COBI.edi

COBI.edi is a background service for **Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)** with SAP Business One. It automates the exchange of business documents (e.g., sales orders, delivery notes, invoices) in XML format between SAP and EDI providers. COBI.edi supports both **import** and **export** of documents and integrates error handling, backup, and monitoring functions directly into SAP Business One.

Features

Supported transaction types:

- **ORDERS** – Import and export of sales orders
- **DESADV** – Import and export of delivery notes (dispatch advice)
- **ORDERSP** – Import of order confirmations
- **INVOICE** – Import and export of invoices

Supported EDI providers:

- Transus
- Avedium

Automation:

- Scheduled import/export runs at configurable intervals
- Backup and logging of all processed XML documents
- Consolidation of invoices into invoice lists
- Creation of shipping tours from open delivery notes (optional Coresuite printing)

Error handling:

- Automatic SAP Business One alarms to a user group on import errors
- EDI Log for monitoring, filtering, and re-import of corrected documents
- Option to use **dummy business partners/items** if data is missing

Special developments:

- **DESADV import:** Creates not only goods receipt but also customer delivery note and invoice; additionally triggers the DataInterchange API to send a shipping update and customer email.
- **INVOICE import:** Incoming invoices are imported as "parked" documents with validation. Amounts are compared to purchase orders; mismatches generate warnings in SAP.

Installation

- Standard installation path: C:\COMPnet\COBI.edi
- COBI.edi runs as a Windows service and must be active.
- SAP Business One access is required for configuration.
- The service must be restarted after configuration changes.
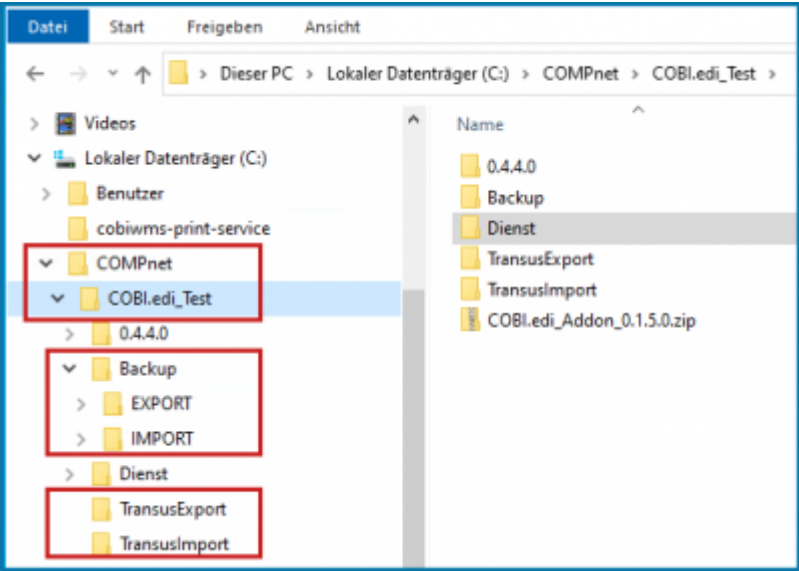
System structure and folders

Within the installation directory, COBI.edi uses the following main folders:

Folder	Purpose
Backup	Stores processed XML files (import/export), with subfolders per type
TransusExport	Export directory for outbound XML files
TransusImport	Import directory for inbound XML files

