



SOLUTIONS



Centralization of the company's information systems is provided by TradeXpress



### GEFCO, briefly

The PSA group's subsidiary GEFCO, a tiers-1 industrial logistics integration provider dedicated to freighting and logistics for the car manufacturer, has reduced its reliance on PSA and widened its activities to three distinct divisions.

- **Automotive:** distribution and preparation of new and second-hand vehicles. A fleet of 4,219 specialist wagons. 80 European distribution hubs, including in Central and Eastern Europe
- **Network:** parcel and freight delivery service, largest private European transport network. Growth build-up in Central and Eastern Europe (+ 83 %), in Latin America (+ 34 %) and in China (+95 %)
- **Supply:** Logistics and Overseas with 40 logistics platforms equivalent to 400,000m2 and numerous international lines across Europe, South America, Asia and Maghreb.

50 years of freighting and logistics experience have positioned GEFCO as a frontrunner in the European market. Dedicated to a strategy of growth, the company can offer its customers comprehensive logistics solutions while ensuring ongoing international expansion. Posted sales in 2006 reached € 3.2 billion.

### Context, project target

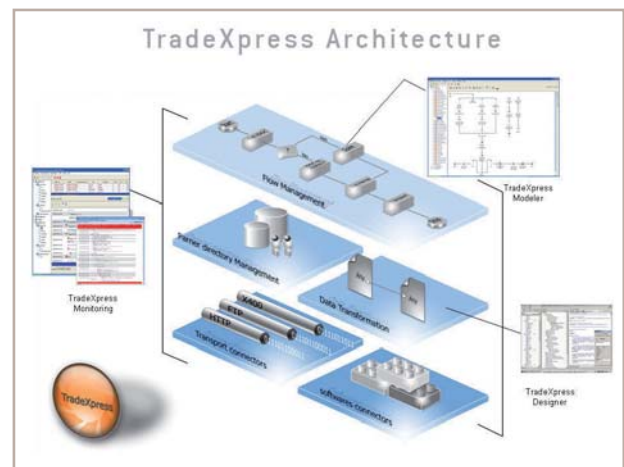
To pursue its goals for global growth, GEFCO in 1999 defined a 5-year master plan whose objective was the centralization of the company's information systems at its Headquarters. It involved the information to flow to a single location.

As the tools installed were insufficient in terms of performance and reliability to process such a flow of information, GEFCO actively sought a new, robust and open-ended EDI solution.

### Project objectives, major solution-related expectations

In order to automate its dense flows of partner/supplier data interchange, GEFCO needed a reliable solution capable of meeting 3 criteria:

- **Performances:** a capacity for processing a considerable number of messages in good time
- **Communication:** a capacity for interconnecting with existing and future partner solutions
- **Administration:** trouble-free supervision and correction, if required, of flows transiting the server





## Selected solution

"GEFCO was looking for a Unix environment solution and considering the volume of exchanged messages, able to support considerable loads; other integrated prerequisites were the supervision tools and support required to ensure fast intervention" states Fabien Piffre, Data Flow Architecture Manager GEFCO. Against that backdrop, the IT department at GEFCO Headquarters selected the Generix Group's Influx brand solution: TradeXpress. In 1999, GEFCO rolled out its business applications centralization plan that naturally embraced the EDI system. The plan, drawn up in close collaboration with Generix Group experts, was set out in precise steps:

- **Analysis of legacy system** (referencing and analysis of the exchange set-up already in place locally)
- **Installation of TradeXpress** in a secure environment (IBM S80 cluster - HACMP)
- **Transfer of translators** from each site to the central EDI server
- **Implementation of communication resources** with external or in-house partners correction, if required, of flows transiting the server
- **Migration of legacy flows** to the new EDI HUB

## Results, advantages

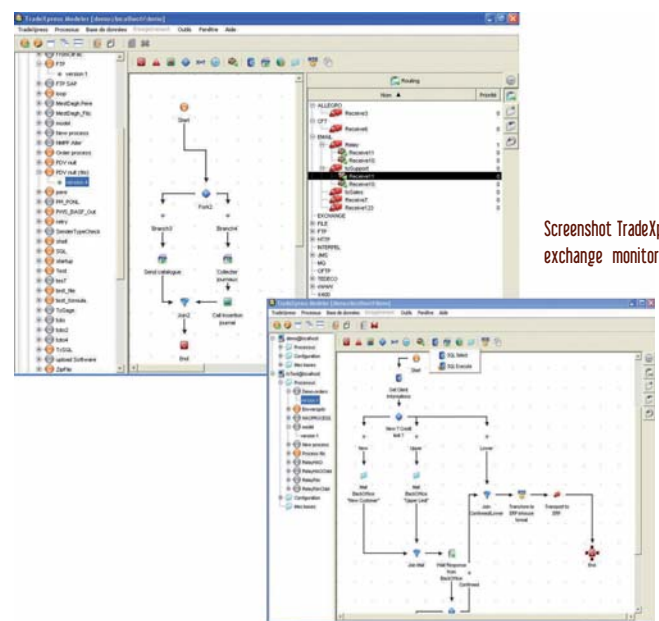
The successful implementation of leading-edge TradeXpress technologies helped considerably to enhance GEFCO Information systems engineering through more economic management. GEFCO currently processes 25,000 EDI messages daily from 1,600 partners and 200,000 messages transiting the EAI platform. 450 EDI development actions and some one hundred ancillary procedures have been put in place.



THIS DATA INTERCHANGE PLATFORM ALLOWS US TO MEET PRESENT AND FUTURE NEEDS IN TERMS OF VOLUME AND PERFORMANCE. FURTHERMORE, UPGRADES BASED ON THE HUB ENABLE US TO KEEP IN PHASE WITH NEW DEMANDS FROM THE MARKET



FABIEN PIFFRE,  
Flow Architecture Manager GEFCO



Screenshot TradeXpress : exchange monitoring