



Automotive Supply Chain Best Practices

# OSCAR Explained

Version No 1.1

Date: June 2016

**QUICK DIRECTIONS: WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?**

[How much does an Odette ID cost?](#)

[I need an identifier for my OFTP system \(so-called Odette ID or SSID\)](#)

[I want to know more about the whole OSCAR system and possible use cases in my company](#)

[I need further instructions on how to use the web application](#)

[I have other questions regarding the OSCAR system](#)

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## OSCAR GENERAL INFORMATION

Odette has responded to the growing needs for unique identification in the automotive industry and has launched the OSCAR service. In case you are wondering, OSCAR stands for the Odette System for Coding And Registration.

It will provide two key offerings:

- 1) An **issuing agency service** for the coding of business organisations
- 2) An **information service** which allows access to detailed and up to date information about the organisations of registered entities.

and the following key benefits:

- Tailor-made for the automotive industry
- More flexible and less expensive than the two main commercially available current coding systems
- Provision of worldwide unique IDs in line with ISO standards
- Run by the automotive industry, not a commercial enterprise.

Odette is already officially recognised as a Code Issuing organisation within two of the most relevant and influential ISO standards in the area of unique identification:

- ISO 15459 – Information Technology – Unique Identifiers (Parts 1 – 6)
- ISO 6523 – Data Interchange – Structures for the identification of organisations (Parts 1 & 2)

The Odette Code, recognised by both of the above standards, consists of 4 alphanumeric characters which will be used to identify main business organisational units (legal companies and individual business units).

There is also the possibility (recognised by ISO 6523) to add a 2 character alphanumeric suffix to the main 4 character code in order to identify sub-entities. Odette will use this suffix to allow companies to register individual codes for sub-organisations (e.g. receiving locations, loading docks, purchasing department, invoicing function, etc) within their main business organisations.

The OSCAR service will:

- Issue Codes for use in:
  - AutoID
    - Consignment ID (Licence Plate)
    - Asset ID (e.g. Containers)
    - Product ID (Parts Marking)
  - EDI messaging
    - Technical Partner ID (Sender/Receiver)
    - Business process related Party ID (NAD ID)
  - File transfer station identification (OFTP)
- Maintain Business Entity Datasets
- Provide Business Entity Datasets for use in Partner Databases

OSCAR delivers a high quality solution which meets the requirements of Auto ID/RFID, OFTP, EDI and the Odette Partner Identification Database (PID, VDA-UPIK respectively) recommendation. We will start with Auto-ID/RFID, OFTP and EDI and make provision for PID/UPIK at a later date.

In the future, we will also provide the possibility for the exchange of partner related data via EDI, (using XML messages).

Organisation codes are often used in the automotive industry as a key element in the identification of various entities, for example:

- Trading partners
- Locations, business functions and departments within a company
- Logistics handling units
- Company Assets
- Individual parts/components
- Computer network addresses
- Engineering changes
- and more.....

## OSCAR Explained

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Currently, there is a very confused and heterogeneous situation within the industry, with companies identifying the above entities using a mixture of their own organisation codes and codes provided by external organisations such as Dun & Bradstreet or GS1/ePC.

Companies have to maintain a large number of codes of varying formats and lengths. Even if these codes can be understood in individual trading relationships, there is no way that they can be understood by other parties in the Supply Chain, such as logistics service providers, customs officials, network providers etc.

There is a growing need for a unique identification of these entities linked to factors such as:

- More stringent traceability requirements
- Increased incidence of automatic data capture (especially using RFID)

The current unique organisation codes, and rules associated with these codes, offered by some large providers, do not completely satisfy the requirements of the automotive industry. The OSCAR Code will provide unique identification and, together with the corresponding Odette recommendations and guidelines, will overcome the deficiencies of these other coding schemes.

Examples of where OSCAR coding can be used include:

- RFID based asset management
- Parts marking
- Identification of transport handling units (License Plate)
- Identification of engineering changes
- Identification of locations and business areas within a company

OSCAR is an easy to use web-based company code issuing system which provides an added value service to the automotive industry

The combination of user-driven Odette recommendations and an easy to use cost efficient service, provides a major benefit to our industry.

Recent experience with the use of RFID in the automotive supply chain has clearly indicated the urgent need for a simple, homogeneous and consistent solution.

If anyone is concerned about having to make costly internal changes, the introduction of the OSCAR code will not require an immediate change of running systems in companies. It can be applied in areas where the need is most urgent (e.g. returnable container identification) and then extended to other applications as required.

## PARTS MARKING

Traceability of parts for safety and warranty reasons is an essential requirement in the automotive industry. It requires the *identification of the manufacturer* of the part since there are many situations where the same part is being supplied by different manufacturers. It must be possible to identify the manufacturer for the whole lifespan of the car.

Today there are manufacturer IDs used, which are assigned by the individual OEM. Certain (standard) parts are delivered to various OEMs by the same supplier. He has to attach different manufacturer IDs to the parts, depending on the OEM. It is additional effort and hinders quick adoptions to changed demand figures – before an available part can be shipped, the manufacturer ID has to be applied for that individual OEM or even already attached marks have to be changed.

### **Advantage for the supplier:**

OSCAR provides *one* code that identifies the manufacturer towards all the OEM.

