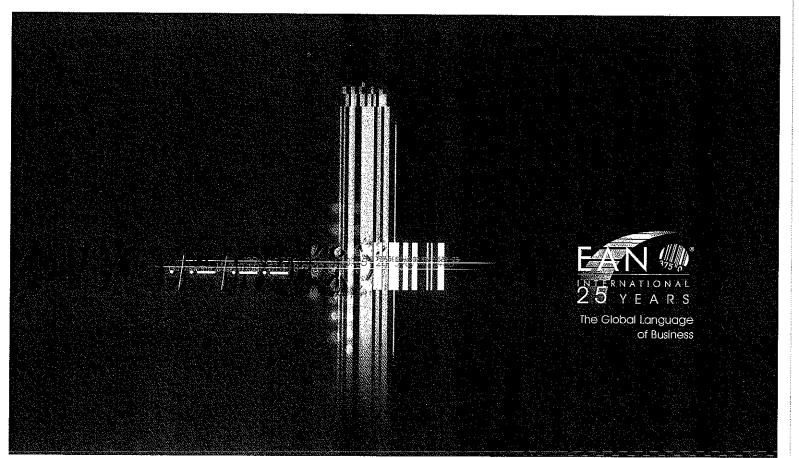
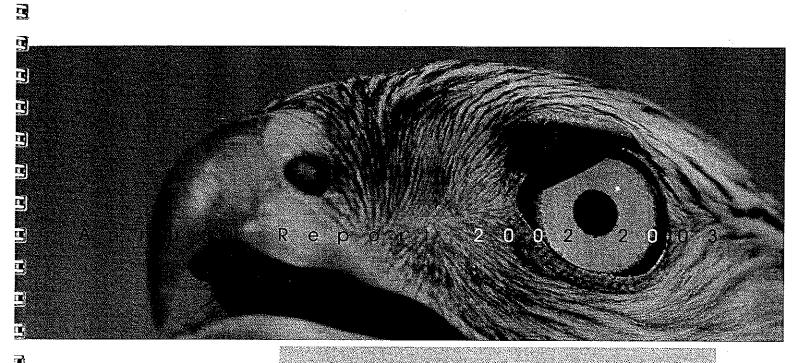
Annual Report 200 2003





Truly Global Vision

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Like the eagle, the cat, the owl, the crocodile, and the ant, we share a similar instinctive need with these animals of creation. The need to see

To see means more than simply being aware at the world around us, it is understanding our environment so intuitively that we can quickly identify and assess events as they accur. This is especially important in our business, which requires us to keep an eye on the continually evolving market and objectively evolute its affects on the industry.

This capacity to see is a symbol that is in line with our corporate philosophy, and also the foundation of our broad-ranged outlook. Needle sharp vision is crucial to analyse today's complex business realities.

A sharp and mindful focus is necessary to keep abreast of the tremendous technological advances in our fast-paced world

A trained and experienced eye is essential to anticipate the innovations of the day, and to envision the evolution and challenges of tamerrow

Only an unhindered 360-degree view allows us to see things from all angles, enabling the organisation to integrate a global strategy of solutions, which addresses the needs of each struction.

Building on the belief that today's market players rely on the "big picture" to make sounds business decisions, EAN International keeps a watchful huwk's-eye view on industry changes. And we never lose sight of the future.

It is this ability to foresee forthcoming events that gives us the best vantage point -- to look beyond our existing capacity of knowledge.

All seeing is all knowing. It comes from having truly global vision.

Truly Global Vision

EAN International - A Truly Global Organisation

Celebrating an event is of greater value if it can be marked by a positive outcome. In 2002 we achieved that. We celebrated our twenty-fifth year of operation and our development over that time from a start up association of twelve Western European Member Organisations (MOs) to an International and well respected organisation of 97 MOs. The positive outcome was the further expansion of EAN International by the admission as MOs in November 2002 of the two organisations that enabled us at long last to call ourselves a truly global organisation. The Uniform Gode Council (UCC) of the USA and the Electronic Commerce Council of Canada (ECCC).

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Our standards, the EAN.UCC standards, have long been global, but it is right, and our major users feel more comfortable with the position, that there is just one controlling organisation. UCC maintain co-ownership of the standards through the joint management of GSMP, but from an operational perception, with the last pieces of the jigsaw in place, we ended the year as one body. The addition of UCC and ECCC brings further maturity to the EAN Community.

Looking forward to the coming year, other major benefits of our expansion, notably the refocused Management Board with a greater presence among its members of senior executives of user companies that are at the level of COO, CEO or equivalent positions; will become increasingly apparent. But, it does not stop there. We will start the new operational year with a global platform and a new name from which a new President and new Chief Executive Officer, bringing renewed dynamism and enthusiasm, will lead the organisation through the exciting challenges and opportunities of the coming years.

The last two years have seen major changes to the governance and structure of the organisation, in addition to the recent expansion and associated changes. A number of people have contributed greatly to the positive outcome and toyourable opportunities that we have today, and to them we owe grateful thanks for their commitment and dedication.

Before I close, I must record one special "thank you". Throughout that time Brian Smith, former CEO of EAN Australia, who I encouraged to come to Brussels to fulfil the role of CEO, has presided over the operational aspects of the restructuring of Head Office and the reshaping of the organisation. Brian has delayed his retirement to accomplish these important tasks and the organisation as a whole owes him much grafitude for his wise counsel, dignity, encouragement and humour that has enabled the whole process to be achieved successfully and harmoniously. We wish him and his family great happiness when he retires at the end of December 2003.

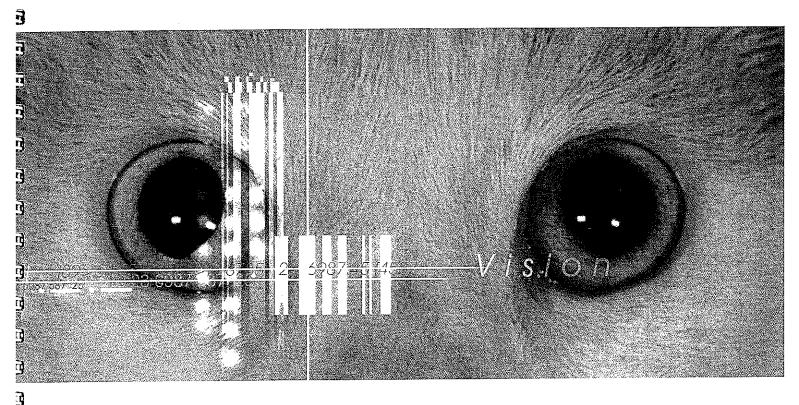
Laurie Wilson President

Vision

Supply and Demand Chains Improvement Solutions require Global Open Multisectoral EAN.UCC Standards

Mission Statement

By creating Open, Global, Multisectoral Standards based on Best Business Practices, and by driving their implementation, play a leading role in Supply & Demand Chain Management improvement worldwide



Introduction

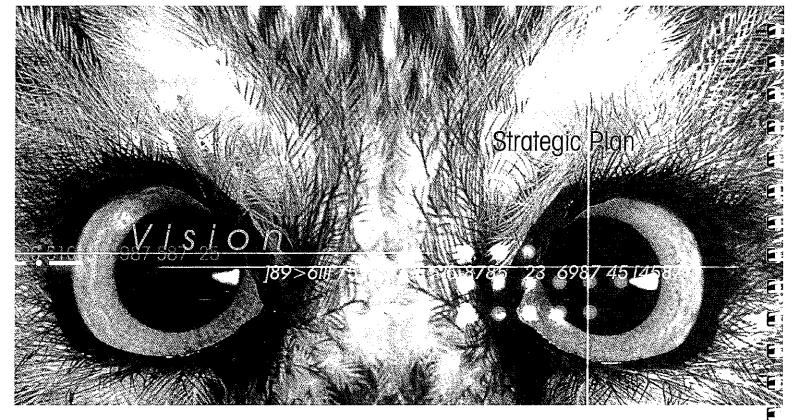
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What better way to conclude the first quarter century of its existence than to be able to record that EAN International is now a truly global organisation. The historic decision made at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the General Assembly, held on 26th November 2002, which admitted EAN•UCC global standards partner, the Uniform Code Council (UCC) of the USA, together with the Electronic Commerce Council of Canada (ECCC) into full membership of EAN International makes that an indisputable fact. At the same meeting the decision to increase the size and broaden the composition of the Management Board was also approved.

