CDX – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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CDX FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) – VERSION 1.0 / MARCH 2017
PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to help answer common questions about DXC’s Compliance Data Exchange (CDX) system and is suitable for all users of the CDX system.

The information contained in this document could change at any time. Please refer to the CDX User Manual for the most current information about the CDX system (also available in the Help menu of the system). It is also highly recommended that you access the tutorials and training that is offered for the system to better understand how to use CDX and how it will apply to your company.
OVERVIEW

What is CDX?

CDX (Compliance Data Exchange) is:

- **Compliance:** CDX enables participating companies to comply with the most well-known global legal requirements and definitions such as REACH (incl. Annex X, XVII, REACH SVHC, REACH O5A), China RoHS, RoHS (with full support of exceptions), California Proposition 65, IPC1752A Class C and D, IEC62474, Batteries, Packaging, ELV / GADSL, HKC, and Conflict Minerals.

- **Data:** CDX can help you efficiently gather, store, and report detailed product content information for use in compliance and material reporting to various government agencies worldwide.

- **Exchange:** CDX addresses the data throughout the entire supply chain, not just immediate suppliers and customers. With CDX, information is aggregated through all levels of the supply chain in a comprehensive manner while protecting intellectual property.

CDX is a centrally operated and supported service by DXC Technology (DXC) that allows for standardized creation and exchange of Material Data Sheets (product structures, MDSs), as well as Conflict Minerals Declarations (CMDs) throughout the supply chain. CDX provides a robust repository employing respected chemical, material, and legislative support agencies to ensure CDX companies have the resources for accurate reporting.

CDX features a centralized and secure cloud-based application optimized for manufacturers in virtually any industry, and requires little or no IT infrastructure to implement as it is accessible by anyone with a link to the public internet.

A user can register for CDX (using a self-service process) and begin reviewing and using some basic features without signing a license contract.

The CDX platform allows companies to promote material compliance and environmental sustainability via the creation, exchange and maintenance of Full Material Declaration (FMD) Material Data Sheets (MDSs) throughout the entire supply chain.

Why do I need CDX?

CDX helps identify what is in your products, how supplied ingredients were produced, and what impact these have upon your business operations.

Toxic heavy metals and other hazardous substances in products come into contact with people during product use, and enter the environment via improperly disposed products, contaminated water, incineration processes, and garbage. These harmful substances are then ingested by humans directly or enter the food chain via absorption in the air, water, minerals, plants and animals. To protect the health of people, the use and disposal of products containing these substances is regulated. In some cases use of these substances is restricted, while in other cases there is a complete ban on the use or uncontrolled disposal.

Implementing strategies to reduce, reuse and recycle (RRR) these substances has produced broader visibility into social responsibility concerns pertaining to product manufacture, such as fair labor and responsible material sourcing practices. These social responsibility concerns have spurred additional legislation and new customer reporting obligations.

The best known environmental and social regulations are listed here. A large and growing quantity of national and international legislation exists, with significant new and revised legislations appearing in many nations several times per year.

- **ELV** – The European Union End of Life Vehicle (ELV) directive was the first modern environmental legislation of its kind, and was originally aimed at the reduction of heavy metal contamination in waste arising from the repair and disposal of automotive vehicles. The scope has since expanded. ELV is primarily addressed in the International Material Data System (IMDS), which we developed specifically for the Automotive industry. IMDS use is prohibited for most non-Automotive usage and supports only Automotive-relevant legislations, giving rise to the need for CDX.
• **REACH** – The European Union Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) is one of the broadest and most complex of the environmental regulations. The scope includes investigation of all chemicals and impacts virtually every industry. The aim is to identify all chemicals in use, ban the use of substances of very high concern (SVHC), and replace SVHCs with technically and economically feasible alternatives.

• **RoHS** – The European Union Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) directive was modelled after ELV, and restricts the use of specific hazardous substances in most products containing electrical and electronic components.

