

## PRESS RELEASE

### **GS1 Austria and EDITEL are now part of the “Blockchain Initiative Logistik“**

- › **Blockchain Initiative Logistik: first use case is the digitization of shipping documents**
- › **This industry-specific solution is expected to automate roughly 75 million processes at Austrian logistics companies per year and save twelve million sheets of paper**
- › **Participants at the launch are EDITEL Austria, GS1 Austria, DB Schenker, LKW Walter, Bundesvereinigung Logistik Österreich (BVL) and the Vienna University of Economics and Business; additional partners to follow soon**
- › **This industry-specific blockchain-based solution has been designed to reduce costs, increase transparency, protect against forgeries and save time and resources**
- › **Following an analysis and pilot phase in 2019, the project is expected to result in the creation of a commercial platform**

*(Vienna, 16 July 2019)* – At the invitation of the auditing and consulting firm EY, GS1 Austria and its subsidiary EDITEL Austria, along with renowned logistics companies such as DB Schenker and LKW Walter and the Bundesvereinigung Logistik Österreich (BVL) as well as the Vienna University of Economics and Business, will participate in the “Blockchain Initiative Logistik.”

The initiative aims to implement a joint pilot project designed to assess the usefulness of blockchain technology for the shipping and logistics industries. A first use case has been defined and revolves around the digitization of shipping documents. These shipping documents are usually paper-based and their handling and sharing often happens haphazardly. In upcoming workshops, the participants in this initiative will periodically follow and analyze the possible solution of digitizing specific shipping documents using blockchain technology. One of the goals is to ensure that documents are available and can be accessed and processed at any given time by all participants in the process. This industry-specific solution is expected to automate roughly 75 million processes at Austrian logistics companies per year and save twelve million sheets of paper.

Gerd Marlovits, the CEO of EDITEL Austria GmbH, explains why EDITEL has decided to actively contribute to this initiative: “Even though we don’t expect blockchain technology to replace EDI processes in the near future, this is a great opportunity for us as an EDI provider to gain important insight and to use existing synergies. We plan to rely on this experience for our future solutions,” he said. The managing director of GS1 Austria, Gregor Herzog, is also positive that “this technology for saving data has disruptive potential for logistics and supply chain management. Any associated developments are therefore highly relevant for GS1 Austria, given our function as a data hub. We look forward to sharing our expertise and being part of this process.”

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### About EDITEL

EDITEL is an internationally leading provider of EDI solutions (Electronic Data Interchange) that specializes in the optimization of supply chain processes. The company serves clients in many different business sectors and industries.

Thanks to its offices in Austria (where the company is headquartered), the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Croatia as well as many franchise partners, EDITEL has a presence in myriad countries, which makes EDITEL the perfect business partner for companies with international business activities.

Via the EDI platform eXite®, EDITEL offers a comprehensive portfolio of services, ranging from EDI Communication and EDI Integration, Web EDI for SMEs, e-Invoice solutions and Digital Archiving to Business Monitoring. Our successful EDI projects are backed by 30 years' experience and in-depth expertise.

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