The number of members on the EAN Management Board increased to allow for a maximum of 25 members and a minimum of 15 members; a new category of Board member covering global multinational companies was created; a greater presence on the Board of senior executives of user companies that are at the level of COO, CEO or equivalent positions took effect; representation from North America was included and a second EAN Vice-President was proposed and elected.

Furthermore, this will be the last Annual Report to appear under the banner of EAN International. Delegates to the Extraordinary General Meeting approved the need for a new name and initiation of a process that would lead to the adoption of a new name to reflect fully the community's global operation and be used by EAN International and all the Member Organisations (MOs). This should be concluded early in the next reporting year with formal approval sought at the General Assembly in 2003.

The achievement of these long held aims, which will lead the EAN • UCC standards forward into the future, was the culmination of many hours of hard work over several years by a small number of committed people dedicated to achieving that outcome. The beneficiaries of these achievements are the users of the EAN • UCC standards, the one million member companies, and now 1500 members of staff worldwide.



With a prime strategy of becoming a World-class User driven organisation within the next 3 years, it was essential to have a Strategic Plan. This was put together over a 6 month period and involved both EAN Head Office and MO representatives bound together in a special Task Force, which drew on the outcome of earlier work and annual meetings. The Task Force was assisted in its work by the entire EAN Community as a session of the annual Member Organisations Managers Meeting in February 2002 was given over to a series of Workshops on 3 key factors identified by the Task Force as being strategically important: Key Industry Sector Prioritisation; Strategic Relationships and Alliances, and Identity: Mission, Beliefs and Values.

The final outcome of the Task Force's work was the approval of the first "zero" version of the rolling Strategic Plan at the General assembly 2002. The agreed overall strategy statement reads:

- To become a World-class User driven organisation within the next 3 years, and that implies promoting EAN, both internationally and locally, as THE leader in Global Open Multisectoral Standards
- From recognising and understanding Business Requirements and Business Practices, to the development of Standards, Technical and Implementation Guidelines and Best Business Practices,

EAN International's strategy is to develop Solutions that meet or exceed User and Industry requirements.

- EAN International's strategy is jointly captured in the updated Vision Statement, Mission Statement and Core Business definition.

The Strategy statement is supported by Strategic Directions:

- Image: EAN International will within the next 3 years, be recognised globally in the selected Industry Sectors as the leading provider of supply chain related & business led standards and solutions
- Membership: An increase in User Company membership worldwide by 12,5% every year (subject to full implementation of this strategic plan by MOs) as a target
- Strategic Partnerships: EAN International will link up with Global Players, to strengthen its Global Leadership in Supply Chain Management Efficiency Solutions
- The-Way-We-Do-Business: EAN International will become a world-class organisation, driven by the same professional norms as those of its Global Users.

Accomplishing these strategies will safeguard our heritage and assure a brilliant future.

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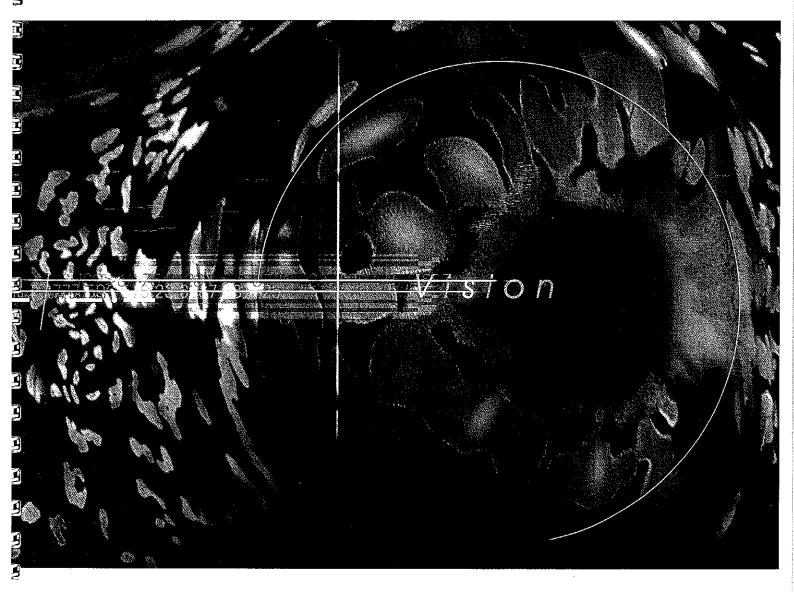
Membership

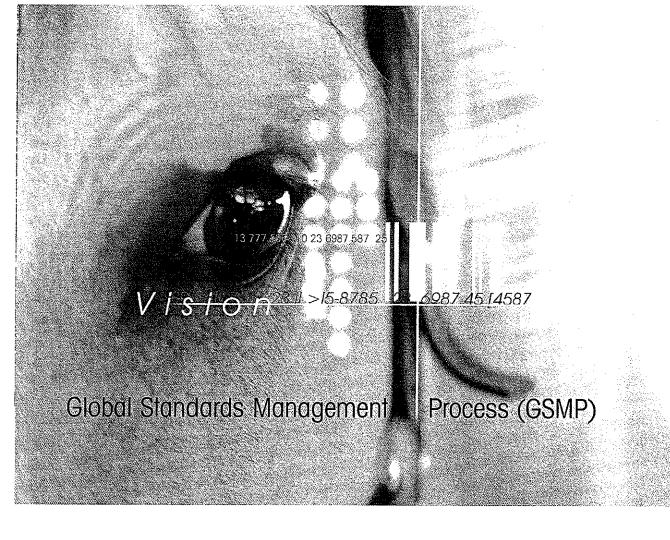
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The membership of EAN Kyrgyzstan was approved by the General Assembly in May 2002 and, as already reported, the Uniform Code Council of the USA together with the Electronic Commerce Council of Canada were admitted into membership at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the General Assembly in November 2002. These additions bring the number of MOs to 99 representing 101 countries directly. At the close of 2002, EAN International's global membership had almost reached the one million mark, 981,723 - up from 936,161 at the end of 2001. That is a creditable increase of 4.9% at a time of a downturn in global trade.

Member Organisation Sponsoring

During the year, the opportunity arose to close a gap in the organisational structure of the Global Business Solutions group. Thanks to EAN Brazil's contribution, a General Manager, Implementation and Marketing has been engaged and now completes the organisational structure. Delivery to expectation in this area of activity will now be a certainty.

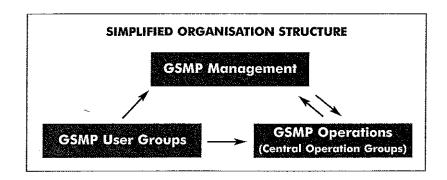




The EAN • UCC system is jointly developed and managed by EAN International and its new Member Organisation, the Uniform Code Council (UCC). To ensure unity in standards development, an acceleration of the application process and the presentation of one face to the market, the two bodies implemented a purposely designed process, the Global Standards Management Process (GSMP) in January 2002.

The Process covers the complete cycle of events from the initial identification of a need or requirement through to the implementation of the solution developed through the GSMP. The whole procedure takes place openly as the new process is designed around a high level of user involvement with all steps totally visible and reported on regularly as they happen.

The GSMP is operated through a joint EAN•UCC "Management Structure", which also involves members of the EAN community and users, right from the initial stage of assessment of a Change Request through to the ultimate implementation. This ensures that EAN•UCC users have a greater input into EAN•UCC standard making.