• **China RoHS** – Modelled upon yet noticeably different than the European version, the Chinese government’s Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) applies to all items shipped into China and controls certain metals and polymer additives.

• **California Proposition 65** (The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986) – Leveraging substance lists developed for REACH, this California law prohibits businesses from knowingly discharging listed substances into drinking water sources, or onto land where the substances can pass into drinking water sources. It also prohibits businesses from knowingly exposing individuals to listed substances without providing a clear and reasonable warning.

• **Conflict Minerals** – Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Act requires companies that use tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold (3TG) in their products or in the production of their products to disclose that information annually with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Non-SEC filers in all regions of the world who are part of the supply chain for these filers are typically required contractually to support their customers. New Conflict Mineral legislations are currently being defined in the EU and in Asia.

• **U.K. Modern Anti-Slavery** – Enacted by the U.K. Parliament in 2015, this legislation provides for the seizure of assets of any entity engaged or employing within their supply chain (even at several steps removed) those engaged in slavery or human trafficking and conducting commerce within the U.K.

Clear identification and reporting of materials used in the supply chain is needed to comply with these legislations. Identification of all substances, and not just those currently legislated, provides a measure of efficiency and protection against future legislation changes and additions. Without standardized, secure processes and independently hosted cloud-based tools it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to exchange defined data throughout a global supply chain. With CDX, you can collect and provide information about the materials contained in your products or used during your production process through the entire supply chain. You can analyze the data in terms of environmental compliance and have complete trust that this data is handled safely and confidentially.

Knowledge of product content and supply chain procurement practices offer business opportunities to develop strategies designed to provide more efficient ways to obtain, manufacture and employ their products and supply chain, thus reducing costs, waste, and risk. A growing number businesses and consumers prefer or choose exclusively to purchase from environmentally friendly and socially responsible product providers.

While the compliance legislations often provide the initial impetus to investigate product and supply chain topics, the collateral benefits often drive investigation into advantages far beyond regulatory compliance.

**What are the benefits of using CDX?**

DXC’s Compliance Data Exchange (CDX) can help you efficiently gather, store, and report product content for use in compliance and material reporting to various government agencies worldwide.

By using CDX, you can:

• Capitalize on your supply chain’s knowledge by using established standards, procedures, and services.

• Become a green corporate citizen while minimizing your reporting costs.

• Communicate product content with your suppliers and customers in real time.

• Stay ahead of new requirements by analyzing existing product content and planning where changes are needed.

CDX addresses the entire supply chain, not just immediate suppliers and customers. With CDX, information is aggregated through all levels of the supply chain in a comprehensive manner while protecting intellectual property.

CDX uses a product-centric model, which helps companies retain focus upon their product and provide information once for all supported regulations, instead of a regulation-centric model, which requires the same information be provided again for each regulation.
What is the benefit of using CDX for Conflict Minerals reporting?

The robust CDX Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) Manager aggregates internal and multi-tier supplier CMDs for faster, easier and less complex customer and SEC reporting. It supports and leverages all released versions of the Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative (CFSI) Conflict Minerals Reporting Template (CMRT), yet provides options for more complete and flexible information gathering.

The CDX CMD Manager also leads the industry in providing the most complete smelter information available. This includes standard smelters, CFSI Conflict-Free smelters, those registered in CDX, alleged smelters, and distributors and other facilities.

CDX CMD Manager helps you manage your CMDs in a variety of ways depending upon your situation, including importing and exporting the CFSI Excel CMRT, the IPC1755 data exchange standard, and sending and receiving CMDs to and from other companies registered in CDX.

What is the benefit of using CDX if my suppliers are not registered in CDX?

With CDX you can send a request for a Material Data Sheet (MDS) or a Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) to your suppliers. These companies can be registered in CDX or they can be companies that have not registered in CDX.

Your supplier can respond to the request by registering in CDX, entering the MDS or CMD information and sending the MDS or CMD back to the requesting company. Please note that there is no cost for your supplier to use CDX to create and send an MDS or CMD to their customers. A CDX license is needed to request and receive MDSs or CMDs from suppliers and integrate them into your own MDS or CMD.

