

Consistent Data Mapping - Problem Statement

Invoice data should be mapped to the corresponding Peppol field (i.e., according to its semantic meaning) to provide the necessary data to process invoices and maximise automation for buyers (C4). Some examples of mapping issues are:

- a. Incorrect mapping:** Invoice data mapped incorrectly, rather than according to its semantic meaning.

E.g., Purchase Order Number mapped into Buyer Reference field. As a result, C4 receives an invoice and the PO field is empty. Invoice is rejected. This could be caused by:

- UI - not intuitive
- Incorrect implementation - simply wrong mapping
- System limitation - e.g., C1 solution/UI cannot support PO number

- b. Inconsistency:** Where the same information is mapped differently by different sellers, which can cause problems for both sellers' and buyers' systems/processes.

This could be caused by:

- Business process: Buyers have specific processing requirements, and their sellers must provide data to suit specific buyer needs. As a result, a seller may need to map the same information to different data elements depending on the buyer, to suit their systems
- Some invoice information does not have a matching UBL field (semantically):
 - Client account number / membership number
 - Labour hire: contractor name
 - Other: photo copier serial number, telephone number on a phone bill

As a result, C1 may interpret and map them differently:

- System capability: Seller's systems cannot support mapping the full range of data to UBL according to the semantic meaning.
- Semantic meaning of data: buyers, sellers and/or their systems have different interpretations of the specification.

- c. Complex or industry-specific invoice data Issues:** Issues can arise for complex or specialised invoice data (e.g., telecom/utilities/healthcare). Software solutions may not utilise or display all available data fields, creating the need for alternative elements (e.g., PDF, image rendering) to ensure all appropriate data can be sent/received.

For industry-specific information, what is the best way to manage this information?

E.g.

- Health: details of patients, doctors, clinic name and location etc
- Telecom: phone number, hourly rate, text rate, call duration, data usage, previous months' usage summary

Reference Documents:

- [Invoice Content Industry Practice Statement](#)
- [A-NZ Peppol eInvoice Specification](#)