To promote the service and encourage more MO staff and user companies to participate, GSMP's tagline was developed and reads: "GSMP: the engine that powers the EAN•UCC system", and a marketing and communications web site was set up: www.mygsmp.org

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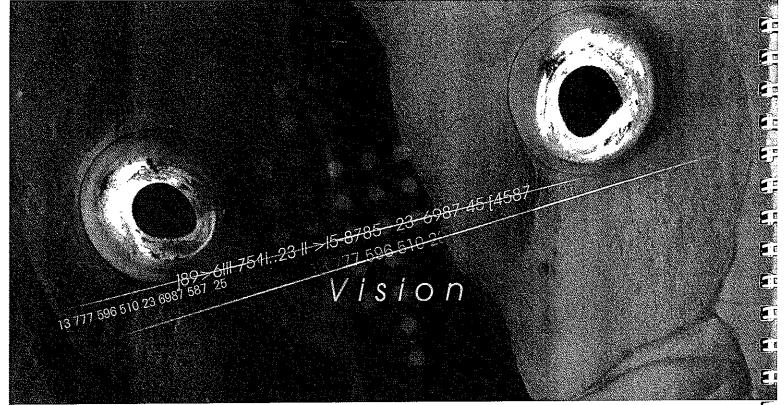
The first year of operations has seen both the generation of output on an increasing scale and a continuing refinement of the process. Every request for a change to an existing standard or for a new one becomes the subject of a "Change Request", which has become the unit of measure in input/output and process timescales. The summary of output for 2002 was 61 Change Requests for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) matters resolved and 12 Change Requests for Automatic Identification and Data Capture (AIDC) matters. The latter included the General EAN•UCC Specifications, version 4.0 published in January 2003. This was the first occasion that the specifications, which are revised annually, were progressed through the GSMP. In addition, the Global User Manual (the simplified version of the General Specifications) was released as version 5.0 in March 2003.

One significant output of GSMP was the long

awaited release of the GTIN Allocation Rules, which received wide applause and endorsement from many GCI Companies. This year has also seen us delivering key foundational work for the future work of GSMP. We developed and finalised major pillars on which to enhance further adoption of the EAN•UCC system:

- an eb-Methodology
- a Global Data Dictionary (GDD)
- a Global Product Classification (GCP)

One year after the launch, the opportunity was taken to enable all those involved in the process to meet together by holding an event in Brussels at the end of February 2003 to celebrate the first anniversary of GSMP. It was very much a "hard-working" event as more than 200 delegates from the five continents attended to join the physical meetings of all the Requirement Groups and the Technical Development teams.



Global Logical Registry

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In October 2002, EAN International agreed to endorse a registry service based on the EAN • UCC standard that was being developed by GSMP to be delivered by UCCnet as the central item data registry for international commerce subject to the satisfactory resolution of a number of key issues. These are:

- The service complies with EAN UCC standards,
- The service can be demonstrated to be cost-effective and affordable to the global business community
- The service can deliver a global service (hours of support and language coverage).
- The service should also, where practical, be designed to anticipate future market requirements.

In support of this agreement, EAN International began encouraging EAN Data Pools to join this registry service in order to advance the efforts for global supply chain collaboration. This announcement also received the support of the Global Commerce Initiative (GCI), which commended the work of EAN International and the UCC at its Executive Board Meeting on October 16th in New York City. At that meeting, GCI also endorsed the Registry service to be provided by UCCnet as long as there was a satisfactory resolution of the key issues.

The agreement between the organisations represents an important step in improving global supply chain management practices (\$40 billion, or 3.5 percent of total sales, are lost each year due to supply chain information inefficiencies according to a recent study by A.T. Kearney).

EAN International and the UCC, along with GCI, have agreed to encourage their users to implement this registry service provided by UCCnet.

The Registry Service provided by UCCnet will serve as the central repository for standardised item information. EAN member product catalogues such as AMECE in Mexico; Cabasnet, used jointly by seven MOs in Latin America; EANnet in Australia; SINFOS International in Germany, Austria and The Netherlands; Edb in Switzerland, as well as ECCnet in Canada, will be able to offer to their subscribers an ability for their data pool to registrar minimum product information which will allow a global search facility.

Both the registration of products and the search facility to the registry service is provided through the home data pool in which the supplier elecis to place his product or the home data pool that a party elects to use for search purposes. The only access to the registry service is through a home data pool. Furthermore, the investment made by many MOs in the GEPIR (Global EAN Party Information Register) project is recognised and a project group has been set up to understand how this can best be utilised within the Global Data Synchronisation vision.

Global Product Classification

Every manufacturer and retailer describes the same products in their databases in a different way. Global Product Classification is a methodology that groups products into blocks called 'bricks' and associated 'attributes' and 'values' in order to bring commonality to the way products are described and support business processes. It enables: the searching of logical and flexible product categories; custom category analysis and the simplification and efficiency of data synchronisation.

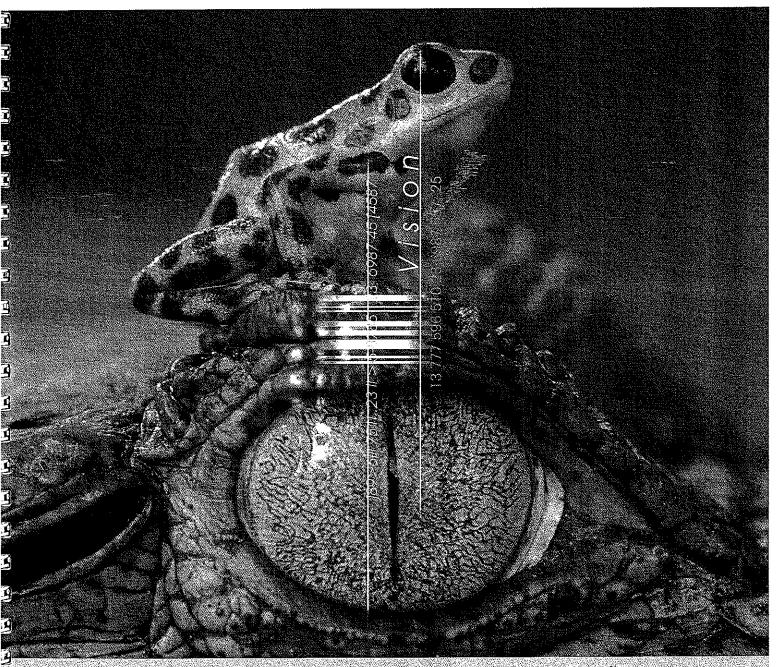
It was always envisaged that this would not be run "in house" by the community but through the services of a dedicated service provider. A commercial contract and service level agreement is close to being finalised between EAN International and a Service Provider.

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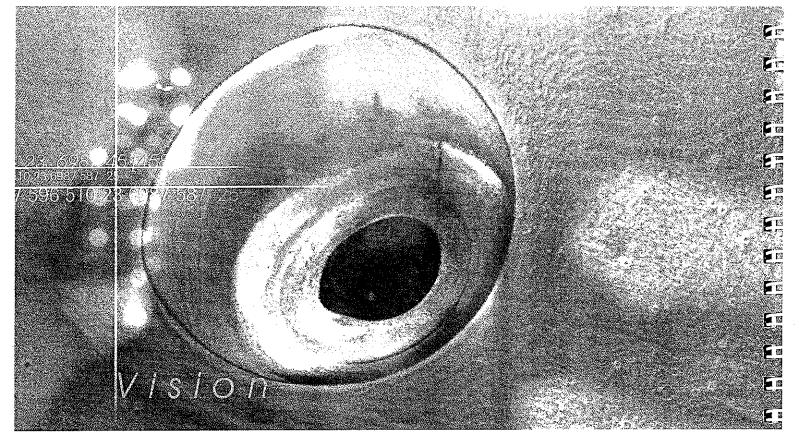
The service will operate with MOs licensing FMCG Retailers & Manufacturers as users and Solution Providers that manage Exchanges or are Catalogue or Data Pool Operators or are Software Vendors. It will be organised in such a way that cost recovery is fair to all MOs and the system is simple for global users.

It is expected that by May 2003, the contract between Head Office and the Service Provider will be in place and the service can be launched. There will be an ongoing Marketing and Communication Campaign to further promote take up from Industry.

The service will provide MOs with a new business opportunity and balance both user and MO needs.



Sharing a common vision.



EANCOM® 2002

At the year end the new version of EANCOM*, The EAN International Electronic Data Interchange Standard, a subset of UN/EDIFACT, was released under the name EANCOM* 2002 to replace the previous version EANCOM* 1997, which will no longer be maintained.