Having suppliers submit directly into CDX eliminates the risks associated with e-mail, better secures and protects their information, and ensures their information does not get lost.

For material data reporting, importing and exporting based on the IPC1752A standard is also available.

For Conflict Minerals Declarations (CMDs), if your supplier does not register in CDX, but chooses to send you a CFSI Excel CMRT, you can easily import the CMRT into CDX.

Whether you receive supplier CMD information through the CDX system or you have imported your supplier’s CMRT, you can then use that supplier information and aggregate it into your own CMD. This saves manual effort, time and money while providing a better overview, higher quality data and faster access to information for compliance reporting. CDX places the responsibility of providing accurate, meaningful material and source information upon the supplier, instead of the customer.

What is the benefit for my suppliers using CDX?

There are many benefits for your suppliers when they use CDX. If creating Material Data Sheets (MDSs) for a product or material, they can create one MDS and use it to respond to requests from multiple customers. In the same way, one Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) can be sent to multiple customers (if customer in CDX). A supplier code can be added for each customer’s response without creating a new MDS or CMD. CDX also provides active warnings and checking, permitting the supplier to fix issues once rather than addressing them repeatedly for each customer.

If your supplier has customers that are not in CDX, they can export the CFSI Excel CMRT for sending to their non-CDX customers. If importing their existing CMRT into CDX, they only need to import one time and then use that imported CMRT to respond to multiple customer requests. Quality data is provided by suppliers to their customers by performing CDX system checks and validation before the MDS or CMD is sent to the customer.

CDX can also be used by your suppliers to send MDS or CMD requests to their own suppliers to gather the information they need for their own declarations.
GETTING STARTED

How do I register in CDX?

If your company is new to CDX, you can go to the CDX information page at https://www.cdxsystem.com. In the upper right corner of the page, click on the “CDX Login” button. This will take you to the CDX Login page. On the left side, click on “Register your company”. The page will display the registration fields where you need to enter your company information and the Company Administrator information. A Video Tutorial is also available here or on the CDX information page to walk you through how to register your company. Additional information on how to register in CDX is found in the CDX User Manual, which is also available in the system’s Help menu.

If your company is registered in CDX, you can contact your Company Administrator and they will create a CDX User ID for you. If you do not know your Company Administrator, or you do not know if your company is registered in CDX, you can contact the CDX Service Desk at cdx-servicedesk@dxc.com.

Once I register our company, how soon can we start using CDX?

Once you receive your ID and password, and have logged in to accept the Terms of Use and change your initial password, you are ready to start using CDX. At this point, we recommend that you take the CDX training and/or read the User Manual as the system will not prompt you step by step.

One of your first steps is to notify your suppliers that you are now using CDX and that you expect them to register. With the CDX e-mail process, you can send requests to companies currently not registered in CDX, to ask them for submission of their Material Data Sheets (MDSs) and/or Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD). That company will receive an e-mail with the request information, along with an invitation to register in CDX. This will provide the ability to manage their submissions directly into the CDX system.

Who owns CDX information and who is able to see it?

The company in CDX that created the CDX data remains owner of the data they created, and only users for that company can view that data (unless your Company Administrator has granted a user from another company “Trust” access). Users from other CDX companies can view your data only if it has been sent to them by your company. The user that receives the data may use the data provided into CDX for the purpose of creating material and substance documentation.

The user providing the data can mark the substance submitted into CDX as confidential or can use a system wildcard if the substance is highly confidential. When these items are sent to a recipient the confidential information is not disclosed.

Additional information is found in the CDX Terms of Use (ToU) available from the CDX Login page. Before using CDX all users must accept the CDX ToU.

How do I respond to a customer request?

When your customer has requested, via CDX, that your company provide either a Material Data Sheet (MDS) or a Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD), you will receive an e-mail from CDX. If you are already registered in CDX, the e-mail will provide a link to the CDX system and to the Received Requests screen. If you are not registered in CDX, a link is provided to register and activate your company in CDX. Once you have registered and log into CDX, you will be taken directly to the Received Requests screen and the request will show in the screen.

