IBM Sterling Supply Chain Business Network

Trusted network connectivity - built to scale with embedded AI and backed by IBM Blockchain

Highlights

- Realize value from AI & blockchain that deepens transaction visibility
- Streamline partner connections to increase efficiencies and reduce costs
- Leverage the cloud to deliver demand-driven and trusted integration

Meeting demands without disruption

Digital business and globalization continuously disrupt the way we operate in nearly every industry. Customers expect what they want, when and where they want it. You need to meet expectations and seamlessly adapt to the various hurdles and ever-changing needs of a multi-enterprise environment.
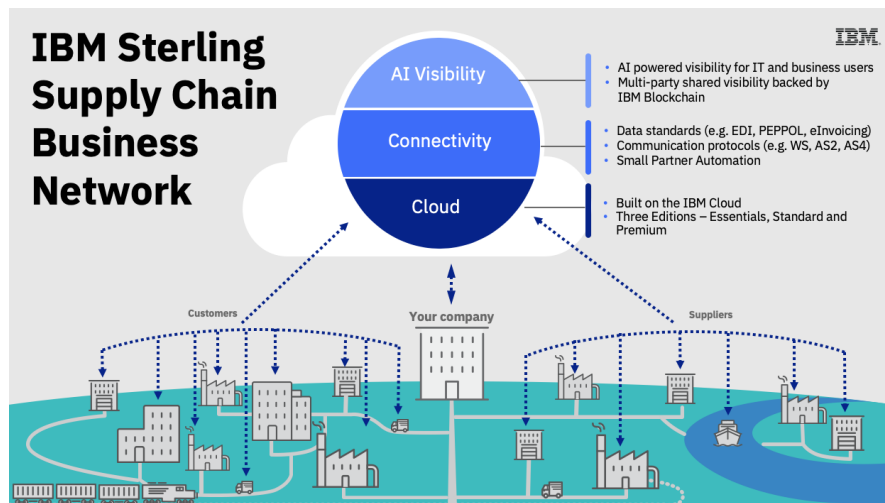
The pressure on IT to address increasingly complex supply chain challenges continues to grow. However, many IT organizations operate systems that were built for another era and lack the transparency and visibility needed for today's supply chains. Eighty-four percent of chief supply chain officers (CSCOs) report that a lack of visibility is their biggest challenge.[1]

IBM Sterling Supply Chain Business Network

IBM Sterling Supply Chain Business Network is a cloud-based business network that enables you to simplify collaboration across your supply chain. It delivers embedded artificial intelligence (AI) insights for better decisions and provides multi-party B2B transaction visibility backed by IBM Blockchain.

Our business network enhances supply chain collaboration by automating B2B transactions with your customers, suppliers, and trading partners, which yields an average 3-year return on investment (ROI) of 308%. IT and business

users can search and visualize the entire lifecycle of a transaction in real-time and in context or drill down to see the granular detail of specific documents.

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Make faster, more informed decisions

Leverage AI and blockchain to help IT and business users access the right information in real-time to make faster and more informed decisions fueled by the deeper visibility into the B2B transaction lifecycle with your customers, suppliers and trading partners.

Natural language and conversational search technologies, powered by AI, allow business users to ask questions and receive answers using business terminology your team understands, rather than IT technical jargon.

Machine learning, pattern detection, and data science expertise automatically detects and alerts your team to any anomalies in volume, velocity and value patterns throughout your supply chain's B2B documents and transactions.

Blockchain provides trusted multi-party visibility of a permissioned, immutable shared record that will fuel transparency and trust across a value chain.

With deeper and wider visibility, your enterprise can:

- Optimize the productivity of your IT team by using AI and blockchain to reduce the time they spend tracking the status of transactions on behalf of business users.

- Empower business users to self-serve the information they need to increase performance and improve customer service.

- Quickly react to early warnings on B2B transaction anomalies and minimize the impact to the business.

- Experience real-time visibility of transactions across multiple partners that build trust and transparency.

Leverage frictionless connectivity and the cloud to streamline partner connections

Simplify B2B communication of electronic documents and establish strong connections that accommodate your trading partners' requirements. Every partner has a unique and diverse set of business requirements, industry regulations and government mandates they must comply with, as well as varying levels of technical expertise. Supply Chain Business Network enables communication between you and more than 800,000 pre-connected global trading partners exchanging billions of documents a year.

