

COMARCH EDI

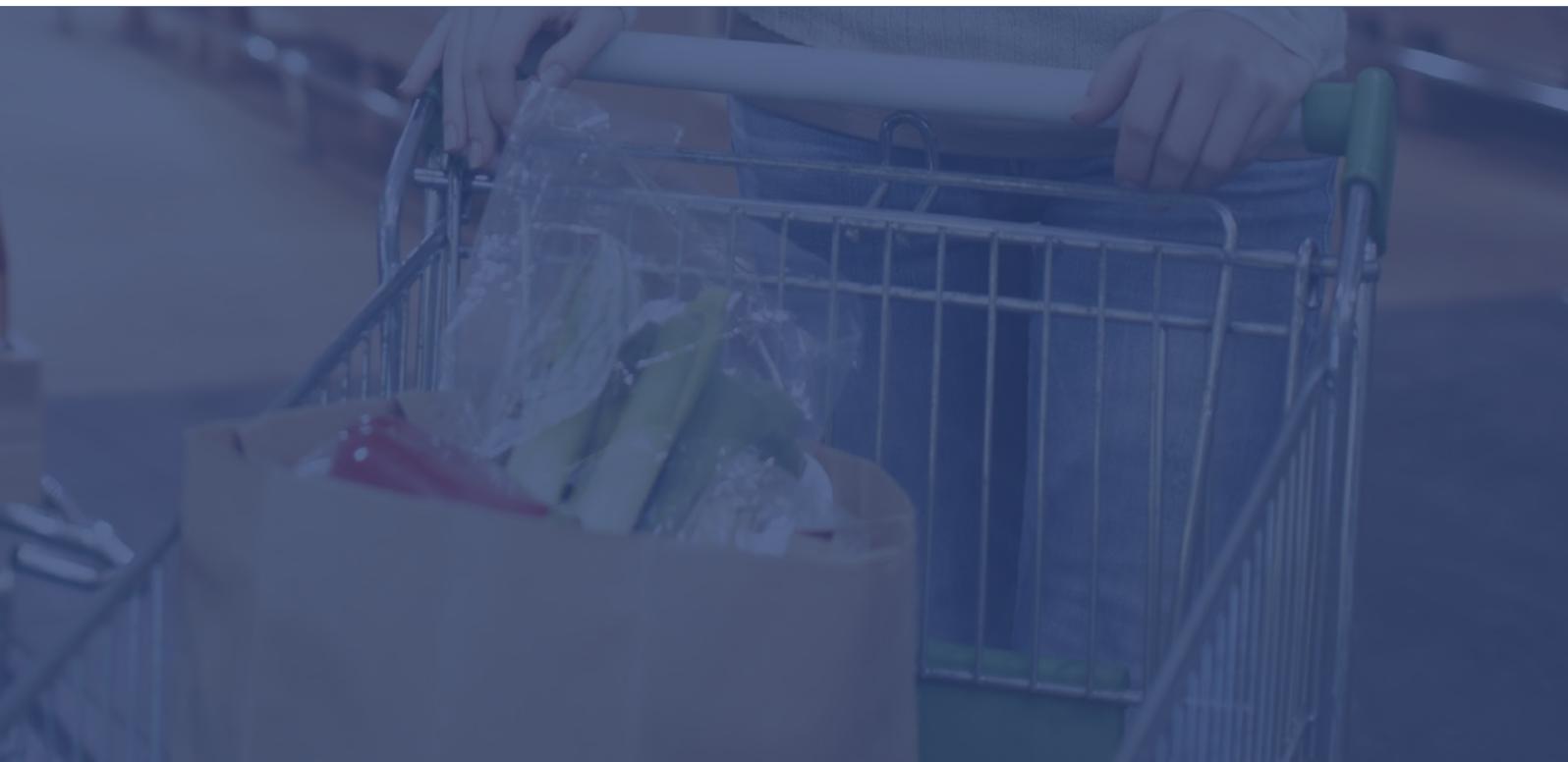


CARREFOUR POLAND

Complex B2B communication



Carrefour



CARREFOUR POLAND

Carrefour Poland is part of the Carrefour Group – a French supermarket chain and a European leader in the retail sector. The first Carrefour hypermarket

in Poland opened in November in Łódź 1997. Today, Carrefour has around 300 shops in Poland, located all over the country.



