



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
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Directorate B – Digital Enablers & Innovation  
**DIGIT.B.3 – Digital Trust**

# **eInvoicing Conformance Testing Service**

## **Service Offering Description**

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## **APPROACH AND PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT**

The present document is the Service Offering Description (SOD) of the eInvoicing Conformance Testing service. Key content includes an explanation of the roles and responsibilities and the process description of the eInvoicing Conformance Testing service.

The eInvoicing Conformance Testing service is intended to check the conformity of their existing eInvoicing solutions against the core invoice format of the [European standard on eInvoicing \(EN\)](#).

## **DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS**

The key terminology related to the eInvoicing Conformance Testing can be found in the Glossary of this document.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION TO EINVOICING CONFORMANCE TESTING

### 1.1. Objective

The eInvoicing Conformance Testing service aims to verify that eInvoicing solutions are conformant to the set of eInvoicing specifications included in the European standard on eInvoicing.

### 1.2. Users

The eInvoicing Conformance Testing service targets the following types of users:

- **Public Entities** – Public entities are involved in the transposition and implementation of the Directive 2014/55/EU on electronic invoicing in public procurement, in the adaptation of EU and national policies and in handling initiatives or projects linked to (cross-border) interoperability. They apply to the conformance test to have their reference implementations and test suites installed in the testbed run by [Interoperable Europe](#) for their respective communities to use.
- **Suppliers** – Entities doing business using the European standard on eInvoicing. They are involved in the creation, usage and exchange of eInvoices according to national obligations.
- **Service and Solution Providers** - Involved in the design, operation and implementation of eInvoicing systems/solutions compliant with the Directive 2014/55/EU and the European standard on electronic invoicing (EN 16931-1:2017 semantic and CEN/TS 16931-2:2017 syntaxes) and wish to undertake interoperability testing. They can use the testbed to test their products' connectivity against supported reference implementations, or the conformance of their messages against supported specifications).

### 1.3. Benefits

The eInvoicing Conformance Testing service was designed to generate the following benefits to the user:

- Testing supported by the eInvoicing Service Desk;
- Quick testing cycle enabling to reduce resources allocated to testing solutions (e.g., cost, time, human);
- Many testing processes on offer including a web form upload, a web service and the [GITB platform](#) using AS4 validations (see Process Overview Description document for details);
- Testing anywhere at any time;
- Tests are fully domain-neutral, so they can be carried out on different platforms: Unix, Azure, Apple, Microsoft, etc.

### 1.4. Scope

The table below presents an overview of the phases and the corresponding services offered by the eInvoicing Conformance Testing.

**Table 4: eInvoicing Conformance Testing - Scope**

Step	Definition	Services
<b>Get informed</b>	Based on the user type (Public Entity, Solution & Service Provider or Suppliers), users get information about the most suitable tool(s) for them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explanation of the conformance testing, and the platform used to perform it.</li> <li>• Presentation of the different scenarios and examples shared via the platform.</li> </ul>
<b>Use</b>	Users verify if their eInvoicing solution is compliant with the set of eInvoicing specifications included in the EN.	<p>Users can choose between three technical options for eInvoicing conformance testing (see Process Overview Description document for details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The web form.</li> <li>• The Web service.</li> <li>• Or the <a href="#">GITB platform</a> (GITB stands for Global e-Business Interoperability Test Bed project): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ eInvoicing provides ready-to-use test cases, a testing platform, and supports users of the eInvoicing Conformance Testing Service during the entire testing process.</li> <li>○ The service providers or public administrations upload in the testing platform the eInvoices that they produce and that are based on the European standard on eInvoicing (EN 16931).</li> <li>○ These eInvoices are checked by the testing platform, to verify if they comply with the European standard on eInvoicing (EN 16931) specifications.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The <a href="#">GITB platform</a> can also send EN-compliant eInvoices to the systems that were implemented by Service Providers or Public Administrations.</li> </ul>
<b>Test report production</b>	Once the tests have been conducted successfully the platform generates a test report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The outcome of the test execution is documented in the test report. If the test report shows that the invoice conforms with all the mandatory specifications as required, the eInvoice is recognised as officially conformant.</li> </ul>
<b>Certify the solution</b>	Users can ask the eInvoicing Service Desk to certify their eInvoicing solution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The users can contact the eInvoicing Service Desk and ask for certifying their eInvoicing solution, after the successful test results. The eInvoicing Service Desk then checks whether the recorded attempts and the provided evidence fulfil all requirements.</li> </ul>
<b>Publish eInvoicing solution</b>	Users' certified eInvoicing solution can be displayed on the Digital website ( <a href="#">page</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the agreement of the owner of the conformant solution (user) the eInvoicing support team will publish it on the Digital website once the user has provided the Service Desk with all the necessary information.</li> </ul>