### **Advantage for the OEM:**

The OEM does not have to set up and maintain its own coding system. Once the business processes are set-up to recognise the OSCAR code any number of suppliers can be handled without additional administrative effort.

Another benefit that can be achieved – together with other means – is an improved and harmonized methodology for anti-counterfeiting.

## CONTAINER MARKING

This application area deals with the *identification of the container owner* (for manufacturer identification, please refer to Parts Marking).

Returnable Transport Items (RTI) are widely used in the automotive industry. There are OEMs, suppliers and external service providers involved in the process and they all may be owners of RTI forming a big pool in the supply chain. To identify the owner of the RTI is necessary for the overall administration of that process, inventory maintenance, invoicing and accounting processes and of course for returning the RTI to their owner.

Today these processes are rather non-transparent and require a high manual effort with “friction” losses. OSCAR may solve this problem. Using machine readable codes (e.g. RFID) the inventory update procedures can be automated. The increased transparency leads to reduced costs and higher flexibility in the supply chain. Also the size of the container pool may be reduced and the binding of working capital decreased.

**OSCAR Explained**

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Another aspect is related to very expensive special containers. Whereas the problem with cheap mass RTI is the sheer number of the boxes, in this situation the economic effect is related to the fact that the tracing of these containers is enhanced.

**CONTAINER SHIPPING LABELS**

OSCAR can be used as part of worldwide unique transport unit serial shipping labels.

Complex transport processes, increased security requirements and specific customs procedures for international shipments require unique serial shipping labels.

They have to contain the ID of the sender (shipper) and it has to be possible to resolve this ID from any place in the world. OSCAR provides the necessary infrastructure for querying and resolving the sender.

Example:

Odette License Plate for Transport Label

Odette		Code from OSCAR				Space	Serial Number									
0	D	A	0	1	2		A	1	B	2	C	3	D	4	E	

**IDENTIFICATION OF PLACES OF DISCHARGE / UNLOADING POINTS**

In the automotive supply chain the unloading point is usually identified as a combination of customer number, plant ID and location ID. If any of those numbers is missing on a document, the identification is impossible.

For a third party service provider the situation is even more unfortunate: since the customer number is assigned by the supplier, the service provider must be able to resolve different numbers assigned to the same customer.

With OSCAR only one ID is necessary. The same location has always the same ID and can be resolved easily.

## IDENTIFICATION FOR DATA TRANSMISSION (E.G. OFTP AND EDI)

### IDENTIFICATION OF SENDING AND RECEIVING OFTP STATION

OFTP is the most widely used transfer protocol in the automotive industry. Sender and receiver station use special IDs (SSID) to mutually identify the systems and to start a transmission session – the so called Odette ID.

Nowadays this ID is assigned by the responsible national organisation in a de-centralised way; there is no central repository available and it is not possible to validate the used ID via a public access. When using ISDN, the telephone number (still) provides a certain reliability concerning the connected partner. However, ISDN services will stop soon in some countries and the use of the internet requires more sophisticated solutions. Also often a third party service provider is involved which makes the issue even more complex.

There have been situations reported where these Odette IDs have been falsified: some companies deliberately generated their own ID based on existing valid IDs (by using the extension for internal station ID) and used these falsified IDs in the data exchange. Given the fact that supply chain delivery processes reach now as far as Asia and South America this is an unacceptable situation and bears risks which can be avoided by using OSCAR.

OSCAR links the de-centralised registers, prevents the use of falsified IDs and creates transparency in this essential business process.

### IDENTIFICATION OF SENDER AND RECEIVER IN EDI TRANSMISSIONS

Beside the technical identification (physical sender and receiver) in EDI messages it is necessary to identify the logical sender and receiver. They may be different: physical sender / receiver may be a third party service provider whereas the logical sender and receiver are the supplier and the customer. Also in large enterprises there might be several business units, plants etc. and all of them use the same centralised OFTP station for data transmission. OSCAR fits perfectly into this situation since it can be used also to assign individual codes to these business units (in OSCAR terminology Business Entities).

## OSCAR AS A COMPREHENSIVE, INDUSTRY-WIDE SUPPLIER DATA BASE

There is a growing need to maintain more information about a supplier than simply linking an internal supplier number to one company.

With the continuing consolidation process, the customer wants to know more about relationships, hierarchies, whole family trees of the supplier.

## OSCAR Explained

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And even following the changes on the markets (mergers, split-off, take overs etc.) is a challenge to each OEM and large supplier. Today this is handled by each company individually, but demands grow louder for a common system for the industry providing the core information on a reliable, up-to-date basis and leaving only the specific customer-supplier related information under their own responsibility.

The benefits are mutual:

- Suppliers could maintain their own data in one instance (today they have to communicate each change to all their customers or rather have to change the data in various portal applications of their customers).
- OEMs could subscribe to an update service and reduce their internal effort considerably.

OSCAR provides the framework for such a solution. Being built with the Odette PID data set as information model in the background it is aware and prepared for such use case.

Although this is still a future dream, once accepted and implemented by the key players in the industry OSCAR may become a comprehensive repository of suppliers, their capabilities and products.

## OSCAR USER GUIDELINES

The OSCAR system is completely web based.

You will access the web site through <https://oscar.odette.org>

## USER REGISTRATION

The first step is to register yourself as a user of the OSCAR system.

