

# Important T-Codes for IDoc Processing

| T-Code | Description                     |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| WE02   | Display IDoc (List)             |
| WE05   | IDoc List                       |
| WE19   | IDoc Test Tool                  |
| WE20   | Partner Profile                 |
| WE21   | Port Definition                 |
| WE30   | IDoc Type Development           |
| WE31   | Segment Creation                |
| WE60   | IDoc Documentation              |
| WE81   | Message Type Configuration      |
| WE82   | Message Type and IDoc Type Link |
| BD87   | Process Inbound IDocs           |
| BD10   | Send Material Master IDoc       |
| BD11   | Send Customer Master IDoc       |
| BD12   | Send Vendor Master IDoc         |
| BD13   | Send Cost Center IDoc           |



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# Common IDoc Types in SAP

| IDoc Type | Description  | Message Type |
|-----------|--|--------------|
| ORDERS05  | Sales Order / Purchase Order                           | ORDERS       |
| INVOIC02  | Invoice Posting  | INVOIC       |
| MATMAS05  | Material Master Data                                   | MATMAS       |
| DEBMAS06  | Customer Master Data                                   | DEBMAS       |
| CREMAS05  | Vendor Master Data                                     | CREMAS       |
| HRMD_A07  | HR Master Data   | HRMD_A       |
| DELINS04  | Delivery Schedule                                      | DELINS       |
| DESADV06  | Shipping Notification (ASN - Advanced Shipping Notice) | DESADV       |
| FINSTA01  | Financial Status Update                                | FINSTA       |
| PAYEXT01  | Payment Order  | PAYEXT       |
| SDPIID01  | Sales Pricing Conditions                               | COND_A       |
| PRICAT01  | Pricing Catalog  | PRICAT       |
| ORDCHG02  | Order Change   | ORDCHG       |
| ORDRSP01  | Order Response   | ORDRSP       |
| SHPMNT05  | Shipment Data Transfer                                 | SHPMNT       |
| LSMW02    | Legacy System Migration Workbench                      | LSMW         |
| BOMMAT04  | Bill of Materials Transfer                             | BOMMAT       |



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# What is Idoc ?

**IDoc (Intermediate Document)** is a standard SAP document format (data container) used for data exchange between SAP systems or between an SAP system and external systems. It is primarily used in EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) and ALE (Application Link Enabling) processes. IDocs allow structured data to be transferred in a standardized format.

## 1. What is EDI (Electronic Data Interchange)?

EDI is used for electronic communication between different business partners (external systems). It enables the structured exchange of business documents (e.g., purchase orders, invoices) between companies in a standardized format.

## 2. What is ALE (Application Link Enabling)?

ALE is used for data exchange between different SAP systems (SAP-to-SAP communication). It enables distributed processing by replicating and synchronizing master and transaction data across SAP landscapes.



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# Idoc Types

## Types of IDocs

IDocs can be classified based on processing direction and usage:

### 1. Based on Processing Direction

- Inbound IDoc: Data flows into the SAP system from an external system.
- Outbound IDoc: Data flows out of the SAP system to an external system.

### 2. Based on Processing Mode

- Synchronous IDoc: Immediate processing (rarely used).
- Asynchronous IDoc: Processed later in the background.

### 3. Based on Usage

- Basic IDoc Types: Standard SAP structures defining the format of data.
- Extension IDoc Types: Custom-enhanced IDoc structures based on business needs.



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# What is EDI ?

## 1. What is EDI (Electronic Data Interchange)?

EDI is used for electronic communication between different business partners (external systems). It enables the structured exchange of business documents (e.g., purchase orders, invoices) between companies in a standardized format.

- ◆ **Purpose:** Exchange of business documents between SAP and non-SAP systems.

- ◆ **Use Case:** B2B communication (e.g., SAP to a supplier's ERP system).

- ◆ **Data Format:** Uses standardized formats like ANSI X12, EDIFACT, IDoc, XML, JSON.

- ◆ **Processing Mode:** Mostly Outbound (send to external) and Inbound (receive from external).

### Example EDI Flow:

SAP generates an Outbound IDoc (e.g., ORDERS for a sales order).

The IDoc is converted into an EDI format (e.g., EDIFACT) using middleware like SAP PI/PO, Seeburger, or Gentran.

The EDI message is sent to the trading partner's system.

The trading partner's system processes the message and may send an Inbound EDI response.

The response is converted back to an IDoc in SAP and processed accordingly.

### ♥ Common EDI Messages in SAP:

ORDERS (Purchase Order)

INVOIC (Invoice)

DELINS (Delivery Schedule)

DESADV (Despatch Advice/Shipping Notice)



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# What is ALE ?

## 2. What is ALE (Application Link Enabling)?

ALE is used for data exchange between different SAP systems (SAP-to-SAP communication). It enables distributed processing by replicating and synchronizing master and transaction data across SAP landscapes.

- ◆ **Purpose:** Communication between SAP systems within the same organization.
- ◆ **Use Case:** Transferring Material Master, Vendor Master, or Purchase Orders between SAP systems (e.g., SAP ECC to SAP S/4HANA).
- ◆ **Data Format:** Uses IDocs for data exchange.
- ◆ **Processing Mode:** Can be Real-time or Batch Processing.

### Example ALE Flow:

The sending SAP system generates an Outbound IDoc.

The IDoc is transferred to the receiving SAP system using tRFC (Transactional RFC).

The receiving SAP system processes the Inbound IDoc and updates its database.

### ✦ Common ALE IDocs:

MATMAS (Material Master Data Transfer)

DEBMAS (Customer Master Data Transfer)

CREMAS (Vendor Master Data Transfer)

HRMD\_A (HR Master Data Transfer)



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# Difference between EDI & ALE ?

| Feature         | EDI (Electronic Data Interchange)  | ALE (Application Link Enabling)      |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Purpose         | B2B Communication (SAP ↔ Non-SAP)  | SAP-to-SAP Communication             |
| Use Case        | Exchanging documents with external partners (e.g., customers, suppliers) | Data distribution within SAP systems |
| Formats         | ANSI X12, EDIFACT, XML, JSON, IDoc                                       | IDoc only                            |
| Communication   | Uses middleware (SAP PI/PO, Seeburger, etc.)                             | Uses RFC, tRFC, or qRFC              |
| Processing Mode | Mostly asynchronous  | Can be real-time or batch            |



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