The latest version is based on the UN/EDIFACT directory D.01B, which incorporates security messages and other additional functionality not available in the EANCOM 97 release, which had been based on the earlier D.96A UN/EDIFACT standard. The new version is also aligned with the General EAN•UCC Specifications as it no longer employs the old terms for locations and products/services, but uses Global Location Number (GLN) and Global Trade Item Number (GTIN).

EANCOM* 2002 replaces EANCOM* 1997 as the supported EDI standard and is available to the EAN community on the EAN On-Line section of the EAN International website and for users it is available from MOs on CD. Two versions are available, a users version and also an experts version, which is augmented by references to the implemented change requests. This should help experts understand the nature of the agreed changes.

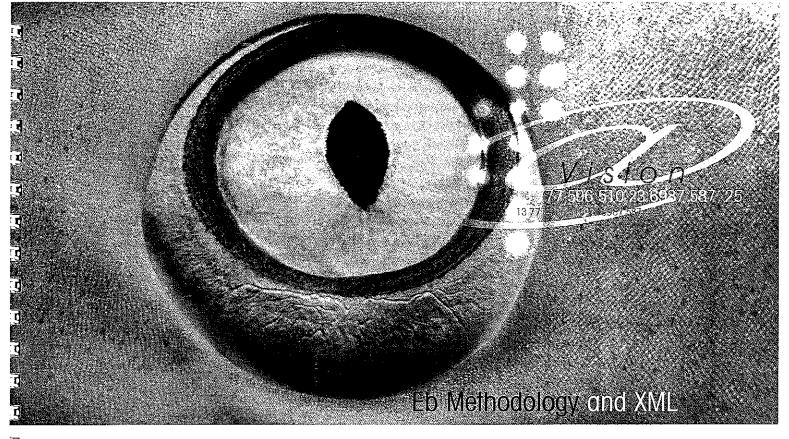
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During the year the project team developing a EAN•UCC Methodology for the development and maintenance of e-Business Standards, the EAN•UCC e-Business Methodology, completed its work and it was approved.

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To develop robust e-Business standards it is essential to capture business requirements precisely in a consistent manner using a complete set of Electronic Business Methodologies (eBMethodology). Adopting this practice provides a firm basis on which to generate standards using the operational technologies including Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), eXtensible Mark-up Language (XML) or Automatic Identification and Data Capture (AIDC).

The Global Standards Management Process (GSMP) is the way by which EAN•UCC standards are developed or revised, but to be fully effective it is incumbent on all participants of this process to work to a common methodology based on a set of formal rules and practical guidelines.

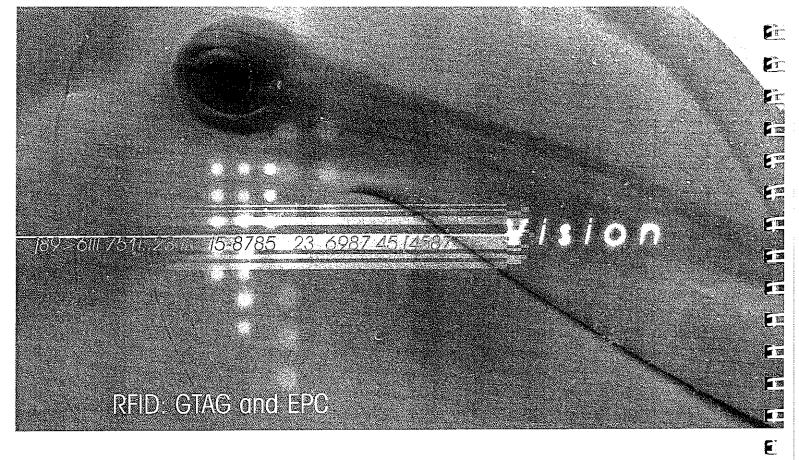
The primary basis for the EAN • UCC eBMethodology is a series of well-established international standards, specifically electronic business XML (ebXML) and the UN/CEFACT Modelling Methodology (UMM). Alignment with these international standards in the development of EAN • UCC standards ensures speedy development, maximum information interoperability and ease of long-term maintenance. Adherence to these principles also ensures that EAN • UCC continues to deliver quality and trusted open global standards in support of the EAN • UCC system.

The eBMethodology documents are intended to guide the user through the implementation of international agreed standards (i.e. UN/Cefact, ebXML) within the EAN+UCC domain.

The eBMethodology provides a comprehensive set of documents that cover four implementation areas:

- EAN UCC Modelling Methodology, which describes the usage of modelling techniques to document business needs in compliance with the UN/CEFACT Modelling Methodology (UMM) and makes use of Unified Modelling Language (UML);
- EAN•UCC Core Components Methodology, which presents a more flexible and inter-operable way of standardising business semantics to maximise information interoperability based on ebXML;
- XML Design Rules for EAN•UCC, which is a standard and strict way to translate UML class diagrams into XML data representations and thus also provides the guidelines for XML schema design; and
- EAN•UCC XML Communications Architecture, which is a standard way to assemble XML data representations into a business message in compliance with the overall XML architecture and details the specification of the layered approach, the support to the messaging standards and an exact description of the transport protocol customisation.

During the course of the year the EAN•UCC XML schemas, published in the previous year, were revised through GSMP.



GTAG

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technologies present opportunities for supply chain management applications complementary to the ubiquitous bar code, but, to be effective, they require open standards. EAN International and the UCC have taken a pro-active role in this field since 1996, resulting in the GTAG Technical Specification. The "air interface protocol" - the method by which readers communicate with tags - has been developed in collaboration with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). EAN and UCC, through GTAG, were prime contributors to the ISO standard, which will soon be ratified as ISO 18000-6. This ISO document (which during the year had become a Committee Draft available for public scrutiny and use) is an important technical standard for the community of RFID manufacturers and system integrators, which will develop, manufacture and sell standards-compliant and GTAG-compliant products and systems.

The scope of GTAG is restricted to defining a globally applicable RFID technology, in the same way that EAN and UCC have standardised bar code symbologies, so that GTAG-compliant products can be easily integrated into existing data capture systems that employ the EAN • UCC system, and in particular to achieve data consistency independent of data carrier technology.

EPC

The "Electronic Product Code" (EPC) is the brainchild of the Auto-ID Center, which was set up in 1999 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) by a group of founding sponsors that included UCC, Procter & Gamble, and Gillette. The EPC system utilises RFID as the data carrier, and requires network connectivity to retrieve information pertinent to a specific EPC. Unlike the EAN •UCC GTIN, which refers to a specific product specification, an EPC uniquely identifies each instance of an object type. The Auto-ID Center is developing sophisticated Internet-based systems and services in order to marshal the vast amount of data that this creates.

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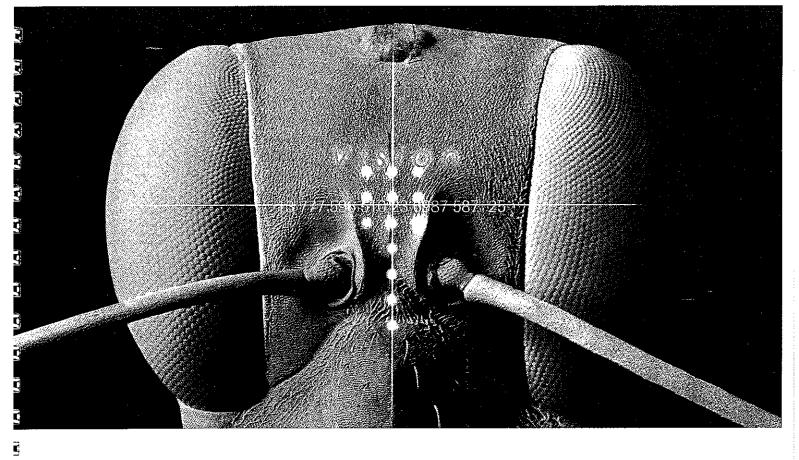
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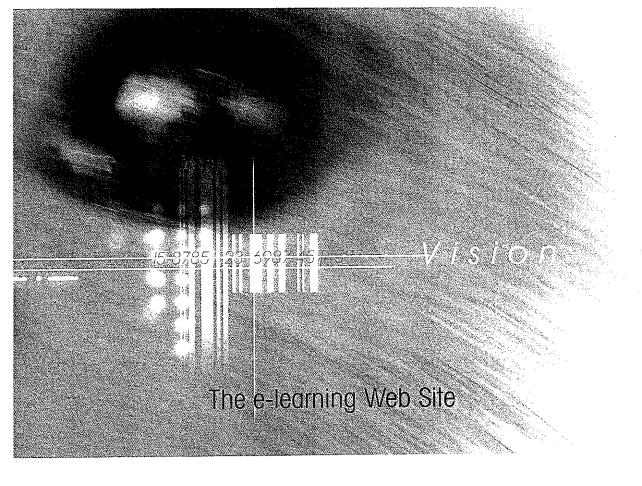
The vision of EPC is entirely in accord with EAN's and UCC's thinking and position, and is profoundly important to EAN and UCC as a means of enhancing global commerce. EAN International's participation in the project and in the practical issues as it moves from the development stage to eventual availability and operation is being conducted at the highest level.



