

**SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES FOR THE MEETING OF THE WOOL INDUSTRY EDP USERS GROUP  
HELD ON TUESDAY THE 13<sup>th</sup> OF OCTOBER 2020**

## SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES

### 1. XML Standards

AWH and Talman indicated at the last meeting that they were going to provide feedback. Both AWH & Talman confirmed they were OK with the document.

It was enquired if we should be adding guidelines regarding JSON. A representative thought that we should as it is considered that XML is outdated.

It was noted in previous discussions from AWTA staff that XML is more mature, there would need to be work arounds implemented to use JSON.

A request was made to provide documentation to start the JSON discussion. AWEX will review what documentation they have that can be shared.

### 2. Change of Invoice Number field to mandatory in LI & GI

This request originally came from Lempriere. It was a result of an audit, they would like to know how to relate an invoice to a lot number. Currently the field is only conditional if it is a private sale. It would be good if the exporter could relate a lot number to an invoice number.

It was noted that there is no requirement to have an invoice number under tax laws. If it is made mandatory a 10 record would need to be transmitted for every lot, not sure how it could be made mandatory.

Most accounting systems now do not require an invoice number. The real issue is how do we get rid of the paper invoice. It was noted that if there is an option to eliminate the hard copy invoice it will need to be an industry wide decision.

The original request came from auditors looking for invoice numbers.

It was suggested that this is a non WIEDPUG issue. If we can eliminate hard copy invoices this will help resolve the issue.

The Chair advised that WIEDPUG can make a field mandatory but we cannot mandate it. Also, if the data is not stored it cannot be supplied.

There is nothing in the WIEDPUG standards outlining hard copy invoices. We have been using paper for a long time, it is overdue to look at ways to eliminate paper.

If we can eliminate the hard copy/PDF invoice we can eliminate the invoice number. There is no requirement to have it on a tax invoice. It was noted that some auditors like an invoice

number though.

An enquiry was made as to whether the recipient could create an invoice number in their system. It was unsure of the legality of this and if the auditors would accept this.

AWH advised that they do not send an invoice number. They send a PDF to the buyer. Reconciliation is by using the sale and lot number.

Currently Exporters value the hard copy invoice as an important document as a double check.

AWTA advised that they could provide a facility for the data receiver to get a PDF copy of the LI in the AWTA EDI network. This would need to be confirmed by AWTA.

The Chair added item 6.1 on payment advice with this discussion as the two items were related. Both of these topics could be looked at together to replace the hard copy or pdf invoice.

The payment advice request came from AWN who receive payments from Exporters, they are currently getting part payments. They would like the ability to receive the update about which lots have been paid for so they can quickly and accurately update their systems as to which lots have been paid for. It could be possible a discount could be provided if this document is used.

The payment advice document is not currently used in the industry.

AWH advised that they currently receive a reconciliation from the Talman system.

The payment advice document was created to automate the reconciliation process, the exporter could automatically generate a file to be sent to the network and it would be used to automatically update lots that have been paid for in the brokers system.

AWH advised that they receive a lot of payments without a remittance and vice versa. They also receive a lot of delivery orders without payments. They need to confirm all three before they can action a lot.

The Chair advised that it is not WIEDPUG's role to mandate the use of documents.

To encourage or mandate the use of the payment advice document both NCWSB and ACWEP would need to be involved. WIEDPUG will provide the formats to transmit the data, other bodies would need to promote the use.

A NCWSB representative advised they have a board meeting in November, this topic will be

added as an agenda item.

### 3. General Updates (No Papers)

#### Electronic Classer Specifications

- Versioning, push versus pull of the data and a flow chart is required.
- NWD version 8 changes
- DFDL discussion

The current leader of the working group advised that due to their current work load they will be stepping back as the leader, they will continue to participate as working group member.

#### Internationalisation of Fields

To make any changes to cater for the internationalisation of fields would require a significant change in the data structures and there is no appetite for this currently. In current documents there is no definition of a country code. There is no room in the 10 record.

The country code in the 00 record it is currently being altered by the EDI networks.

It was suggested to leave the issue until XML and JSON come into place.

There are a lot of fields that this can affect, 80 character formats make any updates difficult, it was thought to leave it until XML & JSON are implemented.

The group consensus was to leave the issue until future data standards are implemented, the item will be removed from the agenda

### 4. Other Business

Payment Advice document to be made compulsory for the industry

Discussed earlier in item 4.

Zoom or Teams use for future WIEDPUG meetings

The Face to face meeting is not likely to go ahead due to COVID-19, a video conferencing facility was thought to be a good alternative.

It was noted that the voice quality will be better using Zoom.

The group consensus was to use Zoom for the next meeting.

AWTA advised that it has video conferencing facilities, if anyone would like to come into the AWTA office that is OK, they just need to know the numbers for social distancing requirements.

AWTA confirmed that there are no payment advice documents received by the AWTA EDI

network.

## **5. Next Meetings**

9:30am AEDT Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2021

9:00am AEST Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2021

9:00am AEST Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2021

9:00am AEDT Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2021