You choose the National Organisation (NO) that will be responsible for your account:

OSCAR - Odette System Of Coding And Registration - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by SMMT

https://odettecodes.dinebxs.com/OTSCAR02.aspx

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Norton Phishing Protection on Identity Safe Log-ins

Links Customize Links Free Hotmail Windows Windows Marketplace Windows Media Odette SMMT Remote Users OSCAR Odette Forums

OSCAR - Odette System ... x C:\Documents and Settings\...

**ODETTE**

Home OSCAR Explained Query OSCAR Code Terms & Conditions odette.org

Administrative Data

This page displays the administrative data for your account. This data can be edited only for fields indicated below by a frame. To edit/change further fields, please contact the administrator responsible for your account. Fields marked with an asterix ( \* ) are mandatory.

OSCAR Service

OSCAR Administrator \* ANFAC  
Galia  
ODETTE International  
Odette Czech Republic  
Odette Sweden  
SMMT

User Information

Job title \* VDA  
IT Adminstrator

Department \* IT

Phone number \* +49 33397 62704

Fax number +49 33397 62705

Figure 1: User Registration Data

**OSCAR Explained**

You will have to provide the following data:

- User information (see above)
- Company registration details including company registration number and optional tax registration number
- Invoicing address (if different from company registration details)
- Administration address (again, if different from company registration details)
- VAT number (if applicable)

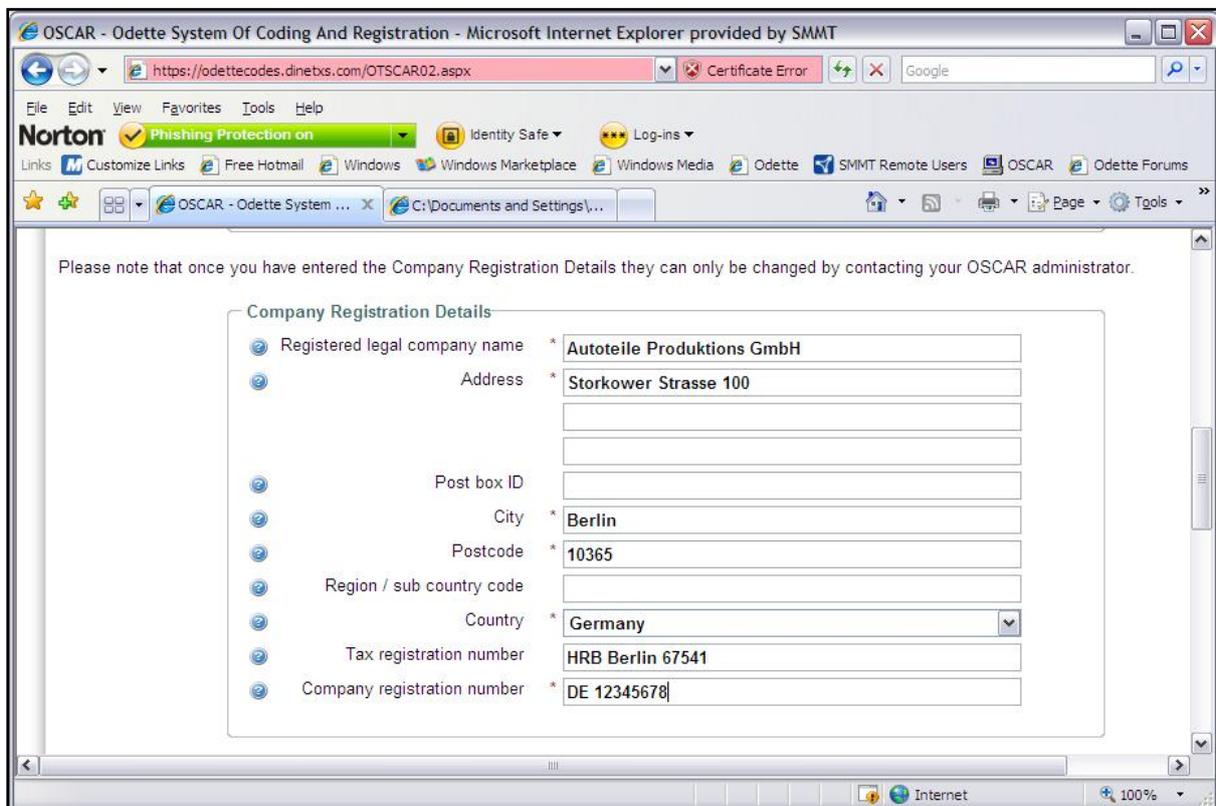


Figure 2 Company Registration Data

Your registration will be validated by your selected National Organisation. Whilst the data sets registered with an OSCAR code are self-maintained we want to ensure that there is a valid and verified legal business entity behind each OSCAR code.

## OSCAR Explained

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After completion of your administrative data you will be forwarded to the “Home” page:

The menu driven OSCAR Application is easy to understand and to operate.