Reduced Space Symbology (RSS)

Reduced Space Symbol and Composite Symbols have been developed by EAN International and UCC to bar code small items where space for a conventional bar code is not available. While work is currently underway to define a number of application standards for these symbologies, to date only the "Very Small Healthcare Items" application guideline has been approved. It was published in January 2002. Only when application standards and rollout schedules are established will EAN International and the UCC endorse the use of these symbologies for use in other open supply channels.

A number of full supply chain applications have been implemented in Healthcare in the USA and particular interest is being shown in several European countries, with a small number of trials being conducted. In the last year a company in The Netherlands that packs and repacks pharmaceutical products for some major national suppliers implemented a second pilot trial through the supply chain with a supplier, a wholesaler and a hospital pharmacy having found hard and software suppliers to provide equipment. This extended trial is on-going and was spurred on by the successful outcome of a more limited trial that it had conducted in the previous year.



The Internet electronic learning package, which was launched last year and is accessed through the EAN international website, enables the more than 1500 staff of the Member Organisations (MOs) around the world to learn about the EAN•UCC Standards and other relevant areas without increasing their training budgets. It is proving highly successful.

It is imperative that MO Staff, whose principal task is to encourage and assist their members in using the full range of EAN • UCC standards, are competent in their own knowledge of the standards. This requires a high standard of training and they must all maintain a similar standard of training world wide, which the Head Office based e-learning project now provides. It has been well received as at the year end there are over 600 registered users for LEARN covering staff from 78 MOs together with staff from 68 member companies to whom access has been enabled by their local MOs.

Since its launch the site has expanded. It was established in English, the official language of EAN, but at the initiative and through the support of the Latin American MOs it was also launched in Spanish in June 2002. The package is modular in concept and during the year two further modules were added in October 2002 to complement the four basic components that cover the fundamental elements and applications of the system.

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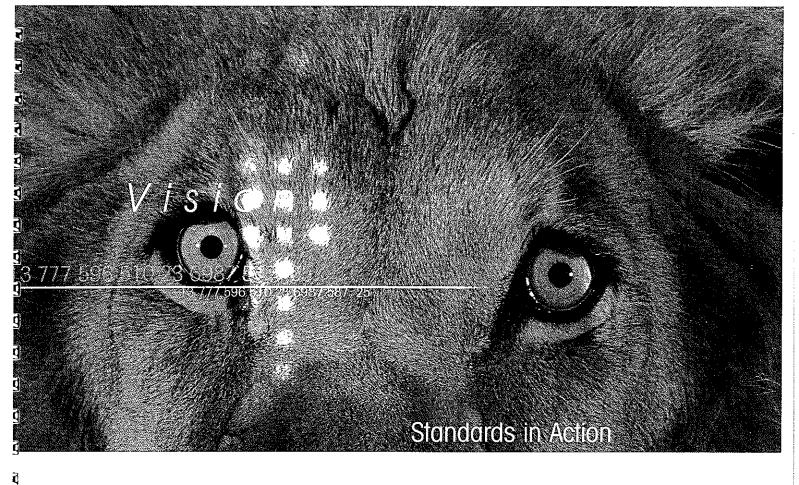
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The new modules are "Warehouse", which covers the standards for logistic processes, Serial Shipping Container Code (SSCC), logistics labels, Global Location Numbers (GLNs) and returnable assets, and "Supply Chain Management", which covers the various components of effective supply chain management. The next module, which is planned for release in April 2003, will be Print Quality and Verification.



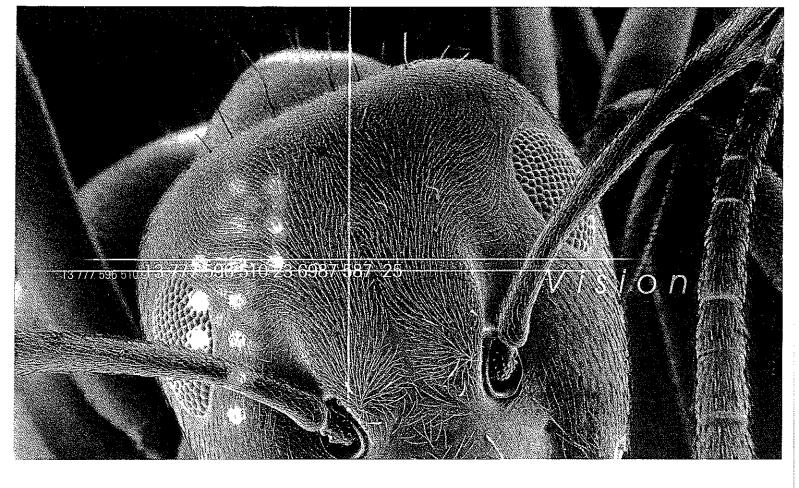
In responding to the need for a global approach to standards as international trade increases, it was enshrined in the EAN Strategic Plan 2002-2005 that a global marketing strategy would be implemented to reinforce EAN's message and, subsequently, the usage of EAN•UCC standards on a global scale.

The Standards in Action (SIA) programme was adopted as the common marketing theme for the entire EAN Community marketing approach in order to promote the global adoption of EAN•UCC standards and to reinforce EAN International's position as "The Leading Standards Organisation for Supply Chain Management".

Launched in April 2002, by a major exhibition services provider in the computer and allied technology sectors, the SIA Programme was built around the EAN • UCC standards, but initially intended just to provide retailers, their suppliers and systems vendors with a better understanding of interoperability across the supply chain. The increased awareness, in turn, would enable them to encourage systems vendors to provide high levels of compliance. However, it was quickly appreciated that the programme could have a much wider application in the global promotion of the EAN • UCC standards.

Following amicable negotiations, MoonWatch Media, the programme owner, signed an agreement with EAN International at the year end handing over ownership of the Intellectual Property (IP) of the name and logo of Standards In Action. This transfer of the IP ownership confirmed the importance of the name to EAN International and has enabled it to increase the scope of the programme, and to roll it out to the entire EAN Community. The scope now covers all Marketing and Implementation programmes of the EAN • UCC System.

The original goal of the programme, to provide forums to encourage Solution Providers to embed EAN • UCC Standards in their software developments has been augmented by further key roles: the Integration of Implementation Initiatives (in coordination with GCI and ECR); the promotion, adoption and usage of EAN • UCC Standards (Conference, Events – speakers, exhibition stands) and as a Communication Vehicle for all current and future marketing initiatives throughout the community. There is no doubt that the wide scale adoption of SIA throughout the EAN Community will greatly facilitate promotion of the business case for Global Standards and drive implementation of the EAN • UCC standards to the next level.



