



# DATA MASONS

## EDI MADE SIMPLE®

### EDI Made Simple® - Vantage Point from Data Masons

**The purpose of this brief is to present our solution for simplified EDI deployment and operation using Vantage Point EDI. You may be experiencing one of these scenarios:**

- 1** One of your customers or suppliers has asked you to connect with them, or offered superior terms as an incentive to connect.
- 2** You've noticed that your competition is doing more with fewer employees from the use of EDI and you want to enjoy similar benefits.
- 3** You've attempted to implement EDI in your company, but are not satisfied with your results and understand that you could improve on the experience.

As a complement to the Executive Brief "EDI Made Simple® - A New Approach to EDI", to get the most out of this document you may have been asked to implement EDI, or improve upon the EDI solution currently in use by your company. In either case, this brief is for you.

For those who are about to bring EDI into your processes, this brief will help you avoid the potential pitfalls encountered when approaching it without this guidance.

For those who are reading because you've attempted to implement EDI, you'll likely recognize at least some of the problems we describe, and gain from our explanations on how to avoid them.

EDI can be made simple by following what has been demonstrated repeatedly over the years to be a highly successful process, and avoiding other approaches that can create headaches now and in the future.

#### The EDI Made Simple® solution from Data Masons

Vantage Point EDI from Data Masons provides the complete EDI and XML processing platform enabling users of our supported ERP solutions to achieve EDI integration and compliance in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. Our solution-oriented approach takes the risk and expense out of EDI integration and compliance efforts.

*"Vantage Point EDI software is easily the **best EDI solution** I have found for Dynamics AX. The ease of use and flexibility allows you to be EDI enabled with a wide range of trading partners very quickly, with minimal programming and set up time."*

- Gary Godman

**VP of IT and Services, E&S  
International Enterprises, Inc.**

*"Compared to the embedded EDI solutions for GP, Vantage Point delivers **tight integration** to GP **without customization**, which makes new GP upgrades a snap with zero cost for us. Overall, the cost of Vantage Point was much lower than other options and Vantage Point has provided an outstanding return on investment."*

- Jim Dennis

**Director of IT, Thirstystone**

*"Our experience working with Data Masons is that a single source provider model provides the best outcome since that provider understands the end-to-end business process, can **implement more efficiently**, and provide better long-term support. We're extremely pleased with the Data Masons team, how well they understood our business needs and the quality of their EDI solution for NAV."*

- Tom Hicks

**President, Steiner Enterprises**

*"Data Masons is a **leader in EDI technology** and offers seamless integration with Exact Macola solutions providing customers a powerful solution to meet their EDI requirements."*

- Alison Forsythe

**Managing Director,  
Exact Macola**

### Everything you need for EDI integration and compliance

Vantage Point EDI includes everything you need for EDI compliance with virtually any trading partner, without the need for third-party tools. Vantage Point EDI provides all of the components of a complete EDI solution including a native translator, ASN packing system, EDI document management, UCC-128 label print engine, powerful data storage for turnaround documents, and business connectors for tight EDI integration to our supported [ERP solutions](#).

### Control over data movement

Vantage Point EDI provides communication components to connect to a Value Added Network ([VAN](#)) mailbox or directly to your [trading partners](#). Our "network independence" means that you maintain complete control over the movement of data while eliminating unnecessary document and transactions fees.

### A scalable and innovative solution

Built on Microsoft SQL Server using .NET development tools, Vantage Point EDI is a scalable, multi-user solution ideally suited to enterprise-level EDI requirements. One of Vantage Point EDI's strongest design elements is how transactional data is stored. All inbound and outbound documents are stored in SQL in raw EDI format, structured data tables and XML (within SQL), which provides limitless options to access and leverage critical EDI data. Its design enables powerful EDI integration and compliance without modifications to your ERP solution.

### File format flexibility

Files can be loaded and integrated from a variety of formats, including X12, EDIFACT, ASCII delimited or fixed position, XML, cXML, PIDX, Oildex and RosettaNET.

### Extensive Windows-compatible functionality without ERP customization

Vantage Point EDI's reliance on Web Services, Microsoft's .NET, SQL and XML technology components enables powerful cloud-based or on-premise functionality with a low total cost of ownership. Since Microsoft's SQL platform is highly-scalable, Vantage Point EDI can traverse large record sets with lightning speed, making it a true enterprise-class solution. And while Vantage Point EDI handles complex transaction relationships, its unique design provides simple integration that can get you transacting with partners in a matter of days, not weeks or months.



## EDI is Made Simple When You Don't Go It Alone

- ➔ Purchasing tools that force customizations to your ERP system leaves you responsible for maintaining the system going forward.
- ➔ Engaging the experience, expertise, and the complete solution offered by Vantage Point from Data Masons is the most secure and safest way to assure that you've partnered with a proven Solution provider.



**Read the Data Masons' Executive Brief, "EDI Made Simple® – A New Approach to EDI" for an in-depth explanation on how EDI integration can be made simple.**

### Control updates and ERP upgrades

Vantage Point EDI's non-embedded design and XML data storage within SQL allows virtually any new compliance initiative without the need for costly ERP customization, upgrades or integration. Data Masons supports ERP integrations long after the ERP solution provider has terminated support for that particular version. Additionally, Vantage Point EDI upgrades can be accomplished in minutes by your system administrator.

### Architected to support Cloud-based environments

Vantage Point EDI delivers the same benefits in the cloud that its unique, feature-rich technology model offers on-premise. With a focus on web services, tight ERP integration and end-to-end transaction support, Data Masons stands apart with a solution architected to support [cloud-based environments](#).

### Standardized handling of different data formats

Vantage Point EDI is very simple to set up despite differing formats among diverse partners without need for a complex implementation project. [View a full list](#) of the data formats, communication protocols and security standards Data Masons supports.

### Powerful mapping functionality

Vantage Point EDI's Universal Data Translator maps the most accurate data by dynamically retrieving it from any potential source – the accounting system, the original inbound document, cross-reference tables, a web service or virtually any other ODBC-compliant data source such as spreadsheets and databases.

### Extensive trading partner network

Data Masons connects with any trading partner, delivering the confidence you need to meet new and evolving requirements. Data Masons maintains a library of over **9,000 documents for more than 1,500 trading partners**. These documents can be installed in minutes so your company can begin transacting with business partners immediately. New trading partner documents can be created for you within 3 to 5 business days.

### Conclusion

EDI can be made simple by following this highly successful process. By putting the customer first, delivering quality solutions and unparalleled customer service, Data Masons has become the leading EDI provider and would like to assist you with your EDI integration project.

Contact us for a private [product demonstration](#) and consultation.