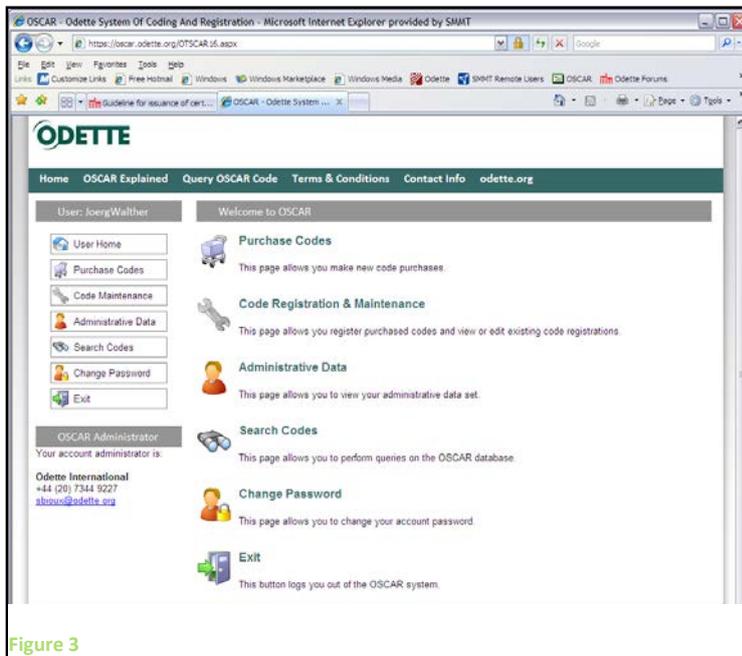


Figure 3

## ORDER OSCAR CODES

You can use the Purchase Order form to place your orders. There is a distinction between an **OFTP Code** and the **Full OSCAR Code**.

An **OFTP Code** is assigned once and can be used solely for IT station Identification. Other applications such as Parts Marking etc. are not supported by this code type.

**Full OSCAR Code** is the right choice if you want to do more than just identify your OFTP / OFTP2 station. With the **Full OSCAR Code** you can register Main Business Entities and Sub Business Entities.

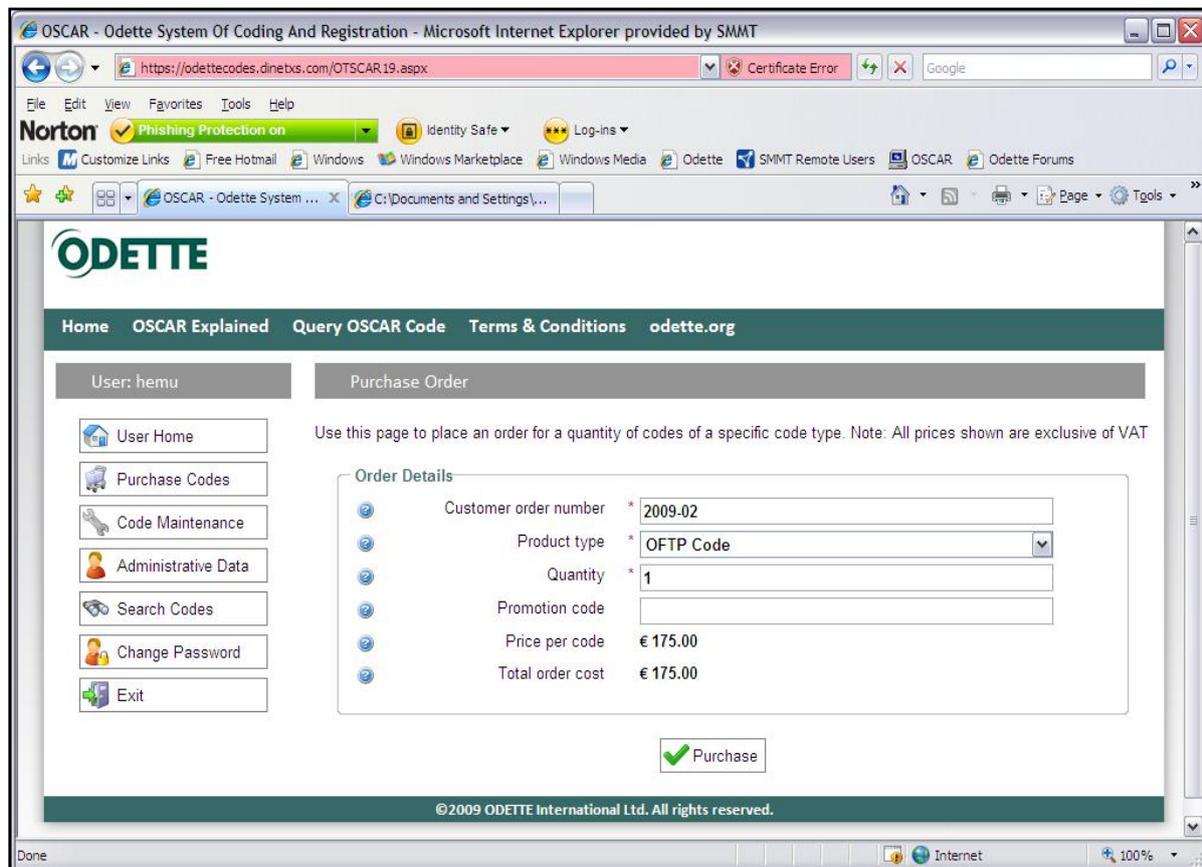


Figure 4 OSCAR order screen

You will receive an order confirmation email from the OSCAR system immediately after clicking the purchase button.

The National Organisation will process your purchase order and issue an invoice.