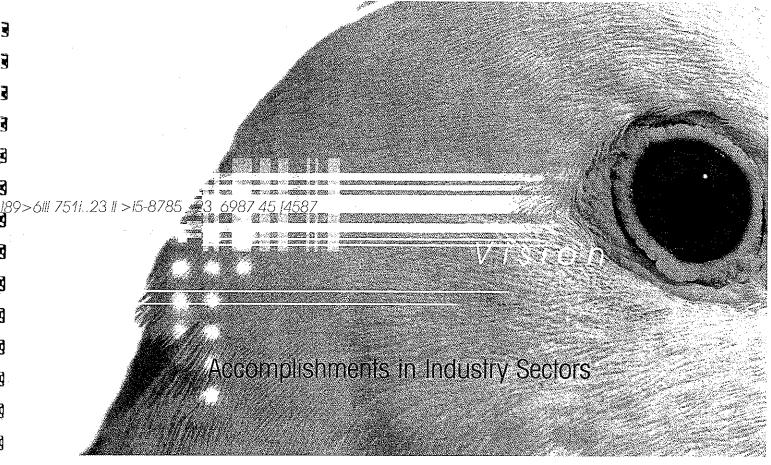
Improving ties within the EAN community

The network of EAN International and the MOs is a community of some 1500 dedicated people serving the one million membership with strategic help and practical assistance in using the standards. Although they operate in many different languages and cultures the standards are the same throughout the world. Through practical experience many MO staff members have become experts in a wide variety of business sectors and technologies. To assist in harmessing this expertise for the better use and closer ties of the community, the Network Synergy Group was formed. It is comprised of the CEOs of five MOs drawn from most regions of the world and is co-ordinated by EAN International.

One of the group's recent successes has been the implementation of a web based EAN Community Database, which has been designed exclusively for EAN MOs to help improve the collaboration between staff of MOs and the exchange of knowledge within the community. The Database is

available to MOs from the EAN On-Line side of the EAN International website through a password controlled access system.

This database has several roles, one of which is to assist MOs throughout the world in marketing and implementation projects by providing, for example, proven case histories of successful implementations and the benefits gained. When either approached by, or targeting a new business sector, an MO can draw on these proven cases from other countries without having a track record of its own. In addition, by having access to a wide range of international and national publications and to documented organisational capabilities of other MOs, which are other functions of the database, an MO can improve the quality and deliver a greater range of services to its users.



Healthcare

The ability to track and trace medical products in the supply chain is now at the top of the agenda for healthcare management. The need to improve the efficiency of logistic processes and the requirement to reduce medical errors are all driving healthcare providers to focus increased attention on the use of bar code solutions in their business processes.

During the year EAN International, working closely with many MOs, took the opportunity to strengthen its position and gain more users in the healthcare sector by launching two global projects, one in manufacturing and one in services. On the manufacturing side, guidelines on the usage of the EAN•UCC standards in the pharmaceutical, medical & dental devices, implant and medical equipment, sub sectors are in preparation and on the services side further guidelines on the usage of the EAN•UCC standards in the hospital environment are also in preparation.

Many consumable items in healthcare, for example, unit doses of medicines, are extremely small and have little surface space available for bar coding. The recently developed Reduced Space Symbology barcode (RSS) is ideal in this situation and during the course of the year an RSS toolkit was developed and promoted. One promotional opportunity for RSS was participation in a Healthcare "Blister Pack" conference in Vienna. In addition, EAN International has participated in the Medtech exhibition in Germany

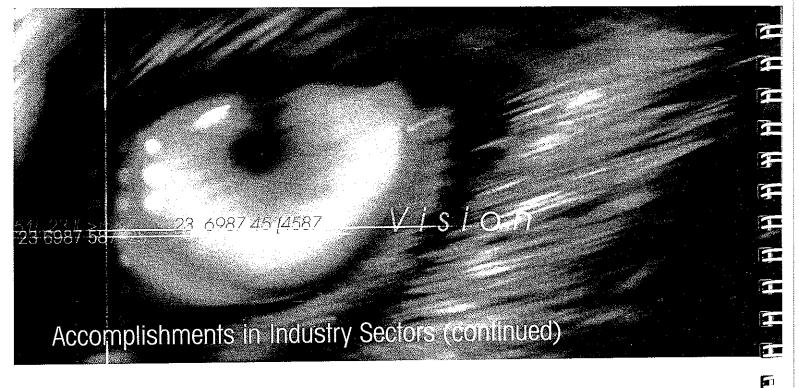
and the first pharmaceutical supply chain event Logipharma in Geneva.

Major success during the year were:

- the much publicised endorsement of the EAN•UCC standards by GHX, Global Healthcare Exchange following a collaborative campaign by Head Office and a number of MOs.
- the Healthcare Forum launched in February 2003 and to which 38 MOs have signed up.

In advance of the formation of a Global Healthcare Initiative under the guidance of Head Office, the Western European MOs launched their own European Healthcare Initiative. They had moved quickly as their researches had revealed both advantageous prospects and an opportune moment. This three year trial initiative is funded by the participating MOs and has been set up by agreement with Head Office such that its operational experiences will greatly assist in moulding the framework of the Global Healthcare Initiative when that, too, gets under way.

For a number of years EAN International has been a member of the International Hospital Federation (IHF) and at the year end it was invited to contribute to the IHF's next global event in August 2003 on the subject of Patient safety and Information technology. The event will be staged in the USA and the national MO, UCC, will participate in conjunction with EAN International.



Traceability and Global Food Safety

Increasing interest by governments, the World Health Organisation and other regulatory bodies for the protection of consumers' health, which are concertedly seeking to ensure fair practices in the food trade and promote coordination of all food standards work has provided EAN International with an opportunity to widen its area of influence. It is endeavouring to encourage solution providers to embed the EAN+UCC standards into their software.

In addition to Guidelines for meat and fresh produce published in recent years, a guideline for fish, both farmed and caught in the wild, was prepared and approved during the course of the year. The project for its preparation was led by EAN Norway and the project team comprised representatives of MOs from countries where fishing is a major industry.

In October TRACE-S, an overall strategy on Traceability, was approved and just after the year end the TRACE-I document, the generic multi sectoral guideline produced to enable MOs to write local guidelines for any sector or product line, was also approved. This will be particularly valuable for the Food supply chain and many MOs are expected to take advantage of it for the production and export of local produce. Already, EAN South Africa has produced an implementation guideline for fresh produce and e.centre – EAN UK is in the process of producing one. EAN Australia has produced a guideline for

meat and livestock. EAN Belgium.Luxembourg has produced implementation guidelines for both meat and for fresh produce.

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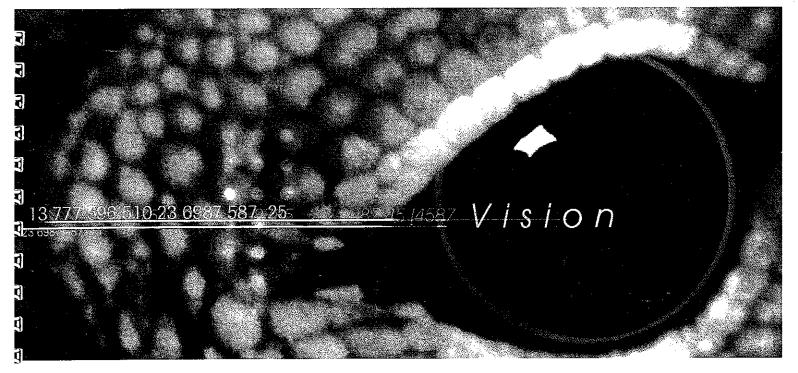
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Transport

Liaison with the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations, (FIATA), a large industry forum, has been amplified with the circulation by FIATA of the Memorandum of Understanding agreed with EAN International to their members in more than 140 countries. A study analysing the business opportunities in this sector is being conducted by EAN HO and will be presented to the Management Board in 2003.

Defence

EAN International participates in the NATO Asset Tracking working group and is monitoring preparations for the implementation by 1 January 2005 by the Defence organisations in NATO member countries of a number of recent NATO logistics standards (STANAGS) which require the use of some of the EAN • UCC standards. The appropriate EAN • UCC standard solutions are recommended for use in the logistic processes. MOs in NATO countries are exploiting the opportunity to increase memberships from companies that are suppliers to the Defence industry and will need to comply with the standards.



Collaborative Initiatives

During the course of the year strategic relationships with a number of key worldwide organisations were strengthened or initiated in order to press development of the EAN•UCC standards or to further their use. For example:

- UN/Cefact: for ebXML and eb Methodology
- International Organisation for Standards (ISO): for the RFID GTAG standard and the ISO committee TC20 WG for Aircraft and Space Vehicles identification
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Auto-ID Center: for RFID and EPC
- World Customs Organisation (WCO): To encourage WCO to ensure that its Unique Consignment Reference (UCR) solution becomes EAN•UCC compliant
- Global Commerce Initiative (GCI): with which EAN International clarified the respective roles and focus areas
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE): for the Standardisation of Fresh produce and Food Trade facilitation
- The Management Group of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), UN/ECE and ISO aiming at the promotion of standardisation synergies

Additionally, significant progress was made in Business Development and a number of international associations were brought towards GSMP: These included The Wine and Spirits Federations, the International Federation for Produce Coding (IFPC) and the European Shoe Industry.