Configuration

When COBI.edi is installed, additional entries appear under **Administration → Add-ons** in SAP:
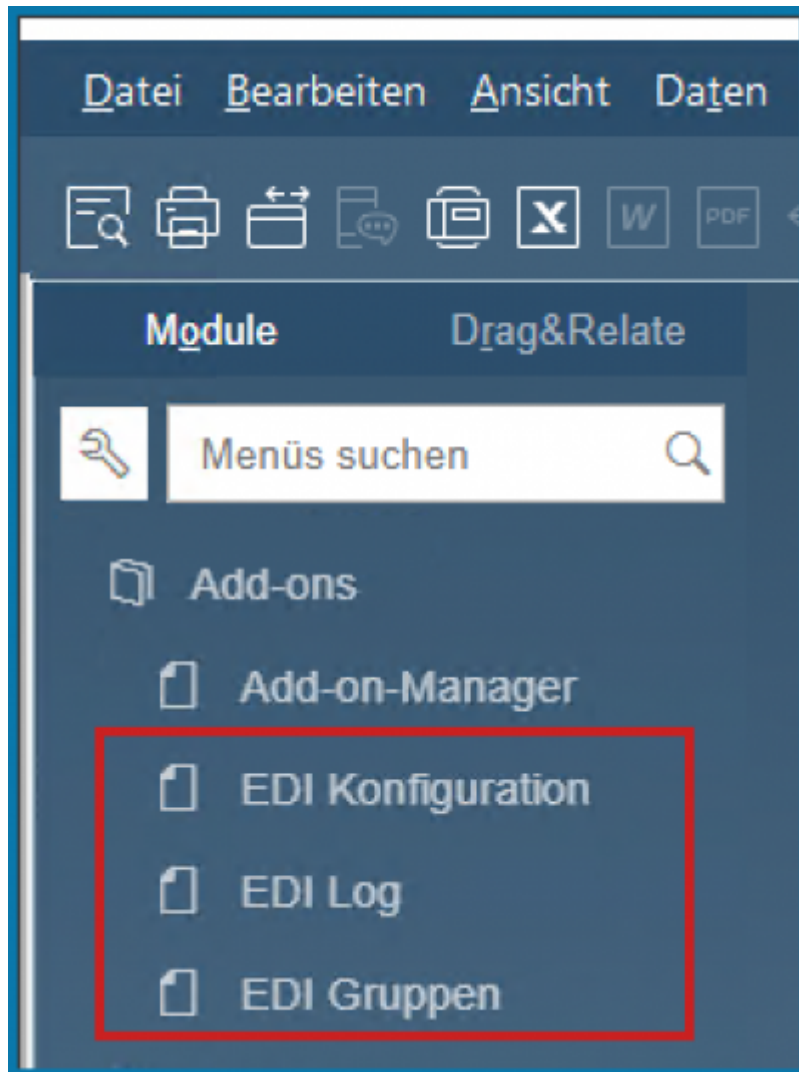
EDI Configuration:

Located under:
Administration → Add-ons → EDI Configuration

Important settings:

- **Backup path** – Storage location for XML backups
- **Import interval** – Time in minutes between import runs.
- **Alarm group** – User group for automatic SAP alarm messages in case of errors.
- **EDI provider server address** – (e.g., Transus/Avedium)
- **Dummy partner/item definitions** – Placeholder for unrecognized data
- **Tranus Import/export paths** – Folder for exchange files.
- **Special options** - (e.g., export with test flag, export pack structures, fetch invoice data from FatherCard)

EDI Log:

Located under:
Administration → Add-ons → EDI Log

- Central monitoring tool for all import/export jobs
- Displays status (success, warning, error) with details
- Allows filtering and re-import of corrected documents
- Documents can be marked as completed

EDI Groups:

Located under:
Administration → Add-ons → EDI groups

- Grouping of business partners (e.g., corporate structures)
- Configuration of GLN numbers for orders, invoices, DESADV, ORDRSP
- Options for invoice lists, pack structure exports, master NVE, discounts, test runs
- Assignment of transaction types and export intervals (manual, daily, hourly, minutely)

EDI Group configuration

An **EDI Group** bundles multiple business partners (e.g., subsidiaries of a corporate group) under one configuration. All members of a group inherit the same EDI settings. Configuration is done via: *Administration → Add-ons → EDI Groups*

The following options are available:

Setting	Description
EDI Group	Name under which the group is maintained (e.g., corporate name).
DESADV GLN	Global Location Number used for delivery notes (DESADV).
Only create packed delivery notes	Ensures that only packed delivery notes are created for this group.
Invoice GLN	GLN used for invoices.