Subsequently (usually after your payment has been received by the NO) you will receive an email informing you that the codes can now be registered:

Dear Helga Mustermann,

We have processed your order 2009-02 for OSCAR codes and you can now commence registration.

To obtain your codes log into the site using the link below.

<https://oscar.odette.org>

Click on the 'Code Maintenance' option from the menu and then click the 'Register Entity' next to the code type you wish to register.

**OSCAR Explained**

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Note: Please note that this authority to proceed does not necessarily imply that we have received payment for your order. Any invoice not paid by the due date may result in the order being cancelled and any associated registrations being disabled.

Thank you,  
OSCAR Support Team

**CODE REGISTRATION**

Pre-requisites:

- You have registered yourself as a user
- You have ordered codes and the order / payment has been processed and confirmed by your national organisation's administrator.

You log in to the system and select “Code Maintenance” from the menu.

The page will show you the codes available for registration.



Figure 5 Codes available for registration

Click on the symbol in the column Register Entity to register a data set and get a code assigned to it.

**OFTP CODE REGISTRATION**

For each code you can register an Entity Name, an optional Short Name and an optional Trade Name.

You will probably not use the other fields like DUNS number and parent IDs.

You will have to register the physical address related to the information set. With a click box you can ask for the registered address to be used (copied to the data set). An optional mailing address can be registered. Contact information can also be added.

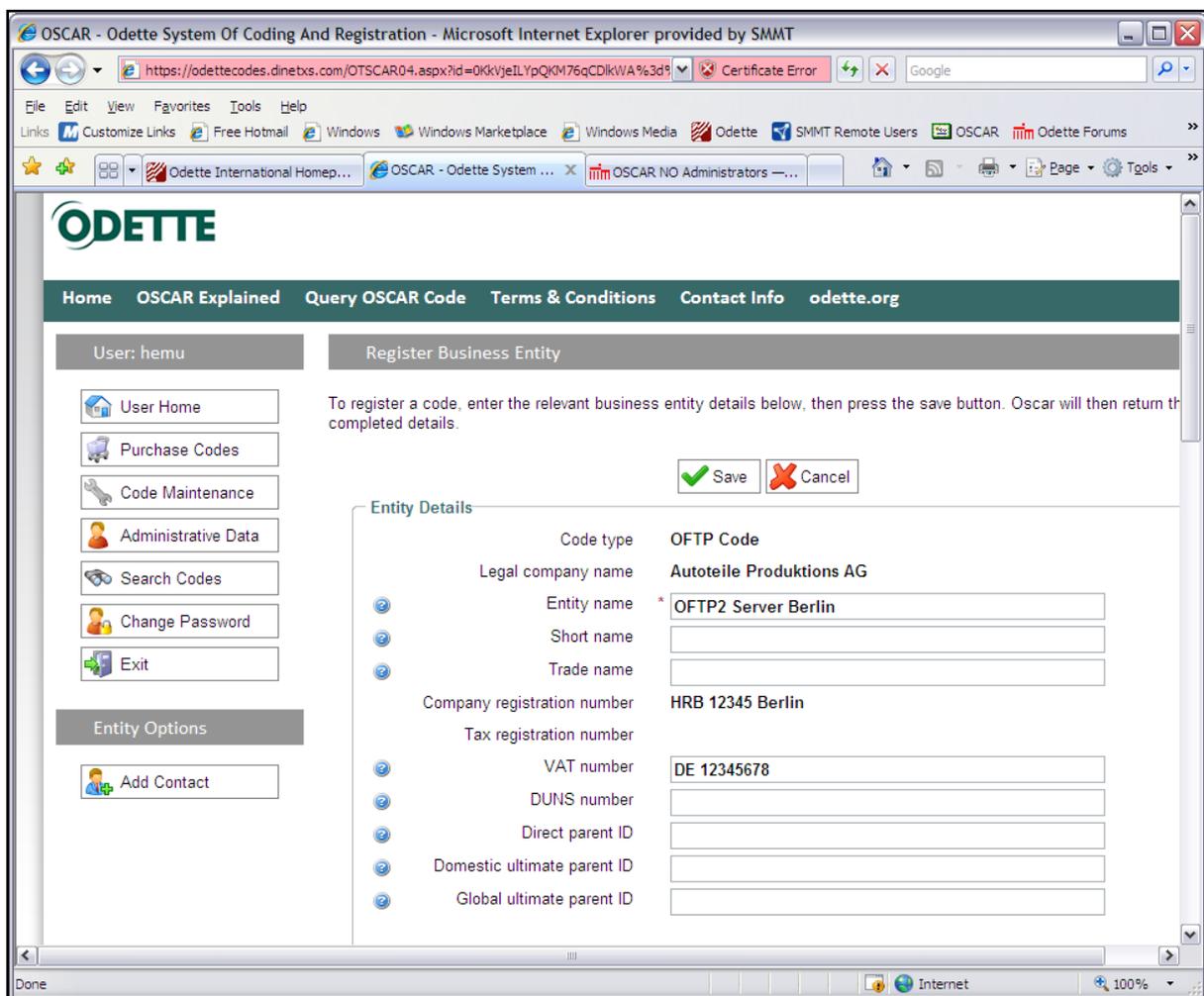


Figure 6 OFTP Code Registration Form information can also be added

After saving the information the system assigns a code and displays the code together with the data set.

