

Securely extending global bank connectivity for innovation

Volvo Car Group uses Fides to manage its payments workflows, leveraging Fides' validation services to ensure payment and messaging continuity.



CUSTOMER PROFILE

Company: Volvo Car Group
Industry: Manufacturing
Headquarters: Gothenburg, Sweden
Employees: 38,000+ employees globally
Website: www.volvocars.com

Business Need

Volvo Car Group initially engaged Fides to act as a service bureau within their treasury department, connecting with their treasury management system (TMS) and ERP system. When the company needed to ensure all its commercial payments processes were ready for SEPA, it again turned to Fides.

Solution

- Fides ARS and Fides EFT
- SWIFT Corporate BIC

Benefits

- Streamlined payments workflows
- Reduced counterparty risk
- Seamless integration with TMS and ERP systems

About Volvo Car Group

Volvo is one of the most well-known and respected car brands in the world. Volvo Car Group (Volvo Cars) has been a world leader in safety technology and innovation since 1927, when the first Volvo was manufactured in Gothenburg. The company is a global organization with manufacturing in Sweden, Belgium, China and the United States and sales in 100 countries. Volvo Car Group is owned by Zhejiang Geely Holding (Geely Holding) of China.

Volvo Cars' Business Need

Innovation is at the forefront of Volvo Car Group's business strategy. The company takes pride in the cutting-edge, intuitive technology and solutions that it has delivered to enrich peoples' lives over the past century.

Volvo Car Group initially engaged Fides to act as a service bureau within their treasury department, connecting with their treasury management system (TMS) and ERP system. Volvo leveraged Fides, and the Fides BIC, to send the SWIFT MT101 and MT940 payment instructions from its ERP. This required file formats be converted to XML on the outgoing payments, which Fides was able to automate, streamlining processes considerably.

Preparing for SEPA

In 2013, Volvo Car Group began to examine its commercial payments infrastructure and workflows, both for payments and statements, to ensure compliance with the SEPA regulation. The company began to look at what it would take to move its many host-to-host connections to SWIFT.

In a discussion involving treasury and IT, it was determined that the best way to secure the IT infrastructure on the counterparty side would be to use a service bureau. While Volvo Car Group looked at a number of options, Fides was the clear solution.

Solution: Fides ARS and Fides EFT

On the commercial side, Volvo Car Group opted to use their own BIC. The company routes all of its payment files through Fides, leveraging Fides' sanction filter handling to minimize and mitigate the risk of fraud.

Initially, Volvo Car Group used Fides to connect to their core banks, and added another eight banks for commercial payments as part of this second phase. Over the past several years, Volvo has initiated new banks and new setups but Fides has remained a constant.

Risk Mitigation with Sanction Filters

One reason Volvo Car Group chose to work with Fides was the Fides validation services, which include sanctions filtering. Fides pre-screens all transactions at the banking level, prior to market release. Using Fides' sanction filtering capabilities helps manage and mitigate payment fraud, reducing both financial and reputational risk.

Volvo Car Group was one of the first companies to use the Fides sanction filter for non-Latin characters to expand its secure payments into China.

For Volvo Car Group, it was important to have a service provider that could provide support globally. Fides' proven history and track record of award-winning global multi-bank connectivity services make the Volvo team feel confident in the relationship. That, paired with Fides' flexibility and willingness to work in partnership to quickly build new services and offerings such as file format converters and filters, allows Volvo Car Group to concentrate on delivering business innovation.

Future planning

Volvo Car Group continues to expand its global reach, leveraging the bank connectivity provided by Fides. The company anticipates that Fides will continue to develop innovative new connectivity solutions to support new requirements as they emerge.

About Fides

Fides is the global leader in multi-bank connectivity, enabling corporates to connect to any bank, in any region, through any channel. Fides helps more than 3,000 clients communicate with more than 10,000 banks globally within 170 countries. Whether you are using a Treasury Management System (TMS), Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP), our Fides web applications, or any combination thereof, Fides is the only bank connectivity platform you need. As an independently operated subsidiary of Credit Suisse, Fides offers SWIFT connectivity to corporates who do not have their own SWIFT BIC code by leveraging the lead bank model. Fides also provides conversion, validation and security services. We are known for our outstanding project management and support services, ensuring a timely implementation and customer satisfaction. With Fides, clients can reach further, and connect faster.

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