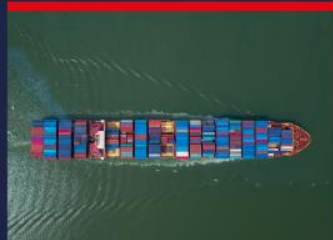# SMDG Recommendation for ANSI X.12

76th SMDG Meeting in Helsinki

# SMDG Recommendation for ANSI X.12

## Background

- ANSI X.12 offers a framework for message standards similar to UN/EDIFACT. ANSI X.12 messages are used only in USA.

- Carriers and Forwarders need to use X12 standards in order to communicate with American stakeholders in the supply chain. Examples for X12 messages are:
    - 315 = Status Details (Ocean)
    - 304 = Shipping Instructions
    - 323 = Vessel Schedule

- For UN/EDIFACT messages used in maritime industry, there is a clear maintenance responsibility born by SMDG and UN/CEFACT. For X12 such **maintenance responsibility** is unfortunately missing.

- While there is an organization **X12** www.x12.org  this organization does not seem to feel responsible for the messages used in the maritime industry.

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# SMDG Recommendation for ANSI X.12
## Current Issue

- There is a business requirement to **transmit the SMDG Terminal Code resp. the BIC Facility Code** in several communication processes where the port location alone is not precise enough.

- While the UN/EDIFACT standard provides designated data elements in the LOC segment for transmission of terminal or facility codes, in the ANSI X12 standard there is **no such data element** in the Location segment.

- As a result, all users of an X12 message have been creating their own **bilateral workaround solutions**. This lack of a standard is causing inefficiencies for all actors in the supply chain.

- Due to the lack of a responsible body, there is no organization in the ANSI field that would develop and publish an enhanced X12 standard with the required fields.

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# SMDG Recommendation for ANSI X.12
Solution

- Since an extension of the official X12 standard does not seem possible,
  an ad-hoc group of experts (from MSC, Maersk, HSD, HL, CMA) **developed an industry recommendation**.

- This industry recommendation describes the **best practice** for transmission of SMDG Terminal Code resp. the BIC Facility Code in a X12 message.
  The Recommendation is available as a **Word document** in a beta version. Few final adjustments are outstanding.

**Proposal**
The group of experts proposes to **publish the Recommendation on the SMDG website** because the target group, the EDI experts from terminals and carriers, are members.
If further requirements for X12 solutions arise in future, they could be covered by similar recommendations.
A new menu item "X12 Recommendations" should be introduced on SMDG website.
➔ The SMDG Plenary is asked for approval. ⬅

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# SMDG Recommendation for ANSI X.12

## Next Steps

- Finalize the Recommendation (Word document)

- Publish on SMDG website, if agreed

- New code values for UN, BIC and SMDG for "Code Provider" are requested at the X12 organization. The codes to be used in R4/309 data element.

- Agree whether a structural X12 extension shall be requested. Considerations:
  - It would become valid only for version 8.x where the industry is mainly using version 4.x
  - X12 is not publishing MIGs for the maritime industry.
  - The standards are only available against payment.
  - For these reasons, an adaption seems rather unlikely.

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# SMDG Recommendation for ANSI X.12
## Next Steps

**SMDG**

- SMDG was informed by Steve Bass (on behalf of X12) that the approval of the new codes is expected by July 2022 and they will be in published January 2023 for X12 versions 008040.

## Confirmation: Maintenance Request Received

| | |
|---|---|
| Submitter Name | **Pedro Vieira** |
| Submitter Email | pedro.vieira@msc.com |
| Submitter Company | **MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company** |
| On Behalf | |
| Products Impacted | **EDI Standard** |
| Business Case and/or Reason for Change | **MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) uses BIC facility depot codes and SMDG terminal codes with trading partners using UN/EDIFACT messages. MSC would like to use them with trading partners that use X12 transaction sets.** |
| Suggested Change | **Add two codes to data element 309. Suggestion; N = BIC and R = SMDG. Each needs a pointer to an external code source with content such as:** |
| | **BIC Facility Codes are standardized values that provide a common way to identify depots** - https://www.bic-code.org/bic-facility-codes/ |
| | **SMDG Terminal Codes are standardized values that provide a common way to identify maritime terminals** - https://smdg.org/documents/smdg-code-lists/smdg-terminal-code-list/ |

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# Thank You

## Presented by: Michael Schröder