Dealing with multiple standards, trading partners, regions and systems means many different EDI document formats. How to decide on the format(s) your organisation will support isn't easy.

1 Do you currently need to handle a number of different EDI document formats? For example, XML, ASCII, UN/EDIFACT, ANSI X12 etc.

2 Can your ERP handle all the different formats, or do you need middleware to enable integration, or support specific customer requirements?

3 To support some, or all, of the formats do you need to keep data externally to your ERP environment to enable integration, or to support customer requirements?

4 Do you trade across borders and need to support other countries' formats and comply with government trading rules and regulations?

5 Can you take advantage of other systems such as PEPPOL with native formats (and protocols)?

6 Do you have support staff and personnel able to interpret and manage formats for new connections or trading partners?

7 Do your trading partners change formats which then requires further effort to support?

Get in touch with B2BE and we can help you understand different EDI formats and standards and guide you in developing an approach that enables you to minimise the effort and work involved to support your trading partners.