



**EDS\*ELIT Communications Network**  
Trading Partner Interfaces



# Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide information on the various connectivity options which are available to trading partners on the EDS\*ELIT network.

The EDS\*ELIT communications network allows trading partners to exchange any type of data, including XML, Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) and proprietary formats between applications, systems, and remote computer installations, over a single secure, global network. This highly flexible and cost effective service supports a number of advanced features, network and data communications protocols, connectivity options, as well as interconnects with other commercial Value Added Networks (VANs).

To access the EDS\*ELIT network, trading partners must first have an EDS\*ELIT location ID assigned. IDs are requested by filling out an ELIT Location Profile Form and emailing or faxing it to the destination specified on the form. Once the EDS\*ELIT location ID has been created and a network access option has been selected, trading partners may log in to the network by establishing a connection and entering their location ID and password. Once logged in, trading partners can send/receive data to/from their business partners. EDS\*ELIT ensures the data is safely stored and forwarded for delivery to the recipient.

## Features

EDS\*ELIT supports a wide range of advanced features. Underlying services, such as 24x7x365 systems monitoring, reporting, and help desk support, ensures superior network performance, security, and reliability.

### **VAN Interconnects**

EDS\*ELIT currently supports interconnects to all of the major VAN service providers. These interconnects provide EDS\*ELIT trading partners with access to communities of trading partners across the globe regardless of the service provider being used by the trading partner.

### **EDI-Direct**

EDS\*ELIT supports several different types of data that can provide routing information. EDI-Direct allows trading partners to route their data directly from EDIFACT and X12 ISA, ICS, or BG documents. ELIT proprietary headers may also be used to route non-EDI data.

### **Carbon Copy**

EDS\*ELIT supports a carbon copy facility, which allows trading partners to send their data to one or more recipients, in addition to the original recipient. This feature is useful when trading partners are migrating to a new environment, and duplicate data needs to be sent for testing purposes.

### **Event Notification**

EDS\*ELIT provides several levels of event notification to trading partners who request this information. Normal and exception only feedback notification can be requested and will provide error and file status information.

# Connectivity Options

EDS\*ELIT supports a variety of data and network communications connections types to allow trading partners to access the EDS\*ELIT network. All of the connection types support the exchange of EDI messages and other proprietary formatted data.

Trading partners can connect to EDS\*ELIT using the following methods:

- **Direct Dial-Up Async.** Dial-up Async connectivity is supported by following file transfer protocols Xmodem, Xmodem-1K, or Zmodem.
- **Direct Dial-Up TCP/IP.** Dial-up TCP/IP connectivity supports the following data communication protocols: E5, E5 2000, FTP and web browser based transfers.
- **Internet via a secured connection only.** Internet connectivity supports any of the following secured interfaces: EDIINT AS2, E5 with SSL, E5 2000 with SSL, FTP/S, and web browser using SSL (HTTPS). Also the following data communication protocols are supported using a secured VPN connection: E5, E5 2000, FTP, web browser and ELIT/MVS.
- **Advanced Network eXchange (ANX) network connection.** The following data communication protocols are supported via ANX connectivity: E5, E5 2000, FTP, web browser, and ELIT/MVS.
- **Dedicated TCP/IP connection into the EDS network.** Dedicated TCP/IP connectivity is supported for the following data communication interfaces: E5, E5 with SSL, E5 2000, E5 2000 with SSL, FTP, FTP/S, web browser, web browser with SSL, and ELIT/MVS.

Following is a brief description of the various data communications interfaces. Additional information and user guides for these interfaces can be requested by sending an email to: <mailto:elit.services@eds.com>.

## Async

Async is a command driven interface that is intended for a user at an interactive terminal with dial-up capabilities. The EDS\*ELIT Async connection supports the following asynchronous dial-up file transfer protocols: Xmodem, Xmodem-1K, or Zmodem. Many PC's come with asynchronous communications software and a modem. More automated software that includes scripting among other features, is also available for purchase from third party software vendors.

## EDIINT AS2

The EDIINT AS2 (Electronic Data Interchange – Internet Integration Applicability Statement 2) is the draft specification standard by which vendor applications communicate EDI, or other data such as XML, over the Internet using HTTP and HTTPS. AS2 is a specification about how to transport data in a secure manner over the Internet. AS2 specifies the means to connect, deliver, validate and reply to data in a secure, reliable, non-repudiable way. The data is then dispatched to the appropriate processor based upon its content-type.

## E5 and E5 2000

The E5 and E5 2000 guidelines developed by the Automotive Industries Action Group (AIAG) use the HTTP or HTTPS protocols. The EDS\*ELIT E5 and E5 2000 implementations allow for both standard and secure file transfers. Trading partners can purchase software from several third party vendors that have developed products supporting E5 and E5 2000. For more information see: <http://www.efive.com>.