WHY EDI?

The interchange of business information and documents in paper form between a retail chain and its suppliers entails high costs of processing large amounts of business information and errors arising from, for instance, the 'human factor' of document handling. In light of the above, implementing Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) technology was a logical response to the challenge of

improving Carrefour's business communication with suppliers.

EDI is a fast, reliable and – first and foremost – a safe way of exchanging information between business partners. In 2005, Carrefour Poland and Comarch began to work together on a pilot project concerning mass EDI communication.

SOLUTION

The official implementation project began in 2007. At the beginning, Carrefour sent electronic orders to its suppliers. Another stage of the EDI project involved the implementation of electronic invoices and invoice adjustments. Because of introducing these types of electronic documents and since suppliers used additional tools to safely store e-invoices, e.g. the Archive module of the Comarch EDI application, both Carrefour and its partners were able to abandon exchanging paper documents and considerably cut all related costs.

Comarch has also been providing data conversion to the formats used by suppliers and from their formats to Carrefour's used ones along with legal and business data validation. In addition, Comarch has been providing partners training, dedicated project management and Comarch EDI HelpDesk for all of Carrefour's suppliers.

The Archive module of Comarch EDI E-Invoicing meets the requirements of the EU's e-invoicing Directive (concerning the issuing, sending and storing of electronic invoices).

While electronic invoices were being implemented, the company began sending delivery confirmation documents (RECADV) through the Comarch EDI platform.

Dedicated solutions were also developed for Carrefour Poland, the purpose of which was to streamline communication and data processing:



Comarch EDI Validator – to monitor the accuracy of sent documents, to check the values, currencies, dates etc



Comarch EDI Dubel – to avoid sending the same invoices twice; a service that involves automatically reporting any errors in sent documents.

Carrefour also uses Comarch EDI Tracking, which presents up-to-date information on the status of documents – whether they have been properly processed by the platform, if they have been delivered and read by the partners.

In addition to implementing the EDI project, Comarch took part in Carrefour Poland's acquisition of Ahold (July 2007). Comarch had the pleasure of working with Carrefour Poland to combine and reorganize the structure of the previously managed EDI projects in both chains.

Recently, the company decided to extend its presence nationwide and started to cooperate with petrol chains to launch new Carrefour stores at their stations. Comarch EDI has also been used in the data exchange processes in this new concept.

BENEFITS

The joint commitment of Carrefour Poland and Comarch during the project implementation bore fruit in the form of over 1000 suppliers as regards the interchange of purchase orders and electronic invoices. Most of them decided to totally abandon paper invoices. The chain currently exchanges thousands of electronic documents with its suppliers. In addition to "basic" electronic documents, such as purchase orders and invoices, suppliers can also transfer electronic delivery confirmations with Carrefour.

Implementation of the EDI system resulted in the following benefits:



ABOUT COMARCH

Comarch is a technological company that has been engaged in the optimisation of business processes for 22 years. The company's portfolio includes systems for electronic data interchange (EDI). Comarch EDI is a B2B platform, which provides a competitive advantage by a fast and secure data exchange with business partners. The solution provides the automation of data processing throughout the supply chain: from the procurement process, through the logistics, to invoicing and payment processing. Comarch EDI enables savings to be made and compliance with legal and ecological requirements. Among the clients who have trusted Comarch are the largest retail chains (e.g. Metro Group, Tesco, Carrefour, Leroy Merlin), FMCG companies (e.g. BIC, Johnson & Johnson, L'Oreal, Unilever), pharmaceutical companies (e.g. GlaxoSmithKline, Sanofi) and the representatives of other key market sectors.

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