You can also view your requests by going to the CDX Inbox (from the Toolbar or from the Functions menu) and selecting either MDS Request or CMD Request. You can then create your MDS or CMD in CDX to respond to the request.

Detailed information can be found in the CDX User Manual, which is also available in the system’s Help menu, or from the CDX Tutorials page at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/tutorials.
How do I start entering information for a Material Data Sheet (MDS) or Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD)?

Once you have successfully registered in the CDX system, you can start entering data for your MDS or CMD. You can select MDS >> New or CMD >> New from the Menu, or select the “New” button from the Toolbar. The appropriate screen is then displayed for you to start entering your data.

Detailed information can be found in the CDX User Manual, which is also available in the system’s Help menu, or from the CDX Tutorials page at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/tutorials.

What types of User Accounts exist?

There are three (3) types of User profiles in CDX: Company Administrator, Standard User and Read-Only User.

Company Administrator

Company Administrators have all the privileges to administer the MDSs, Org Units, Users and contact persons of their own company in CDX. It is the Company Administrator’s responsibility to create User IDs and contact persons, assign users to Org Units, and perform password resets.

It is strongly recommended that each CDX company have a minimum of two (2) Company Administrators for backup purposes.

Standard User

Standard Users can create, send or propose MDSs/CMDs. Additionally, they can review, accept or reject MDSs/CMDs sent to their company. They can also create MDS/CMD Requests and respond to incoming requests.

Read-Only User

The Read-only user can view, but not change, datasheets/CMDs created by their own company, view published data, and view datasheets/CMDs received and accepted by their company.

Additional information about user accounts is found in the CDX User Manual (available in the system’s Help menu).

How do I change the Menu view so that I can access Material Data Sheet (MDS) functionality or Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) functionality?

With CDX you can manage Material Data Information as well as Conflict Minerals Information. The user can change the menu view according to their personal needs. If you work only with CMD, you should setup the “CMD View”. If your focus is more on MDSs, please use the “MDS View”.

You can change the view from the Administration menu >> Change View or with the Personal settings button in the Toolbar.

The additional CDX functionality from the non-active view is available to users by selecting the … More option from the menus.

Additional information is found in the Navigating CDX section of the CDX User Manual (available in the system’s Help menu).

What do I do if I forget my User ID or password?

If you have forgotten your ID, you can retrieve it automatically using the “User ID forgotten” link on the CDX Login page in conjunction with your e-mail address.

If you need to reset your password, you can reset it automatically use the “Request new password” link on the CDX Login page in conjunction with your User ID and your e-mail address.

These features operate only if your e-mail address recorded in CDX matches your actual current e-mail address, and your ID is not expired.

If your e-mail address has changed or your account expired, a Company Administrator at your company can and should update your information. If no Company Administrator is available, you will need to contact the CDX Service Desk at cdx-servicedesk@dxc.com.
What CDX Training is available?

A number of different options are available for training on how to use CDX to help you accurately report your regulatory obligations.

Free webinars are available to introduce you to DXC’s Compliance Data Exchange (CDX) and the included CMD Manager, along with the latest upgrades. You’ll see how CDX can help your company seamlessly meet its compliance obligations with minimum time and effort, and with maximum return. You can register for these free Webinars at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/events.

The CDX web page also offers Video Tutorials and PDF guidance documents to help you get started using CDX. These are available at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/tutorials.

For in depth training CDX has training partners who offer CDX Training Classes. These partners and links to the courses offered are available at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/training.

For information on how CDX integrates into your environmental and social programs, you can contact our CDX partners listed at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/partner. For more information on the regulations that impact your industry, you can go to the CDX Industries page at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/industries.

What type of user support is available?

The CDX system is available 24 x 7 in 8 languages (English, German, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese and Spanish).

Worldwide support is available for helpdesk, training and consulting by sending an e-mail to cdx-servicedesk@dx.com (in English or German language).

