The architecture enables standard based interoperability between heterogeneous supply-chain applications. Initiated by the Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG) the Inventory Visibility and Interoperability (IV&I) project was to establish standards for interoperable data exchange among inventory visibility applications. Focus is on eKanban business processes providing standard IV&I messages to be exchanged between IV tools implemented by the supply-chain participants.

The proposed architecture provides for i) formal capture of the semantic concepts of the business domain, ii) precise semantic annotation of message interfaces and specification of semantic reconciliation rules and iii) automated and consistent standard interface implementation through reconciliation rules execution.

The architecture is implemented with a semantic-mediation toolset developed within the European project ATHENA and has been demonstrated successfully in a reference scenario.

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