Setting	Description
Agreement number	Contract or agreement ID used for EDI transactions.
ORDRSP GLN	GLN used for order confirmations (ORDRSP).
Output Master NVE	Option to include the Master NVE (Number of Shipping Unit) in DESADV messages.
Header discount code	Discount identifier at document header (e.g., "DI" for Discount). Customers may require specific codes.
GTIN as GTINVBE	Option to output GTIN values as GTINVBE in the EDI document.
Export pack structures (DESADV)	Exports hierarchical packaging structures in DESADV messages.
Export with test flag	Marks the transaction as a *test export*.
Default address if no GLN	Uses the group's main address if no delivery address is available for a partner.
Responsible employee	SAP user internally responsible for this EDI group.
Type	Defines which document types (transactions) are processed/exported for this group.
Invoice list	Option to consolidate multiple invoices into an invoice list. The list receives its own transaction number.
Transaction group	Assignment to a defined transaction group with its own export interval.

Transaction group table:

Transaction group intervals:

For each document type, the export interval must be defined:

- **Manual:** No automatic export, only on demand
- **Daily:** Export at a defined time of day
- **Hourly:** Export every *x* hours
- **Minutely:** Export every *x* minutes

Additional fields:

- **Start time / End time** – defines the active period for hourly or minutely exports
- **Last execution** – read-only field showing the last export timestamp
- **Compare orders from date** – only exports orders with document date equal to or later than this value
- **Export only documents of the last X days** – restricts export to a rolling time window

Business partners:

Each EDI Group can have multiple assigned business partners. Partners can be added via the "Add" button in the group configuration or directly in the **Business Partner Master Data** by assigning the *EDI Group Code*.

Invoice lists

- Creation via: Sales → Create Invoice List

- Selection of consolidation partner and time period
- Consolidation of multiple invoices into a single list with a continuous transaction number
- Search via: Sales → Search Invoice List

EDI Shipping Tours

- Accessible via: Sales → EDI Shipping Tours
- After selecting a shipping method, all open delivery notes of this type that have not yet been assigned are displayed

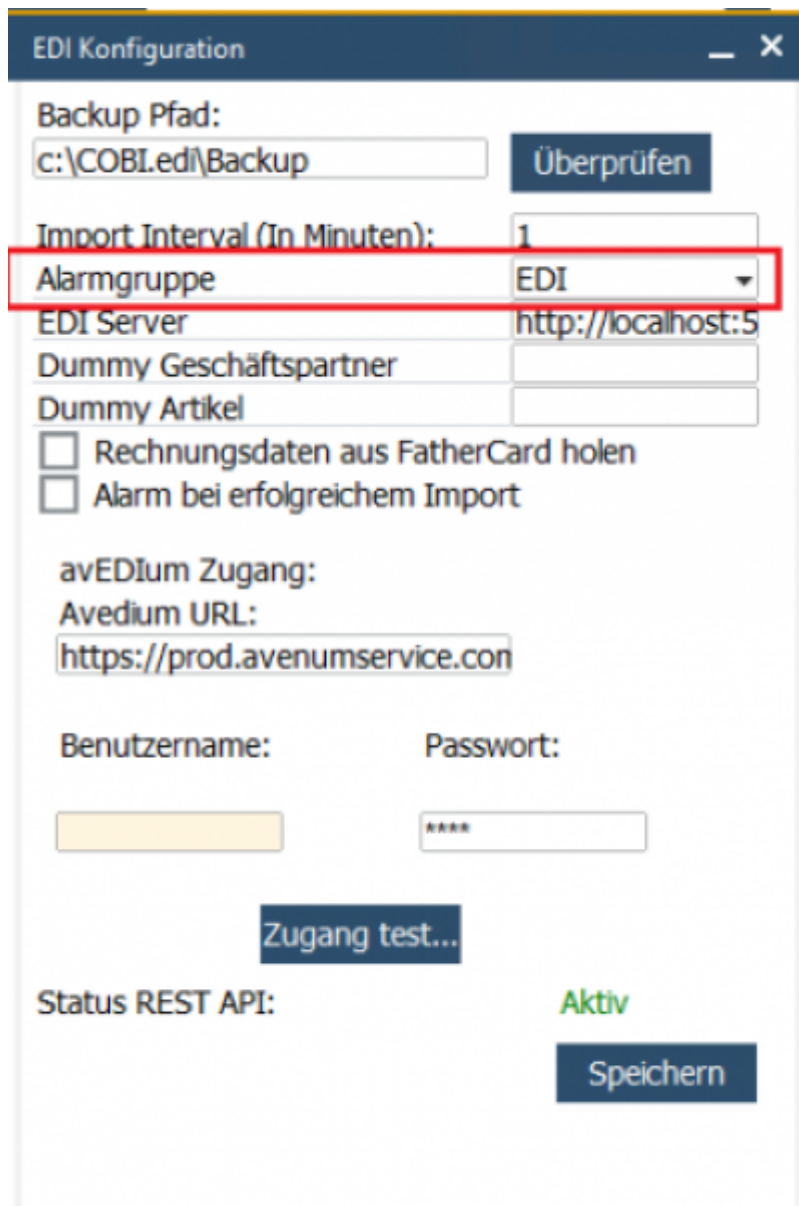- Allows the creation of shipping tours from open delivery notes