GEPIR

For the second year running the Global EAN Party Information Registry (GEPIR), the service that interconnects Member Organisation membership databases using Internet technology, has shown phenomenal growth by almost doubling the number of MOs that are now interconnected. From humble beginnings in 1999 when GEPIR was started by three Western European MOs: France, Sweden and Switzerland, the current number of member MOs covers 61 countries. EAN International hosts the GEPIR website from which initial entry to MO databases can be gained.

Public access is now available to addresses, contact details and company prefixes of some 420,000 companies around the world, simply by accessing their own country's website or directly through the GEPIR website. In some countries a GTIN or GLN can be used as the key to gaining information.

The service is truly indicative of the rate of globalisation of trade, abetted in great measure by the quick and easy access to accurate information through the Internet by GEPIR.

EAN International facts and figures



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Showy OM



Northern Goshawk



Domestic cat



Lemon Shark



Poison Arrow Frog on Spectacled Cayman



Bumphead Parrotfish.



Dove



African lion



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Horse



Pair of Garibaldi fish



Ant head



Bottle Nose dolphin



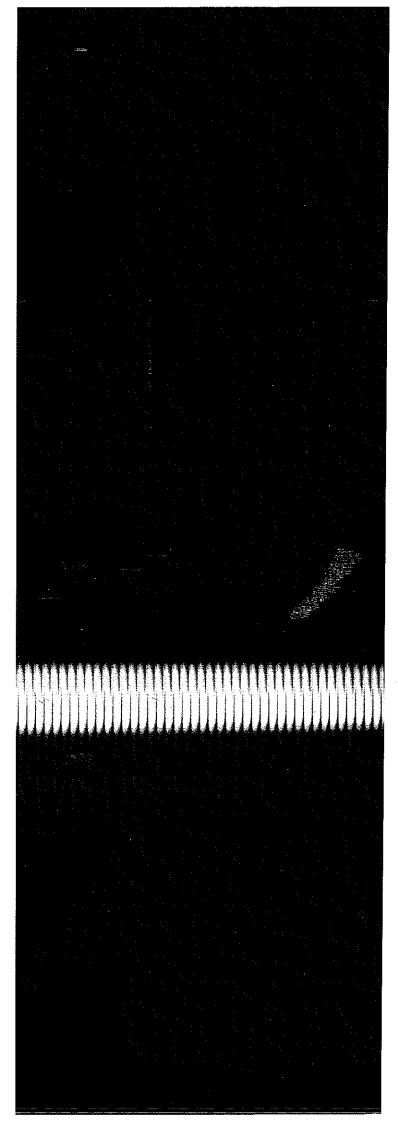
White Monkey



Alaskan Husky



Green Anole lizard





Barcode Quality Verification



Helpdesk / Call Centre



Training / Education



Verification of processes for the allocation of EAN numbers



GEPIR



Benchmarking and/or Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for Supply Chain Management and /or Logistics



Consulting Services on Implementation of EAN Standards



Data Synchronisation (e.g. Pools/Alignment/Catalogue/Registry/Classification)



EDI Service Centre



National Supplier's Guide



Software for management of number allocation (users)

Member Organisations' Addresses and Services



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Algeria

1994

EAN ALGÉRIE - Organisation Algérienne de Codification des Articles Route Nationale 5, El Alia, Bab Ezzouar, BP 285 Hacen Badi - El Harrach Alger

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Argentina

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Armenia

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Belgium

1977

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Bolivia

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Austria

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Bosnia

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Azerbaijan

1999

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Bulgaria

1991

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Costa Rica 1998

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Canada

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Croatia 1992

Cuba

1990

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Chile

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1989

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China

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Czech Republic 1983

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Member Organisations' Addresses and Services



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Denmark

1977

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Finland 1977

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Dominican Republic

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France

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Georgia

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Egypt 1996

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Hungary

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Indonesia

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Member Organisations' Addresses and Services



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Kazakhstan

1996

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Kenya

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Lithuania

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Kuwait

2000

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Macau 1999

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Kyrgyzstan

2002

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Latvian Chamber of Commerce









Macedonia

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Latvia

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Malta 1992

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Mauritius

1994

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Mexico

1987

AMECE - Asociación Mexicana de Estándares para el Comercio Electrónico Horacio no. 1855-6, Col. Los Morales Polanco, 11570 Mexico D.F. T > 52 55 53 95 20 44 F > 52 55 53 95 20 38 info@amece.org.mx www.amece.org.mx www.ecr.org.mx











Moldova

1995

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Morocco

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EAN PARAGUAY

1994

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Member Organisations' Addresses and Services

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Portugal

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Singapore 1987

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Slovakia

1994

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Russia

1986

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Member Organisations' Addresses and Services

South Korea

1988

EAN KOREA 45. Namdaemunro 4 ga, Jung-gu Seoul, 100-743 T > 82 2 311 1435 F > 82 2 311 1452 admin@eankorea.or.kr hmkang@eankorea.or.kr www.eankorea.or.kr www.scm.eankorea.or.kr www.koreannet.or.kr











Taiwan

1985

EAN TAIWAN COUNCIL 10, Lin-Shen South Road 4th Floor 100 Taipei T > 886 2 2393 9145 F > 886 2 2351 7415 eantw@eantaiwan.org.tw www.eantaiwan.org.tw











Spain

1978

AECOC -Asociación Española de Cadificación Comercial Ronda General Mitre, 10 08017 Barcelona T > 34 93 2523900 F > 34 93 2802135 info@gecoc es www.aecoc.es www.aecocnet.com















Thailand

1988

EAN THAILAND INSTITUTE The Federation of Thai Industries, Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Zone 3rd floor 60 New Rachadapisek Rd., Klongtoey Bongkok 10110











Sri Lanka

1995

EAN SRI LANKA C/o. The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce 50, Navam Mawatha Colombo 2 PO Box 274 T > 94 1 449352 94 1 326096 F > 94 1 449352

















Tunisia

1992

TUNICODE Immeuble Ennour Centre Urbain Nord 1082 Tunis T > 216 71 23 11 22 F > 216 71 75 14 37 tunicode.eantunis@gnet.tn www.tunicode.com.tn









Sweden

94 1 437477 chamber2@sri.lanka.net www.chamber.lk

1977

EAN SWEDEN AB Box 1178 111 91 Stockholm T > 46 8 698 30 40 F > 46 8 698 30 49 info@ean.se www.ean.se

















Turkey

1988

Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Maritime Commerce and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) Atatürk Bulvari No 149 Bakanlyklar Ankara



www.tobb.org.tr/ean

















Switzerland

EAN (SCHWEIZ, SUISSE, SVIZZERA) Dornacherstrasse 230 4053 Basel T > 41 61 338 70 00 F > 41 61 338 70 99 mail@ean.ch www.ean.ch

















Ukraine

Article Numbering Association of Ukraine EAN UKRAINE Artema street, 26 Kyiv 04053











Syria

www.trust-info.net www.ean-syria.com

1998

EAN SYRIA - c/o Syrian Computer Institute Lazaristes Building Bab Touma Damascus T > 963 11 5427909 F > 963 11 5427909 ean-syria@net.sy











1994

T > 380 44 216 0734 380 44 246 8521 F > 380 44 246 8515 380 44 216 0032 ean@ean.ua www.ean.ua

www.online.ean.ua www.depos.ean.ua

www.gepir.ean.ua

Member Organisations' Addresses and Services

United Arab Emirates

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EAN EMIRATES Corniche Road Al Reem Plaza Flat No 405 Sharjah T > 971 6 57 222 83 F > 971 6 57 222 86 ean_uae@emirates.net.ae