The CDX User Manual is available in English, German, Chinese, French, Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish.
WORKING WITH SUPPLIERS

Can requests for Material Data Sheet (MDS) or Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) be sent to suppliers who are not registered in CDX?

With CDX you can send a request for a Material Data Sheet (MDS) or Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) to all your suppliers. These companies can be registered in CDX or they can be companies that have not registered in CDX.

When sending a request to a company that is not registered in CDX, you will provide the company information (name, country) and the Administrator contact information (name, phone number and e-mail address). Your supplier will receive an e-mail notification from CDX when the request has been sent. The e-mail text for a supplier who is not registered in CDX will include a link for them to register in CDX. In addition to the initial request e-mail, reminders will also be sent to the recipient of the request.

If suppliers are not registered in CDX how can their data be entered into CDX?

Suppliers can respond to a customer’s request by following the link in the CDX request e-mail and registering in CDX. Suppliers can also register in CDX from the CDX Login screen [https://www.cdxsystem.com/cdx](https://www.cdxsystem.com/cdx) by selecting “Register your company”.

When the supplier is registered in CDX, they can use the CDX system to enter their MDS or CMD information and send the MDS or CMD back to the requesting company.

Please note that there is no cost for your supplier to register and use CDX to create and send an MDS or CMD to their customers. A CDX license is needed to request and receive MDSs or CMDs from suppliers and integrate them into your own MDS or CMD.

For Conflict Minerals Declarations (CMDs), if your supplier does not register in CDX, but chooses to send you a CFSI Excel CMRT, you can easily import the CMRT into CDX and aggregate that information into your own CMD.

DXC highly recommends that suppliers register in CDX. CDX provides the highest level of data confidentiality and security. CDX provides the capability to manage and monitor the gathering of data, along with the traceability and communication mechanisms. CDX also provides automatic notification of regulation updates and maintains product information at a current state while reducing manual time and effort.
**MATERIAL REPORTING**

**Which legal regulations are covered in CDX?**

CDX enables participating companies to comply with the most well-known global legal requirements and definitions such as REACH (Annex XIV and XVII, REACH SVHC, REACH O5A), China RoHS, RoHS (with full support of exceptions), California Proposition 65, Batteries, Packaging, ELV / GADSL, HKC and Conflict Minerals.

**Is there a Management of Change functionality and who triggers this process? How often are substances updated and where do they come from?**

The REACH Candidate List is updated twice a year by ECHA (European Chemicals Agency). Once ECHA publishes the REACH Candidate List, CDX updates this list immediately. Beyond this, our Chemical Service takes care of the regulation updates and substances. The user can also request the addition of a basic substance with the “Basic Substance Request” function in the system. Users will be informed about all kind of changes in CDX via newsletters, our website, and on our login webpage.

**Who is responsible for updating compliance declarations?**

The owner of the MDS is responsible for updates. He will be automatically notified by CDX if a confidential (Joker) substance becomes declarable.

**Is Full Material Declaration (FMD) required?**

The requirement for Full Material Declaration (FMD) will be defined by requestor.

CDX supports the following Declaration Scopes:

- **One Level Declaration:** This is the minimum for a partial declaration. With this declaration, an MDS can be sent to customers, which does not contain any ingredient information (tree is empty/only one node). In such an empty MDS, the necessary information should be provided as an attachment, e.g. a compliance declaration.

- **Partial Declaration:** This is a substance declaration typically focusing on specific lists of declarable substances, e.g. REACH SVHC, GADSL or company specific lists.

- **Full Material Declaration (FMD):** The complete ingredients information is provided, including all weights and percentage information. The weight of all parts sum up to the weight of the product. The percent values add up to 100%. MDSs can be marked as a full declaration (100% declaration checkbox) and the check routine will report errors if weights or percent values are missing. To some extent jokers and wildcards may be allowed to balance full disclosure with the protection of intellectual property.