- Export possible as shipping advice or tour for the carrier
- Optional with Coresuite layout print

Import and export flows

- All documents are stored in **Backup/IMPORT** or **Backup/EXPORT** folders by transaction type.
- All activities are logged with timestamp, transaction type, file name, and status.
- Test exports can be executed directly from the document view in SAP (button **EDI Export**).

Error handling

- If an error occurs during import, a SAP Business One alarm is triggered and sent to the alarm group specified in the EDI configuration.
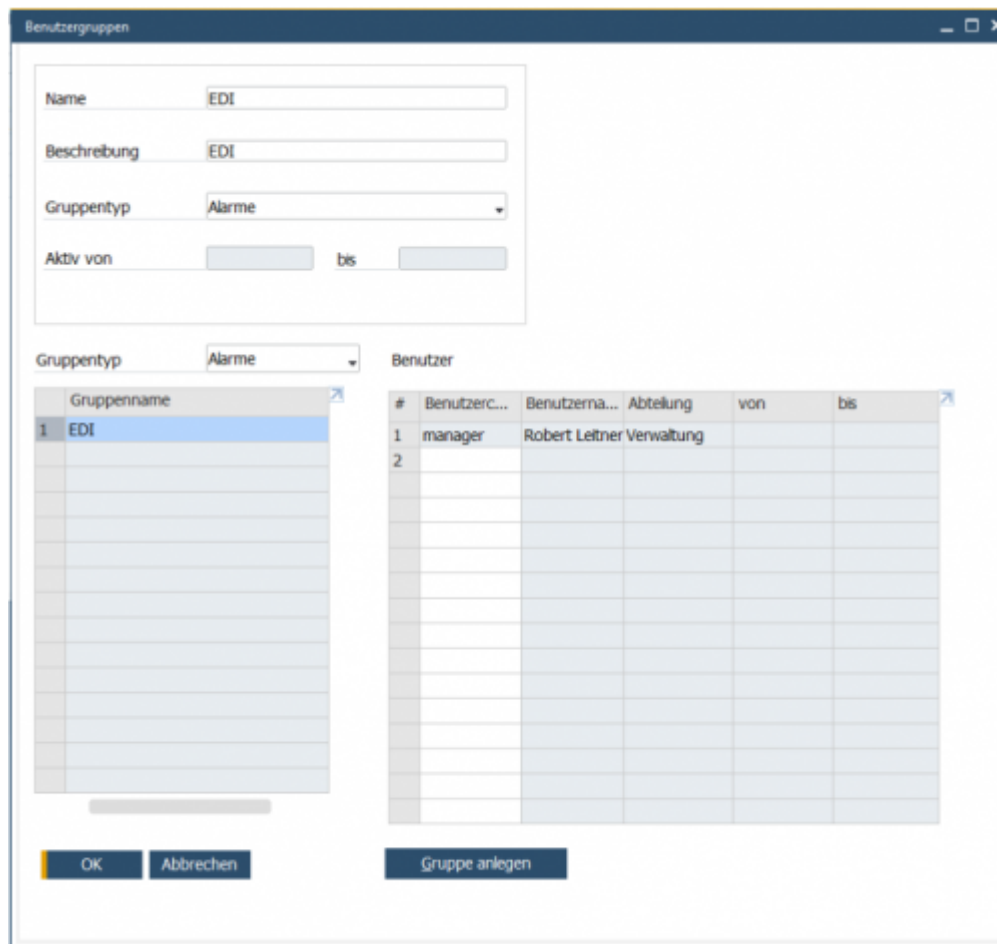
- The alarm group must first be created in SAP Business One under User Groups with the group type Alarms, before it can be assigned in the EDI configuration.
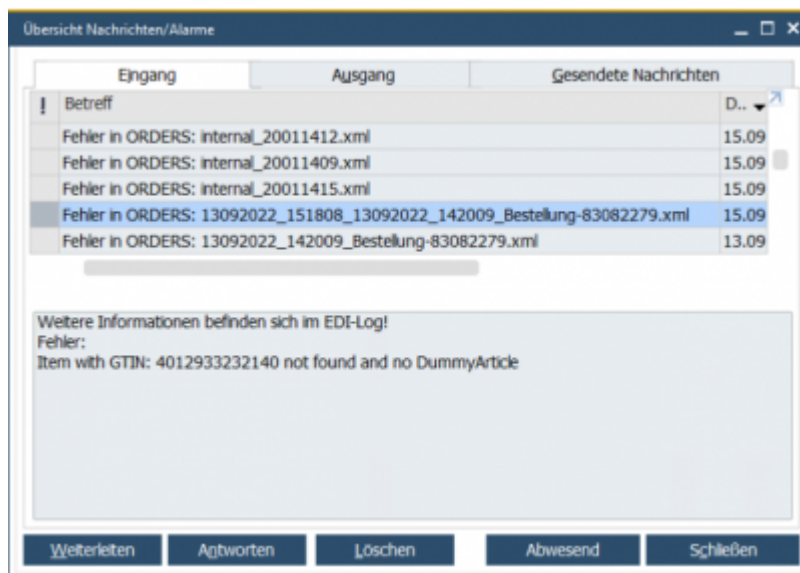
- In case of import errors, an alarm is automatically sent to the configured alarm group.

- Typical errors:
- Item number / GTIN not found
- Business partner or delivery address not available

Processing in the EDI Log & Reimport

- Complete missing data in SAP (e.g., add GTIN, create business partner).