**OSCAR Explained**

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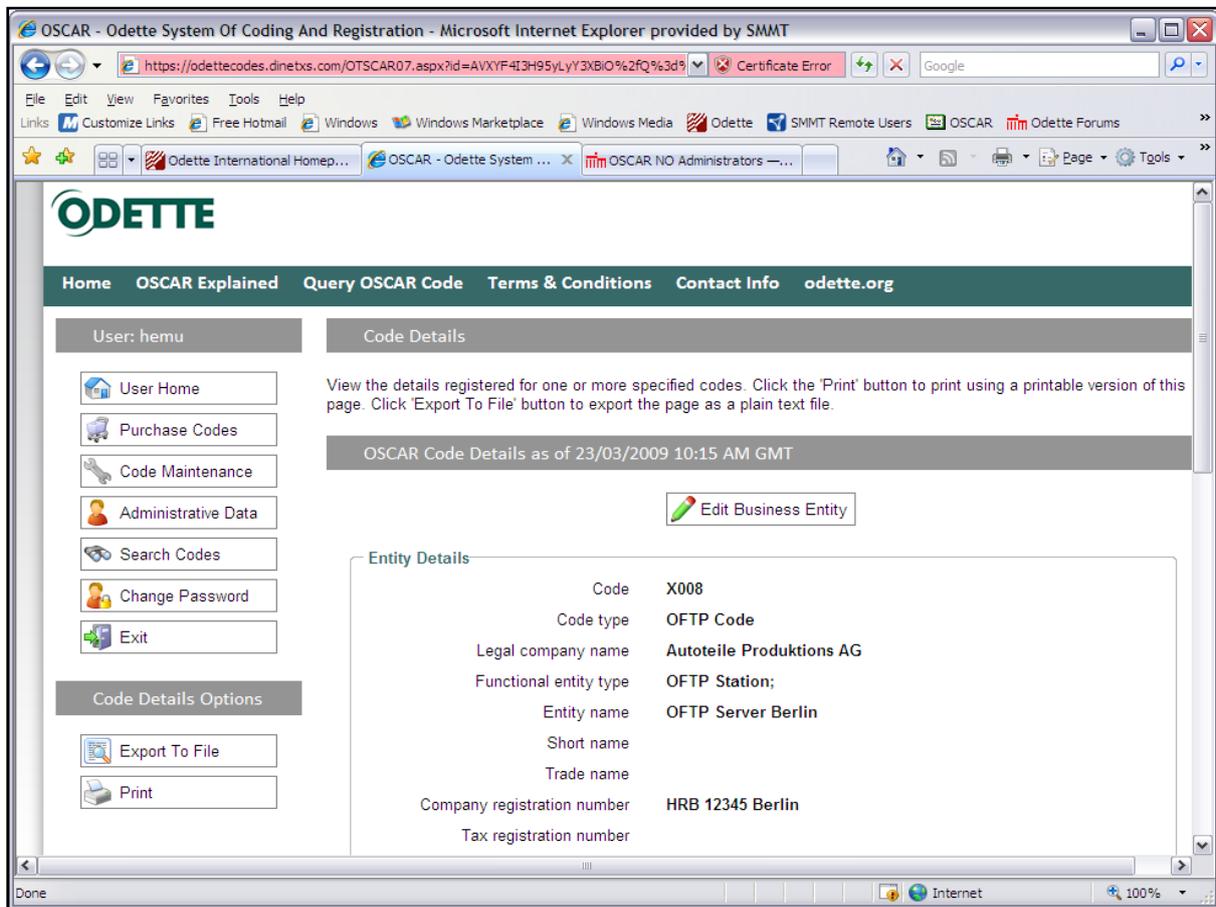


Figure 7 Data set with OFTP code assigned

You can use this OSCAR code to identify your OFTP session (SSID) as follows:

ISO ID	OFTP code from the OSCAR System	Sub address
0 0 1 7 7	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 X 0 0 8	0 0 0 0 0 0

Notes:

The ID follows the specification of ISO 6523.

**00177 (ISO ID):** The ISO ID identifies the assigning organisation. Odette is registered at ISO as code / identifier issuing organisation with the ID 0177. The leading character 0 identifies the whole ID as an OFTP identifier.

**0000000000X008:** The ID assigned by OSCAR, with leading zeros to fill the format of the OFTP identifier (alphanumeric, 25 characters).

**OSCAR Explained**

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000000 (Sub address): The internal sub-address or system name (e.g. "PLUTO1"). If no sub address is used or necessary, use 6 zeros.

You can also print the whole data set for your files (see below).

<b>OSCAR Code Details as of 23/03/2009 10:15 AM GMT</b>	
<b>Entity Details</b>	
Code	<b>X008</b>
Code type	<b>OFTP Code</b>
Legal company name	<b>Autoteile Produktions AG</b>
Functional entity type	<b>OFTP Station;</b>
Entity name	<b>OFTP Server Berlin</b>
Short name	
Trade name	
Company registration number	<b>HRB 12345 Berlin</b>
Tax registration number	
VAT number	<b>DE 12345678</b>
DUNS number	
Direct parent ID	
Domestic ultimate parent ID	
Global ultimate parent ID	
Status	<b>Registered</b>
<b>Physical address</b>	
Address	<b>Industriepark 3</b>
Post box ID	
City	<b>Berlin</b>
Postcode	<b>10369</b>
Region / sub country code	
Country	<b>Germany</b>
<b>Mailing address</b>	
Address	<b>Industriepark 3</b>

Figure 8 Data set printout

FULL OSCAR CODE REGISTRATION

After calling the registration page you can register the data set of a main business entity MBE (as opposed to a sub business entity SBE - see later in this document).