## 2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This section describes the main roles of actors involved in the eInvoicing Conformance Testing service and their responsibilities.

### 2.1. Public Entities

Public entities are involved in the transposition and implementation of the Directive 2014/55/EU on electronic invoicing in public procurement and adaptation of EU and national policies.

#### Responsibilities:

- Test the invoice compliance against the core invoice specifications;
- Perform the test as evidence;
- Provide (on a voluntary basis) details of their solution to the Service Desk, so that they are listed on the [eInvoicing Conformant Solutions page](#).

### 2.2. Service and Solution Providers

Solution Providers are involved in the design, operation and implementation of eInvoicing systems/solutions compliant with the Directive 2014/55/EU and the European standard on electronic invoicing (EN 16931-1:2017 semantic and CEN/TS 16931-2:2017 syntaxes).

#### Responsibilities:

- Test the invoice compliance against the core invoice specifications;
- Perform the test as evidence;
- Provide (on a voluntary basis) details of their solution to the Service Desk, so that they are listed on the [eInvoicing Conformant Solutions page](#).

### 2.3. Suppliers

Suppliers are involved in eInvoicing creation, usage and exchange according to national obligations.

#### Responsibilities:

- Test the invoice compliance against the core invoice specifications;
- Perform the test as evidence;
- Provide (on a voluntary basis) details of their solution to the Service Desk, so that they are listed on the [eInvoicing Conformant Solutions page](#).

## 2.4. eInvoicing Service Desk

The eInvoicing Service Desk provides users with support related to the eInvoicing Conformance testing service.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Provide technical support to the users during registration and execution of the eInvoicing conformance tests.
- Publishes the user's solution information on the [eInvoicing Conformant Solutions page](#) if the user asks for it (only for GITB tests, not for web or web upload tests).