- Mark the document in the **EDI Log** → start **Reimport**.
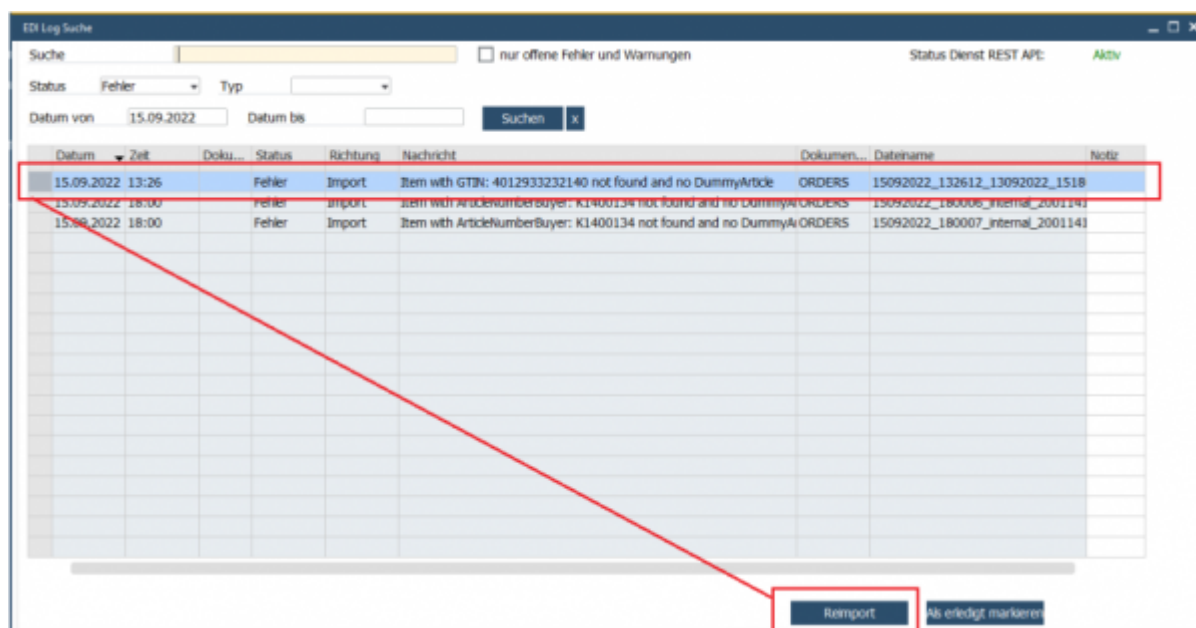
- After a successful reimport: a new log entry is created with status **"Reimport"** and the document number.

Dummy business partners and dummy items

- If enabled, missing partners or items are automatically replaced with **dummy data**.

- No SAP alarm is triggered; instead, a **warning** is shown in the EDI Log.

- The document is still imported but must be corrected manually later.

Testing

- From a business partner document (invoice, delivery), click *EDI Export*.

- XML will be generated in the export path.
- Export timestamp is stored; structure validation must be performed by the trading partner.

Special development

Since the standard functionality is not always sufficient, special logic must be implemented via plugins for customer-specific requirements.

DESADV import

When importing a DESADV (dispatch advice) from a supplier, in addition to the normal goods receipt the following actions are performed automatically: A customer delivery note and an invoice are created in SAP Business One. The UpdateOrder endpoint of the DataInterchange API is called so that the shipping notification is sent to the shop via S4T. A shipping email is sent to the customer.
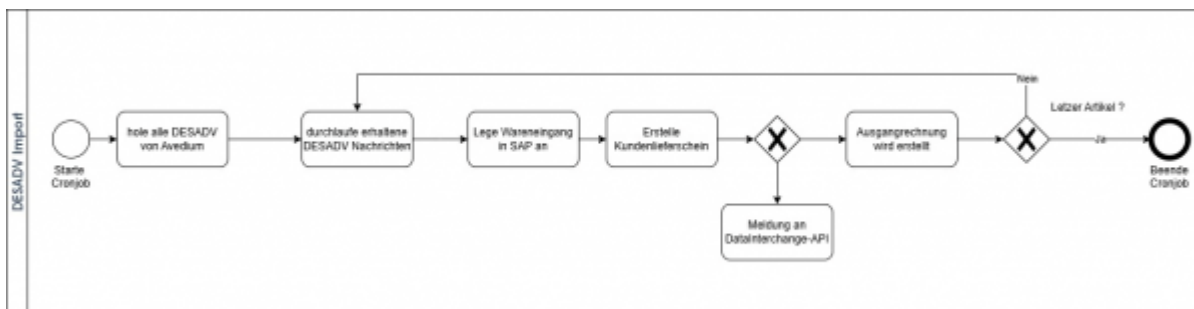
INVOICE import

For better control in accounting, the INVOIC import has been adapted so that incoming invoices are created in SAP Business One as "parked documents." Additional validation checks are applied:

When importing an INVOIC, the amounts from the received file are compared with those from the corresponding purchase order.

If discrepancies are found, a dedicated warning field in SAP Business One is filled accordingly.

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