Figure 9 MBE data registration

If you want the OSCAR system to reflect the hierarchical structure of your company you can use direct parent ID , domestic ultimate parent ID and global ultimate parent ID to refer to these entities.

In addition you will have to specify the functional entity type. You can chose more than one function. If the function is not reflected by one of the check boxes, please use “Other” and explain the function in the text field.

The physical address has to be specified and, optionally, a mailing address. One or more contacts can be added.

If you want the OSCAR system to reflect the hierarchical structure of your company you can use direct parent ID , domestic ultimate parent ID and global ultimate parent ID to refer to these entities.

**OSCAR Explained**

Version No 1.1

In addition you will have to specify the functional entity type. You can choose more than one function. If the function is not reflected by one of the check boxes, please use “Other” and explain the function in the text field.

The physical address has to be specified and, optionally, a mailing address. One or more contacts can be added.

The screenshot displays a web form for MBE data registration, organized into three main sections:

- Physical Address:**
  - Use company address:
  - Address:
  - Post box ID:
  - City:
  - Postcode:
  - Region / sub country code:
  - Country:
- Mailing Address:**
  - Use physical address:
  - Address:
  - Post box ID:
  - City:
  - Postcode:
  - Region / sub country code:
  - Country:
- Contact Details:**
  - Contact type:
  - First name:
  - Last name:
  - Job title:
  - Department:
  - Phone number:

Figure 10 MBE data registration (cont'd)

After saving the data, the registered data set is displayed together with the assigned code.



