The new version Factur-X/ZUGFeRD is published
A common e-invoicing mandate for France and Germany

Eschborn I Paris, September 18th, 2024. The Forum for Electronic Invoicing Germany (FeRD) and the French National Forum for Electronic Invoicing and Market Places & Public Electronic procurement (FNFE-MPE) have been working together to create a Franco-German standard for electronic invoices since 2015., The aim is to help ease the exchange of invoice information in domestic transactions and across borders, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises. The teams of FNFE-MPE and FeRD published In March 2022 a fully aligned version of Factur-X 1.0.06 / ZUGFeRD 2.2, compliant with the European Norm EN16931. Since then, they continued their work to maintain Factur-X / ZUGFeRD standard in view of their respective Continuous Transaction Control Reform which will start with a B2B e-invoicing mandate.

The new versions of Factur-X 1.0.07 / ZUGFeRD 2.3 are technically identical formats with a common documentation provided in French, German and English. The new release has been updated mainly to enrich the EXTENDED profile in order to address the diversity of business cases which will have to be supported with electronic invoices containing all mandatory fields in a structured form.

Factur-X is one of the three invoice formats which will be mandatory on reception by all French taxpayers in the context of the French e-invoicing and e-reporting reform in France, starting on a voluntary basis in early 2025. ZUGFeRD is one of the formats accepted in Germany in the context of the German e-invoicing B2B mandate which also comes into force in 2025.

Since the last version, specification and technical appendices have now been aggregated to one uniform document. The document is available in German, English and French.

This version is now based on UN/CEFACT CII D22B to comply better with the EN16931; it is fully backward compatible with D16B. Each of the five profiles have their own xsd and schematron, which will be updated at the same time as the EN16931 validation artefact, applicable in November and May 15th of each year.

Factur-X/ZUGFeRD allows also the use of reference profiles, such as XRECHNUNG for Germany, and EXTENDED-CTC-FR for France, which is a subset of EXTENDED profile.

The Factur-X/ZUGFeRD invoice format is freely available. The technical specification is based on the international UN/CEFACT standard Cross Industry Invoice (CII) and on the ISO standard PDF/A-3. This complies with the European standard EN 16931, which specifies the standards and technical rules for electronic invoicing in Europe, thus ensuring interoperability and compliance with legal regulations.

Factur-X/ZUGFeRD has been designed in particular for the use by SMEs. It is now adopted by many service providers, especially by all Registered Private Platforms (PDP) in France.

Free download of Factur-X 1.0.07 / ZUGFeRD 2.3

The Factur-X/ZUGFeRD standard is a hybrid electronic invoice format that consists of two components: a PDF and an embedded XML file. The PDF file represents the visual part of the invoice and is therefore readable by humans. The XML file contains structured invoice data, allowing the automated processing by machines. The format contains different profiles, allowing to match the varied requirements regarding invoice data of both sender and recipient.

You can download it free of charge here:

⇨ Factur-X 1.0.07: www.fnfe-mpe.org/factur-x/
⇨ ZUGFeRD 2.3: www.ferd-net.de/ZUGFeRD-Download

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About FeRD

The "Forum for Electronic Invoicing Germany" (FeRD) was founded on 31st March 2010 in Berlin with the participation of various federal and state ministries, the Federal Chancellery (Secretariat of the National Standards Monitoring Council, Bureaucracy Reduction Office) as well as the central associations of the economy, some professional associations under the umbrella of the AWV – Arbeitsgemeinschaft für wirtschaftliche Verwaltung e.V. (Working Group for Economic Administration), which is funded by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy based on a resolution of the German Bundestag. The Forum for Electronic Invoicing in Germany (FeRD) is the partner for all topics related to electronic business processes. It advises market players from public administration, business, and associations, as well as consumers, and promotes national and international cooperation, in particular by issuing or maintaining standards for the electronic exchange of documents.   https://www.ferd-net.de

About FNFE-MPE

The French National Forum for Electronic Invoicing and Public Electronic Procurement (FNFE-MPE) was founded in January 2012 and has been an association since April 2016. Its task is to enable extensive consultations between actors in the public and private sector in France, relating to the provision of electronic invoices and public electronic procurement, and to promote cooperation with national forums in other EU member states. In this context, the FNFE-MPE develops proposals for the definition of ordinances, state programs and funding. The forum works in cooperation with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and participates in the standardization work of EN 16931, as well as in the implementation of the hybrid invoice standard Factur-X/ ZUGFeRD. The FNFE-MPE consists of more than 235 members, companies, associations, industry representatives, professional associations, service providers, software manufacturers, experts and consultants, and represents France in the European Multi-Stakeholder Forum for Electronic Invoicing (EMSFEI). It fosters and promotes the adoption of standards and best practices for the provisioning of electronic invoices in companies of all sizes and sectors.   www.fnfe-mpe.org