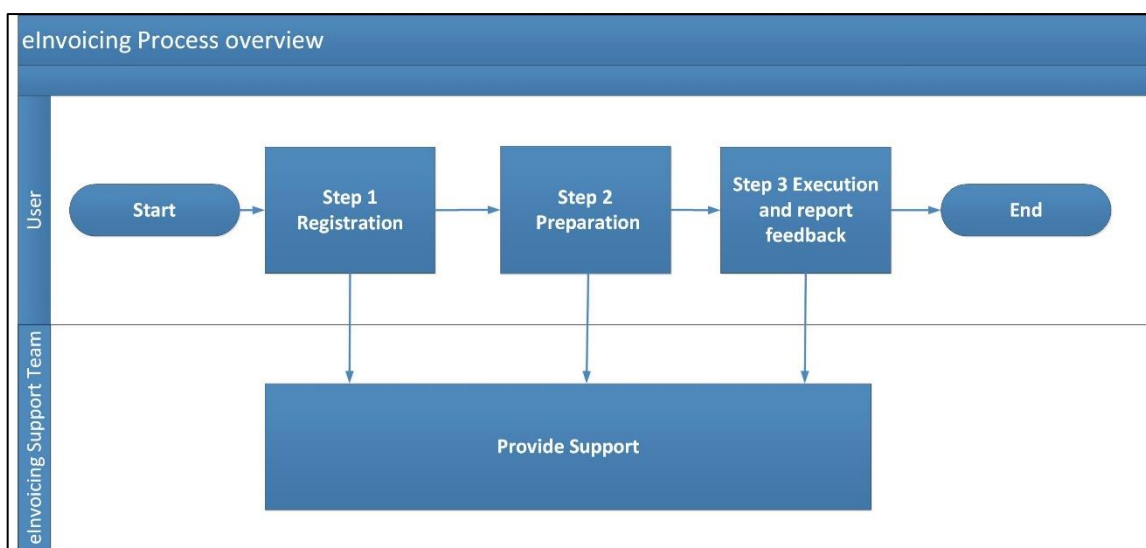


### 3. HOW TO USE THE SERVICE STEP BY STEP

This section describes the processes that are part of the eInvoicing Conformance Testing service in high level. For a more detailed perspective on this, please refer back to the dedicated document named [eInvoicing Conformance testing Process Overview Description](#), such document is intended for Service Providers and Public Entities that need detailed instructions for using the Conformance Testing Service.

#### 3.1. Process Overview

The table below provides an overview of the eInvoicing Conformance Testing steps, and the corresponding services offered.



#### 3.2. Step 1: Registration

**Purpose:** To register the user accounts and organisations/systems on the test platform. This registration is only required when applying for the Conformance Testing Service via the AS4 eDelivery protocol.

**Actors:**

- eInvoicing support
- User

**Process:**

1. The user goes to the [GITB platform](#).
2. The user fills in the necessary information on the test platform to register.
3. The user can contact the eInvoicing support in case help is needed in the process.

### 3.3. Step 2: Preparation

**Purpose:** to prepare the test scenario on the Test Bed.

**Actors:**

- eInvoicing support
- User

**Process:**

1. The user logs on to the [GITB platform](#).
2. The user fills in the necessary information on the test platform to start the test (sender or receiver scenario, configuration package download).
3. The user can contact the eInvoicing support in case help is needed in the process.

### 3.4. Step 3: Execution and report feedback

**Purpose:** to execute the conformance tests and generate a test report.

**Actors:**

- eInvoicing support
- User

**Process:**

1. The user executes the conformance tests using the testing platform.
2. The user resolves the failed tests (with or without the support of the eInvoicing Service Desk).
3. The eInvoicing Service Desk provides technical support to the user during the execution of the conformance tests if needed.

#### 4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The user can consult the eInvoicing terms and conditions in the Master Service Arrangement, available on the [Digital website](#).

The terms and conditions specific to the eInvoicing Conformance Testing service are described in the table below.

**Table 5: eInvoicing Conformance Testing Terms and Conditions**

Term / Condition	Description
<b>Obligations of the Users</b>	It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that enough information is provided, in timely manner, to enable the required services to be performed.
<b>Delivery of the services</b>	The European Commission will provide the eInvoicing Conformance Testing service in accordance with the procedures outlined in this document.  The European Commission is entitled to suspend or terminate the provision of the services in case of failure of the user to comply with its obligations, as described above, or any other conditions preventing the successful delivery of the service.

## 5. CONTACT INFORMATION

### eInvoicing Service Desk

**Digital website:** <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/sites/display/DIGITAL/eInvoicing>

**Service desk:** <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/tracker/plugins/servlet/desk/portal/8>

**By email:** [EC-EINVOICING-SUPPORT@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EC-EINVOICING-SUPPORT@ec.europa.eu)

Support Service: 8am to 6pm (Normal European Commission working days)

# Annex A      Glossary

The key terms used in this Service Offering Description are defined in the table below.

**Table 6: eInvoicing Conformance Testing - Key terminology**

Terminology	Definition
<b>Reference implementation</b>	<p>This is the application component enabling the user to test the conformance of their solutions by using the System Under Test (SUT).</p> <p>This reference provides the tester with a set of implementation specifications to evaluate the conformance of their solution</p>
<b>Testing platform</b>	<p>The testing platform or testbed enables the user to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Validate the content:</b> eInvoices are checked by the testing platform, to verify that they comply with the European standard on eInvoicing (EN) specifications.</li><li>• <b>Test report generation:</b> production of a structured test report detailing the results of the test.</li><li>• <b>Send eInvoices:</b> the testing platform sends EN-compliant eInvoices to the systems that were implemented by Service Providers or Public Administrations.</li></ul>