United Kingdom

1977











e.centre 10 Maltravers Street, London WC2R 3BX T > 44 20 7655 9000 F > 44 20 7681 2290 info@e-centre.org.uk www.e-centre.org.uk







United States of America

Uniform Code Council, Inc. Princeton Pike Corporate Center 1009 Lenox Drive Suite 202 Lawrenceville, NJ 08202

T > 1 609 620 0200 F > 1 609 620 1200 info@uc-council.org www.uc-council.org www.uccnet.org









Uruguay

1989

EAN URUGUAY Jose Ellauri 885 11300 Montevideo T > 598 2 712 3360 F > 598 2 712 3360 info@eanuruguay.org www.eanuruguay.org













Uzbekistan

1998

EAN Uzbekistan Street Bukhara, 6 Tashkent 700047 T > 998 71 136 71 31 F > 998 71 136 79 46 ean@sarkor.uz www.ean.uz









Venezuela

1987

EAN VENEZUELA Av. Francisco Miranda c/c Calle Los Laboratorios Centro Empresarial Quorum, Piso 1 Ofic. J y K. Los Ruices Caracas - 1071 T > 58 212 237 87 77 58 212 237 95 20 58 212 237 73 81



















Vietnam

1995

Vietnam Article Numbering and Barcoding Organization 8 Hoang Quoc Viet St. Cau Giay Dist. Hanoi T > 844 8361463 F > 844 7562444

844 8361771 eanvn@fpt.vn www.vsc.org.vn













Member Companies & Sectors of Application

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Number of Companies using Electronic Commerce Standards

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EDI EANCOM®	Name of the project	Number of users Dec 2002	Estimated number of users Dec 2003
Argentina	SEA	√ 6 5	65
Australia	ECR Australasia (retail)		
	Applie-com (appliances)		
	HardwareB2B (hardware)	3000	3500
	MeatB2B (meat)		
	FurnitureB2B (furniture)		
	SmartTEN (textile)		カード - 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Austria	ECODEX	1900	2800
Belgium	EANCOM®	324	324
Brazil	EANCOM®	4500	4700
Chile	B2B EDI	40	50
Colombia	EANCOM®	1300	1600
Čosta Rica	EDI. Costa Rica	32	40
Czech Republic	P&G EDI Project	10	10
	Invoicing	NA NA	50
Denmark	HANCOM		3.500
	ebNord	1454	1500
Finland	EANCOM®	20	30
France	UPSTREAM	Secretaria de Companyo de Comp	
	LOGISTIC PROVIDER		12460
	FROZEN GOODS	9325	12400
	TRANSPORT		
Germany	EANCOM®	6100	6600
Greece	EANCOM®	265	290
Hong Kong	EZ*TRADE (based on EANCOM®)	76	80
Hungary	ECR EDI	100	110
Iceland	RETANN	0	2
	COACSU	Ö	2
Ireland	HED	370	500
Israel	UCACOM	230	250
Italy	EANCOM97	200	230
Japan	JEDICOS	200	250
Mexico		5000	6500
Netherlands	MIGs	1900	1950
Norway	DEDIP2	110	120
	FEDIP	20	20
		40	45
Peru	EDI PERU	.80	120
Portugal	EANCOM®	2186	2387
Singapore	ShopNET	50	50
Slovakia		9	12
Slovenia		20	31
South Korea	EANCOM-Korea	1400	1500
Spain	Servicio AECOM	2600	3000
Switzerland	EANCOM®	650	800
Sweden	EANCOM/ESAP(covering various buisness scenarios)		
-11-4-11	EDIT (previous project)	8 000	9 000
UK	EANCOM®	2000	2200
Uruguay	RONDANET	0	12
TOTAL		45576	63080
IVIAL			

Web/Lite EDI	Name of the project	Number of users Dec 2002	Estimated number of users Dec 200:
Argentina	WebEDI	140	200
Austria	ECODEX@Life	110	<u>200</u> 170
Brazil		6000	March 1967 A. S. Connection and C. S. School C. S. S.
Chile	828 EDI	880	6500
Colombia	CEN	NA NA	1000
Costa Rica	EDI WEB	9	NA .
Czech Republic	Invoicing Makro C&C	300	50
Denmark	LE@N	180	450
France		6500	200
Hong Kong	EZ*TRADE (based on EANCOM®)	509	8400
Hungary	ECR EDI	50	545,
Italy	EURITMO	150	65 (%) 300
Ireland	HEDI	300	 A contract of the contract of the
Mexico	AS2 / Secure Shell	1,000	375
Netherlands	Web-EDI	50	2500
Norway	Dagfinn	70	100
Peru	EANnetPERU	40	120
Romania	EasyCom:	150	200
Russia	EDI-UNISCAN	229	300
Slovakia	XML2EDI	9 (80 y 55) 5 P (90 (80)	250 25
	IPN		The same of the sa
5 pain	EDIWEB AECOC	260	50
	Conector XML	10	300
Switzerland	Retailers indiv	50	100
Uruguay	RONDANET	The state of the s	NOW THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER
TOTAL		17103	73 22253

National standards	Name of the project	Number of users	Estimated numbe
		Dec 2902	of users Dec 2003
Argentina	XML	1900	2000
Austria	SEDAS	£500	SOLVE SOLVEN MANAGEMENT SOLVEN SOLVEN SOLVEN SOLVEN
Brazil	RND	2500 (100 - 100 -	145
	CNAB	26000	250
	OTHERS	3000	26000
Canada	ECR, EFR, ECRx	500	3000
Chile	CUSTOMS EDIFACT	250	600
El Salvador	TELEDESPACHO (E-CUSTOMS)	75	250
	E-PAYMENT	0	155
France		15[86	14
Germany	SEDAS	500	13250
Gvatemala	Implementation of the CUSCAR message based on Edifact		500
Hungary	ECR_EDI	50	32
celand	RETANN		55 2
	COACSU		Control of the contro
lapan	J-Protocol	40000	2
Mexico	ANSI X12	4000	40000
Netherlands	XML	10	3000 - 50
Vorway	Rigal	400	30 400
	Standard record	2115	400 2115
ingapore	EDITRANS	25	25
lovenia	eSLOG	0	23
outh Africa	SAANA EDI Standards	460	460
	XML	0	460 250
witzerland	MEDWIN	-30	150
ĸ	TRADACOMS	12500	
	UK EDIFACT	100	
SA		6200	6200
lovakia		730	800

EANCOM® and Web/Lite EDI EANCOM® based users

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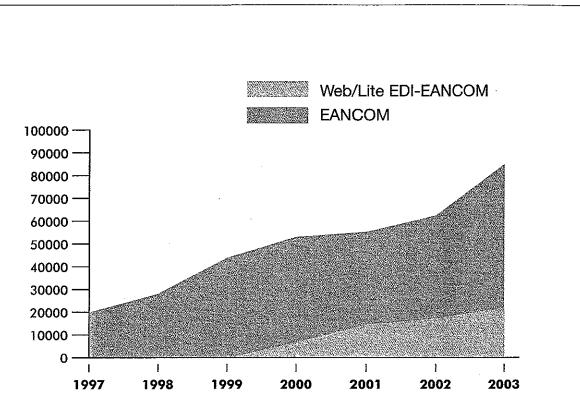
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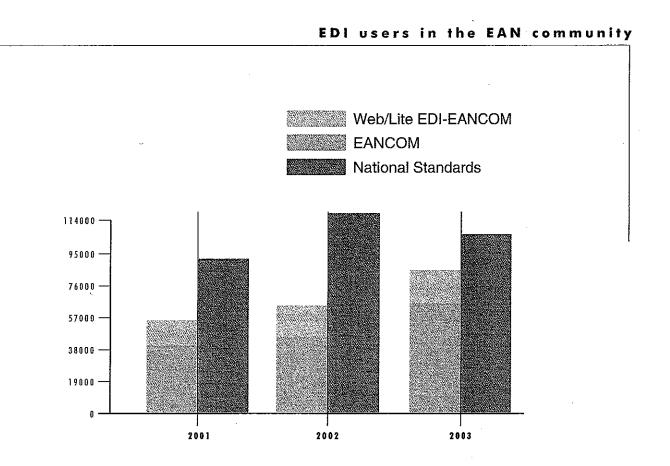
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