Always-on availability with industry-leading uptime performance records and rapid partner onboarding provides your enterprise with the tools it needs to keep your supply chain connected, regardless of its geographic location or your level of technical skill.
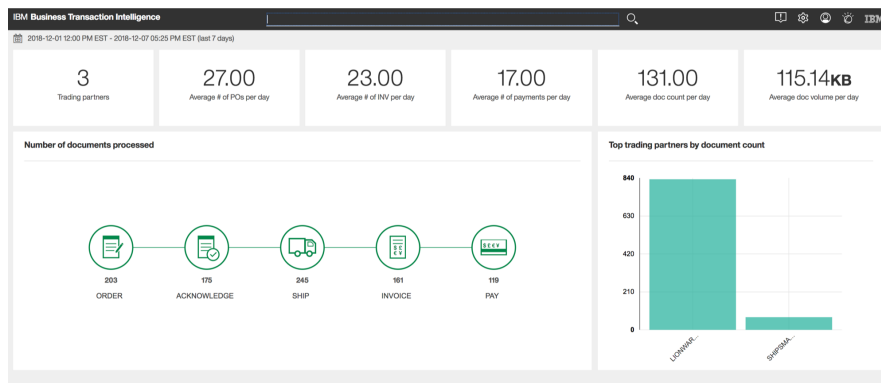
With frictionless connectivity, you can:

- Onboard new trading partners more quickly and easily.

- Support the most demanding workloads, transaction types and volume variations and new growth areas with a highly-scalable architecture.

- Facilitate automation with smaller, non-EDI trading partners who still use manual communications such as fax or email.

- Support government regulations, such as Pan-European Public Procurement Online (PEPPOL) and e-Invoicing.

- Meet seasonal demand with global cloud-based services.

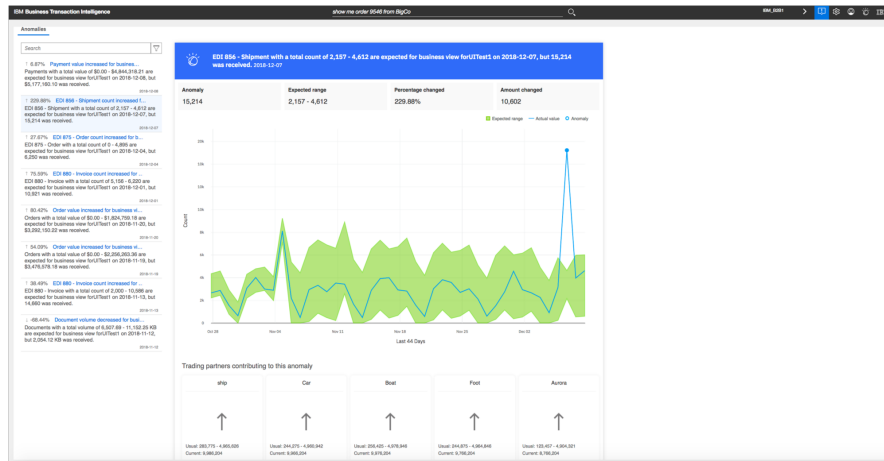- Leverage Web services for real-time processing and data enrichment.

Data format and standards	X12, EDIFACT, XML, .CSV, iDoc, flat files, TRADACOMS, RosettaNet, PEPPOL, Compord, VDA, RND
Communication Protocol	Webservices, or through virtually any Internet protocol, including IBM Sterling Connect:Direct®, TCP/IP, FTP, FTP/PGP, FTPS, SMTP, X.400, HTTP, HTTPS, MQ, and the EDIINT protocols AS1, AS2, and AS4, OFTP 2.0, SFTP
Small Partner Automation	Document Conversion Services (Convert fax transactions, e-mail and postal mail into EDI or XML and EDI to Fax) and WebForms

*For a complete list of standards and protocols please contact your sales representative.

IBM Sterling Supply Chain Business Network (SCBN) communication standards and protocols

Uncover business insights about your B2B document exchanges

Identify anomalies based on value, volume and velocity

Why IBM?

To stay competitive, best-in-class organizations will need to capitalize on a digital business network that simplifies connections with partners, accelerates onboarding, and provides end-to-end visibility across your B2B transaction lifecycles.

IBM Sterling Supply Chain Business Network delivers with a single, cloud-based digital business network with embedded AI that streamlines connectivity and collaboration. Blockchain widens and deepens B2B-transaction-lifecycle visibility across your supply chain. It leverages the cloud to provide the demand-driven and trusted B2B integration your business needs. Sterling Supply Chain Business Network simplifies collaboration by digitizing and automating B2B transactions to increase efficiencies and reduce costs. And enables business users to make faster, more informed decisions with AI and blockchain.

For more information

To learn more about IBM Sterling Supply Chain Business Network, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or
visit https://www.ibm.com/watson/supply-chain/resources/scbn-demo/index.html

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