



## FACT SHEET #3

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## What is Peppol?

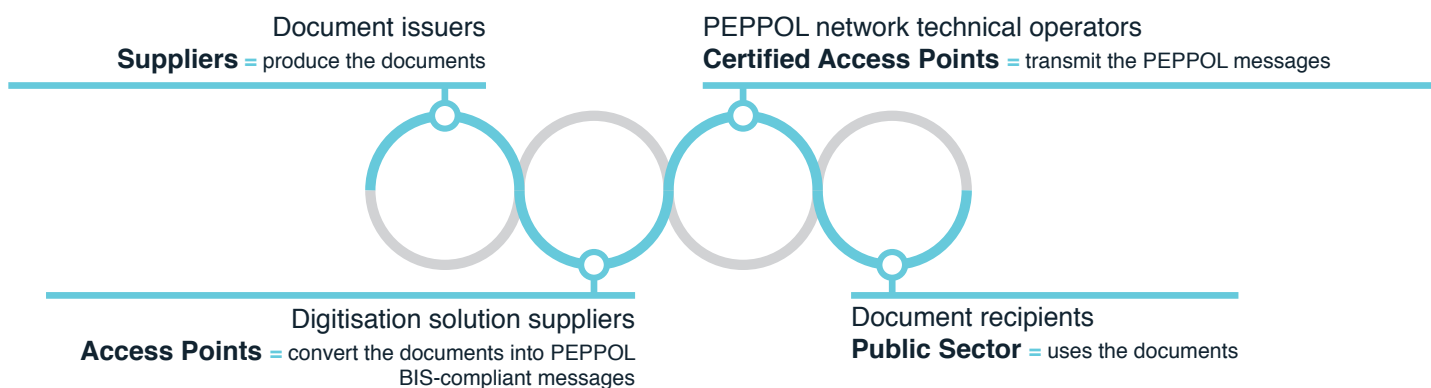


The European Community launched PEPPOL (Pan European Public Procurement OnLine) in 2008 to improve cross-border connectivity and interoperability between EU member states.

PEPPOL uses a document exchange system, standards, an eDelivery network, and a partner network to encourage bidders to submit electronic documents to EU public tenders.

The **OpenPEPPOL** non-profit association was created in 2012 to develop the PEPPOL system. It sets technical specifications for documents – purchase orders, invoices, catalogues, expense claims, etc. – based on the Business Interoperability Specifications (BIS), which are a set of shared norms used to standardize e-procurement procedures.

### Who does what in the PEPPOL system?



### Managing document flows in the PEPPOL network

- All documents flow through the PEPPOL Transport Infrastructure. This network, which links two access points, is based on digital signatures applied by providers with an electronic certificate issued by PEPPOL.
- Document issuers do not need to be listed in the central registration system (SML), but PEPPOL document recipients do.
- All documents must be verified by the sender access point before they can be sent to another access point. The participant's ID and the document format must be PEPPOL-compliant.
- Documents must be sent to a PEPPOL-certified access point. Each access point is issued a digital certificate valid for two years that can be revoked if service providers breach the network agreement.
- The receiver access point also verifies the consistency of the messages it receives and then sends them on to the recipient.
- The system uses an EDI protocol to digitize the invoices sent via PEPPOL.



# What is Peppol?



**358** OPENPEPPOL MEMBERS  
IN 35 COUNTRIES

**13** PEPPOL AUTHORITIES

**235** CERTIFIED ACCESS POINTS  
IN 28 COUNTRIES IN EUROPE,  
NORTH AMERICA, AND ASIA

## PEPPOL is also:

### A national invoicing portal access point

In most European countries, companies can now e-invoice public sector entities via PEPPOL.

### B2B applications

PEPPOL isn't just for invoices. It is also used for e-procurement and supply chain communications both domestically and across borders.



## The keys to a successful PEPPOL project



**Verify the PEPPOL IDs** and the messages clients are expecting so that invoices go where they are supposed to.



**The operator supplies tools** for verifying that the intended partner is in the PEPPOL registry and that the expected messages are in the right format.

**Take into account the full range of data** that can be sent in each type of message (purchase order, despatch advice, invoice, etc.).



**The operator provides support** based on Europe's EESPA recommendations and the PEPPOL BIS message specifications.

**Contact invoice recipients** to verify exactly what data they are expecting.




**The operator helps** identify the data expected by the client's PEPPOL partners.

**Check with the operator** that all these elements are PEPPOL-compliant.



**The operator supplies the tools needed** to verify that invoices meet legal requirements. In Europe, the laws the invoice must comply with vary depending upon the country in which it is issued, received, and delivered.

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