As long as an MDS is editable, the ingredients tree can be filled with nodes or references and the MDS will become a partial declaration and can also be extended up to a full declaration.

For a new MDS, the default is partial declaration. Depending on the declaration type and the recipient company, different checks will be executed.
CONFLICT MINERALS

How do I start using the Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) Manager in CDX?

CDX employs a self-registration process. In the course of registration you will be asked to register your company and its first user. This first user will be considered the Company Administrator, and will then be responsible for managing the company record (name, address etc.) and creating and maintaining additional users for this company.

You will need an e-mail system that will not block e-mail from the CDX Server (*@cdxsystem.com or cdx-info@dxc.com) or consider it junk or spam, as all login information is communicated through e-mail from the system itself.

The system requirements for browsers and versions that are supported with the CDX system can be found at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/systinfo. Other browsers may be used but the support team does not support those browsers.

Will I always find the latest version of the CMRT in the CDX system, and how often are the forms updated?

Yes. We always offer the latest CMRT version, as well as all previous versions. We apply the template to the CDX system as soon as a new version is confirmed and published.

Can I work with older CMRT versions in the CDX system?

Yes. If you create a CMD you will be asked to select the CMRT version. When importing a template, the CMD Manager will automatically determine in which version the template was created.

How do I use substance groups with regard to Conflict Minerals?

In CDX, you can manage Bill of Material (BOM) data for your products, in addition to the Conflict Minerals Manager. A Conflict Minerals group in CDX can be used for analysis if you have your BOM structure.

How do I use the Conflict Minerals Group?

To examine the structure of an individual Material Data Sheet (MDS), use the pull down to see Conflict Minerals highlighted in the tree similar to REACH SVHC or RoHS. You may also use this group in Functions > Where Used Analysis > Basic Substance List to determine which parts contain Conflict Minerals so you can determine from which suppliers you may need further information.

Is there a complete set of smelters in CDX?

CDX incorporates the CFSI Conflict-free compliant smelter lists, the CFSI Active/Known smelter list, CDX-registered smelters, and supplier-reported smelters. CDX also identifies entities reported as smelters which have been found invalid. CDX provides the most comprehensive list of smelters currently available.

Can I use the CMD Manager and CDX for Material Reporting simultaneously?

Yes. The CMD Manager is a module within the CDX system. Due to the different payment models, the CMD Manager and CDX for MDSs can be purchased and used separately. If a company wishes to operate both with the complete functionality, the company purchases an annual license for the CMD Manager and a license package for CDX MDSs.
INTEGRATION SERVICES

Can I exchange data between my in-house system and CDX?

The CDX Web Service Interface (CDX WSI) can be used to leverage data in your current ERP/PLM systems and automatically exchange product and supplier data with CDX. In cooperation with SAP®, DXC has connected CDX with several SAP systems. CDX WSI integrates CDX data with existing processes and systems in your environment. Using the download interface, your company can transfer CDX standard information, as well as CDX data sheets used by your company – public and your own – and company-specific substance lists, regulations, and regulation exemptions to your local systems for in-house administration. With the upload interface, your company can transfer data from your in-house systems to CDX.

Technical information about CDX WSI is available at https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/systinfo.

System integration with SupplyOn (web based supplier portal) is also available. By using Single-Sign On (SSO), SupplyOn suppliers are automatically embedded in the CDX system.

Should I use the CDX Web Service Interface from the beginning?

While you can use CDX-WSI to upload to CDX, complexity comes into play when developing and debugging a system to create a CDX-acceptable structure and connecting to your in-house system.

It's best to first use the CDX browser to enter your data and learn the functionality of the CDX system to help refine your requirements. Start with the CDX system browser version and then, depending on the amount of data and the requirements, develop your Web Service Interface.

You may want to develop a read-only interface that takes data out of CDX and into your in-house system, using the browser for data entry. However, until you have worked in CDX for a while, you may find it difficult to determine interface requirements.

Can I leverage my IMDS data to create Conflict Minerals Declarations (CMDS) in CDX?