## FTP and FTP/S

FTP is a command driven interface and is primarily intended for a user at an interactive terminal. Most FTP clients support a scripting facility that can be used to execute a predefined set of file transfer commands in a batch mode. The FTP protocol supported by EDS\*ELIT allows for both standard FTP and secure FTP (FTP/S) for secure connections. Standard FTP clients and servers are available at no cost for most compute environments while secure FTP products are available from third party software vendors. Current secure FTP products have some variances in their ability to navigate firewalls, please check with ELIT support before purchasing a secure FTP product to ensure it has been tested for interoperability.

## Web Browser

The web browser interface is a graphical user interface and is primarily intended for a user at an interactive terminal. The web browser interface supported by EDS\*ELIT allows for both standard (HTTP) and secure file transfers (HTTPS). Trading partners can use a standard web browser (i.e., Netscape or Internet Explorer) to implement this connectivity option.

NOTE: Developing scripts to automate the navigation of the web browser interface is strongly discouraged. This interface is intended to be a direct user interface and may be upgraded from time to time to support new functionality.

## ELIT/MVS

The ELIT/MVS product allows for TCP/IP communications between two MVS EDS\*ELIT systems. This software can be used on a mainframe MVS system to connect into the EDS\*ELIT network. The ELIT/MVS product is a full functional store-and-forward messaging system. The EDS\*ELIT/MVS software is available for purchase from EDS.

## Summary

The following table is a summary of the trading partner connectivity options.

<b>Data Interface</b>	<b>Direct Dial</b>	<b>ANX</b>	<b>Internet</b>	<b>Dedicated TCP/IP</b>
Async	Y	N/A	N/A	N/A
EDIINT AS2 (EDS*ELIT AS2 Connector V2.0)	N	N	Y	Y
E5 or E5 2000	Y	Y	Y(VPN only)	Y
E5 or E5 2000 using HTTPS	Y	N/A	Y	Y
FTP	Y	Y	Y(VPN only)	Y
FTP/S	Y	N/A	Y	Y
Web Browser	Y	Y	Y(VPN only)	Y
Web Browser using HTTPS	Y	N/A	Y	Y
ELIT/MVS	N	Y	Y(VPN only)	Y

## Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q:** Can I have/do I need more than one EDS\*ELIT mailbox?

**A:** Although it is possible to have more than one mailbox, in most instances it is unnecessary. From a network viewpoint, all transmissions can be directed to/from one mailbox.

**Q:** How long does it take to have an EDS\*ELIT mailbox assigned?

**A:** It depends on what type of communications session is being requested. An ANX request is dependent on getting the tunnel built which can take several days. Otherwise, mailboxes are generally available within 1-2 business days.

**Q:** Can I have a non-expiring password? If so, how do I request one?

**A:** If the trading partner is willing to accept the responsibility of having a non-expiring password, one can be provided. It is preferred that requests be made via email to: [elit.services@eds.com](mailto:elit.services@eds.com)

**Q:** I am an existing trading partner currently using a Bisync connection to send/receive my data. What must I do to migrate to a TCP/IP connection using FTP over the Internet?

**A:** A copy of the EDS\*ELIT Location Profile Form must first be obtained. To migrate to FTP over the Internet, the communications session must be secure FTP (FTP/S). Once this form has been completed, a test mailbox can be defined. After inbound/outbound testing has been successfully completed, your existing production mailbox can be changed to match your new requirements. These are the Secure FTP products that have been successfully tested for ELIT interoperability:

- LexiCom (Cleo)
- WS/FTP Pro (Ipswitch)
- ZMOD Exchange FTP (Trailblazer)
- FTP Voyager (RhinoSoft)
- CuteFTP Pro (GlobalSCAPE)
- Connect:Enterprise (Sterling Commerce)

**Q:** Who do I call when I am having transmission problems?

**A:** Trading partners should call the EDS\*ELIT Help Desk at 248-370-1920. The help desk can answer many general questions, re-queue transmissions, and resolve password problems.

**Q:** How do I build a tunnel to the ANX?

**A:** An ANX tunnel requires the definition of firewall rules on both the EDS and the trading partner sides by firewall administrators. To initiate the request on the EDS side, an EDS\*ELIT Location Profile Form must be submitted. See your firewall administrator for the information needed to complete the form.

**Q:** Can I communicate with any trading partner defined on the EDS\*ELIT Network?

**A:** The typical EDS\*ELIT trading partner is a supplier to one of our larger customers (GM, Delphi, etc.). Many of these larger customers have agreed to pay for all transmissions to/from their trading partners. Anyone can communicate with these sites. Trading Partners that pay for using the EDS\*ELIT network can communicate with anyone. Trading partners that do not pay for use of the network can only communicate with trading partners that do.

**Q:** Where do I go with questions on, or problems with, data content?

**A:** Any questions on data content should be directed to the specific trading partner contacts and not to EDS\*ELIT network personnel.

**Q:** Who do I call for test transmissions?

**A:** In general, you would contact the specific trading partner for test files.