Structure and formats of the XRechnung

The structure of an XRechnung was defined by KoSIT. KoSIT is the coordination centre for IT standards that was commissioned to define the standard. Further information can be found on the external website https://xeinkauf.de/xrechnung/ of the Bremen tax office.
The "Standard XRechnung" in the current version of the IT Planning Council for Germany applies.

As a supplier, you must be able to create the XRechnung in one of the two syntaxes Universal Business Language (UBL) or UN/CEFACT Cross Industry Invoice (CII).
We are able to process both prescribed syntaxes. For technical implementation, please contact the IT department responsible for you.

Please create your XRechnung in the final coding format UTF-8, as this character encoding correctly transmits special characters (e.g. ü, ä, ö).

The XML file is checked using the KoSIT (IT standard coordination centre) check tool integrated into the system and also using a DB tool.

Registration and delivery

DB AG is a sector client and is therefore not connected to the ZRE (Central Invoice Platform) of the Federal Government or to the OZG-compliant invoice receipt platform (OZG-RE).

Since 1 February 2024, DB has been registered in the PEPPOL network for the receipt of XRechnungen with the PEPPOL ID: 9930:DE811569869 (for all German DB companies, with the exception of the DB Schenker division).

To send the invoice by e-mail, please send the XRechnung in an unencrypted e-mail to e-invoicing@deutschebahn.com. Please do not also send the invoice in PDF format or by post.

We provide you with a DB generator for XInvoice creation, which you can use to generate XRechnung (with embedding), no registration is required for this. There is no automatic transmission via the DB XRechnung Generator, the XRechnung created is only saved locally on your computer and must be sent manually.

The X-Invoice Generator is primarily intended for companies that do not use their own software due to a lower invoice volume. Of course, you can also use an in-house solution or the services of a service provider.

All about the routing ID

We are not connected to the federal portals, we still use the routing ID assigned for us, as this is a mandatory field of the XRechnung.

DB AG works with the routing ID 992-90009-96 for all companies.
However, some software solutions have problems storing a routing ID without a portal solution, in which case please use DB992-90009-96.

Field assignment in the XML

The indication of the accounting period or the date of delivery or performance is a requirement of § 14 UStG.
Your IBAN is also mandatory for invoices to DB.
These mandatory details are checked by the DB Tool when the XRechnung is received and the XRechnung is not accepted if the details are missing.

If you have a DB order number, please enter it in the BT- field.
No further information may be given here. It is sufficient to enter the digits after the last slash of the order number (xxx/xxx/xxxxxxxx).

In addition, please enter the data of the DB employee placing the order (name, telephone number, e-mail address) in fields BT-56 to BT-58.

You are welcome to enter the vendor number we have assigned to you in the BT-29 field.

To create an XRechnung as a credit note, enter the code "381" in the BT-3 field and positive quantities and amounts in the item entry.
To create a cancellation invoice for an incorrect invoice, enter the code "384" in the BT-3 field and positive quantities and amounts in the item entry.

In the download area you will find corresponding sample calculations of the syntaxes UBL and CII.

Invoice-related attachments to the XRechnung

The federal requirement is that attachments must be embedded in the XML of the XRechnung. This means that the e-mail may only contain one file (the XRechnung as XML) and all attachments (invoice-related attachments) must be embedded here.

For technical implementation, please contact the IT department responsible for you.

Please note:

o   A maximum of 200 attachments can be embedded in the xml document.
o   The attached objects do not contain any further attachments.
o   File attachments must be embedded in the XML in PDF, CSV, PNG, JPEG format; links to the files and other XML are not permitted.