Yes. The IMDS Conflict Minerals (CM) Analyzer enables IMDS users to examine their IMDS Material Data Sheets (MDSs) quickly and easily, and to locate existing Conflict Minerals within their products and those of their suppliers.

The IMDS CM Analyzer can be used to find all owned and/or received MDSs containing Conflict Minerals, locating the Conflict Minerals in components, semi-components and materials. The user can then connect to CDX Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD) Manager to e-mail CMD Requests to your suppliers and aggregate internal and supplier CMDs for fast, easier customer and SEC reporting.
**TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

**What technical requirements are needed to access CDX?**

CDX is a web based application (Software as a Service [SaaS] solution) and it is accessible by anyone with a link to the public internet. There is no need for your company to invest in any hardware or license cost.

CDX also provides the ability to interface with external systems through the CDX Web Service Interface. Different interfaces and formats are available to interact with the Web Service Interface, specifically: Web Services Description Language (WSDL), SOAP messages, or HTTP with an XML serialization. Detailed information can be found at [https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/integrationservices](https://public.cdxsystem.com/web/cdx/integrationservices).

**What kind of IT security/protection exists?**

CDX has six layers of security, from physical environment and network environment protection, hardware and operating system, database, application security and authorization processes.

1. **Physical Environment**: CDX computers are kept in the DXC Service Management Centre (SMC). The DXC SMC ensures the servers’ physical safety and provides the appropriate infrastructure (network availability, protection against system failure, etc.). Only authorized persons (operating and system administrators) have access to these machines, making physical manipulation or impairment of the operating system extremely difficult and highly unlikely.

2. **Network Environment Protection**: CDX servers are protected by external load balancers and internal firewalls between compartments. A fully redundant network infrastructure is also provided.

3. **Hardware and Operating System**: The CDX system uses the UNIX operating system. Only DXC administrators are allowed to access at an operating system level. DXC standard procedures guarantee protection against external attempts to gain access to the system.

4. **Database**: The CDX system uses an Oracle database. Database servers are protected by internal firewalls, accessed over dedicated VL.

5. **Application Security**: CDX uses a password-protected web application, encryption protocols (HTTPS), verification of data received from the user-browser on the application’s backend (e.g. check if access to a requested MDS is allowed) on several redundant levels and automatic application failover to second server in different data centers.

6. **Authorization Processes**: After initial self-registration the company is only activated after confirmation and login of defined Company Administrator. There are three (3) different types of User profiles in CDX: Company Administrator, Standard User and Read-Only User.

**How much data and how many suppliers and companies can be managed in CDX?**

There is no limit to how many data, companies and suppliers can be managed in CDX. The only limitation is based on the amount of received material data from your suppliers, based on the 'Receiver Volume License' (RVL)) that your company has purchased.

**Where is the data stored?**

Data is stored on CDX servers located in two redundant DXC data centers in Germany. More information can you find in chapter “What kind of IT security/protection exists?”

**Does data entry into CDX require special forms and formats?**

The user simply enters data directly into the CDX system to interact with the database in real time. Since CDX is browser-based, there are no forms to upload. The user enters the data in a "product tree structure" format.

Several IPC files as well as CMRTs in MS Excel format can be imported into CDX to reuse already available information. CDX provides several available formats (e.g. "Material Declaration" for the ship building industry which satisfies the requirements of the Hong Kong Convention "MD").

CDX also provides the ability to enter data via our Web Service Interface (which accepts XML code). The data format is documented and publicly available in our [CDX Web Service Manual](https://public.cdxsystem.com/docs/cdxweb/mws_index.pdf).

**Are attachments allowed and what formats are supported?**
Attachments can be added to your Material Data Sheet (MDS) or Conflict Minerals Declaration (CMD). The following file formats are allowed: xls, xlsx, doc, docx, pdf. You can upload up to five (5) documents with a size up to 5 MB per file.
USEFUL INFORMATION

CDX Website and Additional Services and Tools
www.cdxsystem.com

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