 0	1
Price					
26	Price identifyer	O	NUMBER	Price Identifier: 1 – Customer speciffic price; otherwise 0	
27	Valid from	M	DATE	Price validity start date	20011001
28	Valid to	O	DATE	Price validity end date	20031130
29	Daily Price	O	NUMBER	1 = Daily Price; otherwise 0	0
30	Price/Order Unit	M	NUMBER	In general price refers to Order Unit. Otherwise use Price Calculation Factor	100
31	Price/Base Order Quantity Unit	O	NUMBER	Price per Base Order Quantity Unit	12
32	Price Calculation Factor	O	NUMBER	Use this field, if Price refers not to order unit	1
33	Discount	O	NUMBER	Discount	0
34	Sales Price	O	NUMBER	Recommended Sales Price	
35	Currency	O	STRING, 3	Currency Shortcut	EUR
36	VAT Code	O	STRING, 8	VAT identifyer	
37	Special Offer	O	NUMBER	Kennzeichnung des Artikels als Aktionsartikel (1 = Aktion; 0 = Default) (currently not supported)	1
38	Special Offer Price	O	NUMBER	Special offer price (currently not supported)	90
39	Valid From	O	DATE	Special offer validity start date (currently not supported)	20011012
40	Valid To	O	DATE	Special offer validity end date (currently not supported)	20011018
EAN / Barcode					
41	Barcode Order Unit	O	STRING; 20	Barcode for Order Unit	
42	Barcode Base Order Quantity Unit	O	STRING; 20	Barcode for Base Order Quantity Unit	

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Units					
43	Net Weight	O	NUMBER	Net weight of Contained Unit	0,85
44	Base Unit	O	STRING; 20	Unit of measurement (e.g. Kilo, Litre, Each, ...)	KG
45	Nutrition Factor	O	NUMBER	Nutrition factor per 100 gram	
46	HACCP	O	NUMBER	1=HACCP required for this article, 0=not required	1
47	Fixed Order Qty	O	Number	NULL of 0 if not used, otherwise with up to 3 decimals	6

4. File Transfer

This can be done via FTP upload or email.

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