**OSCAR Explained**

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Code type : Full OSCAR Code  
Legal company name : Autoteile Produktions AG  
Functional entity type : Distribution; Production / Assembly  
Warehouse / Storage;  
Entity name : Plant Munich  
Short name :  
Trade name :  
Company registration number : HRB 12345 Berlin  
Tax registration number :  
VAT number : DE 12345678  
DUNS number : 987654321  
Direct parent ID : A00B  
Domestic ultimate parent ID :  
Global ultimate parent ID :  
Status : Registered  
etc.

~~~~~

## SUB-ENTITY CODE REGISTRATION

Sub-entity codes can be used to specify further internal sub-systems, locations, production lines etc.

SBE codes can only be registered under a previously registered MBE which has a full OSCAR code.

The grid below shows a summary of all the codes you have already registered. Codes with prefix 'X' are for OFTP use only. To view details of a code click on the magnifying glass icon at the end of the row.

| Code | Subcode | Company                  | Entity Name                | Status     | Register Sub Entity | Details |
|------|---------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------|
| A00B |         | Autoteile Produktions AG | Autoteile Produktions GmbH | Registered |                     |         |
| A00B | 01      | Autoteile Produktions AG | SBE 01                     | Registered |                     |         |
| A00C |         | Autoteile Produktions AG | Fabrik Eberswalde          | Registered |                     |         |
| A00C | 01      | Autoteile Produktions AG | Gebäude 1                  | Registered |                     |         |
| A00C | 02      | Autoteile Produktions AG | Gebäude 2                  | Registered |                     |         |
| A00C | 03      | Autoteile Produktions AG | OFTP Station               | Registered |                     |         |
| A00E |         | Autoteile Produktions AG | Warehouse Eberswalde       | Registered |                     |         |
| A00E | 01      | Autoteile Produktions AG | Dock 1                     | Registered |                     |         |
| A00E | 02      | Autoteile Produktions AG | Dock 2                     | Registered |                     |         |
| A00E | 05      | Autoteile Produktions AG | Dock 5                     | Registered |                     |         |

Figure 12 Access to sub entity registration

Select *Code Maintenance* in the main menu and click on the icon in the *Register Sub Entity* column of the row with the associated MBE.

You can now register the sub entity data set.

You will have to assign the 2 character sub entity suffix yourself. Any alphanumeric characters are allowed except I, O and Z.

You will have to assign the name and to specify the functional entity type. Address data can be copied from the MBE data set or entered individually per SBE.

Figure 13 Sub entity data set registration

Save the data set and a new entry is added to the OSCAR data base. In the above example a code A01K01 would be generated to identify the sub-entity.

|      |    |                          |              |            |  |  |
|------|----|--------------------------|--------------|------------|--|--|
| A01K |    | Autoteile Produktions AG | Plant Munich | Registered |  |  |
| A01K | 01 | Autoteile Produktions AG | Warehouse    | Registered |  |  |

Figure 14 Registered sub entity

## CODE QUERY

The code Query function is open to the public.

At <https://oscar.odette.org/OTSCAR12.aspx> everyone can query an existing OSCAR code.

ODETTE

Home OSCAR Explained Query OSCAR Code Terms & Conditions Contact Info odette.org

Oscar Query

To discover the name of the company and the entity name to which an OSCAR code is registered, please enter the OSCAR code and press the query button below.

Oscar Code Info

|               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Code *        | A01K                     |
| Registered to | Autoteile Produktions AG |
| Entity name   | Plant Munich             |

Query

Figure 15 OSCAR query result (full OSCAR code)

ODETTE

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Oscar Query

To discover the name of the company and the entity name to which an OSCAR code is registered, please enter the OSCAR code and press the query button below.

Oscar Code Info

|               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Code *        | X008                     |
| Registered to | Autoteile Produktions AG |
| Entity name   | OFTP Server Berlin       |

Figure 16 OSCAR query result (OFTP code)

This query function can be used to verify communication connections or identify the sender or owner of containers or packaging items.

For registered users who have purchased their own OSCAR code a more extensive query function is available.

You can:

- enable a *Tree View* showing the hierarchical structure of an enterprise beginning with the level represented by the queried entity;
- view the whole data set(s) of the found entity or entities

The screenshot displays the ODETTE OSCAR system interface. At the top, the ODETTE logo is visible. Below it is a navigation bar with links: Home, OSCAR Explained, Query OSCAR Code, Terms & Conditions, Contact Info, and odette.org. The user is identified as 'User: hemu'. On the left, there is a sidebar with buttons for User Home, Purchase Codes, Code Maintenance, Administrative Data, Search Codes, Change Password, and Exit. The main area is titled 'Search' and contains a description: 'Shows the results of any queries or searches performed on the OSCAR system. Allows users to view the results of multiple search results by checking the check box on each row and pressing the view button at the bottom of the page.' Below this are two search forms. The 'Code Search' form has fields for Company Name, City, and Country, and a Search button. The 'Code Query' form has a Code field with 'A00B' entered, a checked 'Tree View' checkbox, and a Query button. Below the search forms is a 'Search Results' section showing a hierarchical tree view of results for 'A00B - Autoteile Produktions AG (Autoteile Produktions GmbH, Berlin, DE)'. The tree includes sub-entities like A00B01, A00C, A00C01, A00C02, A00C03, A00E, A00E01, A00E02, A00E05, A00F, A00G, A01K, and A01K01.

Figure 17 Query with family tree

The entries in the result tree are hyper linked so that you can view the data set by simply following the link.

CODE SEARCH

This function is also a service for registered users who have purchased their own OSCAR code.

You can look / search, which codes have been assigned to a certain company. You can filter the results by company name, city and country.

The screenshot shows the ODETTE OSCAR system interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, OSCAR Explained, Query OSCAR Code, Terms & Conditions, Contact Info, and odette.org. Below the navigation bar, the user is logged in as 'User: hemu'. On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with options: User Home, Purchase Codes, Code Maintenance, Administrative Data, Search Codes, Change Password, and Exit. The main content area is titled 'Search' and contains a description: 'Shows the results of any queries or searches performed on the OSCAR system. Allows users to view the results of multiple search results by checking the check box on each row and pressing the view button at the bottom of the page.' Below the description, there are two search forms: 'Code Search' and 'Code Query'. The 'Code Search' form has fields for Company Name (Autoteile), City (Berlin), and Country (dropdown menu), and a Search button. The 'Code Query' form has a Code field, a Tree View checkbox, and a Query button. Below the search forms is a table of search results:

| <input type="checkbox"/> | MBE  | SBE | Company Name             | Entity Name                | City   | Country |
|--------------------------|------|-----|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | A00B |     | Autoteile Produktions AG | Autoteile Produktions GmbH | Berlin | Germany |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | X007 |     | Autoteile Produktions AG | OFTP2 Server Berlin        | Berlin | Germany |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | X008 |     | Autoteile Produktions AG | OFTP Server Berlin         | Berlin | Germany |

At the bottom of the table, there is a 'View' button with a magnifying glass icon.

Figure 18 Search results

From here, you can view the data set details. Tick the box at the left of each code you want to see the details for and press View. If you want to select all entries, tick the box at the left of the heading.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

[What is OSCAR?](#)

[Why use the OSCAR service when there are other systems available?](#)

[Is Odette only offering codes for legal entities?](#)

[If I use an Odette ID do I have to scrap my existing coding scheme?](#)

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[Who is my national administrator?](#)

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## WHAT IS OSCAR?

OSCAR stands for **O**dette **S**ystem of **C**oding **A**nd **R**egistration.

It is a web-based application that allocates and issues Odette IDs (aka OSCAR codes) to various types of business entities. A full data set is associated with each code so that registered users of the OSCAR system can easily discover the details of a business entity represented by a code and vice versa. Third parties can also query a code, but with limited functionality: only the name of the legal entity is displayed in this case.

## OSCAR Explained

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The design of the OSCAR system is flexible enough to assign codes to legal entities, (non-legal) business units, logistics locations, administrative departments and technical devices such as computer systems and communication stations.

The OSCAR system provides the platform for a comprehensive, industry wide data base of business partners (e.g. manufacturers, suppliers, service providers).

In other words: whenever you need to identify your business or specific parts of it in a way that can be uniquely recognised by your business partners (and within the whole supply chain) OSCAR is the right choice and will fully satisfy your need.

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### WHY USE THE OSCAR SERVICE WHEN THERE ARE OTHER SYSTEMS AVAILABLE?

OSCAR is a new service provided by Odette but Odette has a long tradition in assigning IDs for data exchange (e.g. the Odette ID used for OFTP).

The OSCAR service and the Odette ID itself are designed to meet emerging business practices as well as to support existing processes. New technologies and processes in the automotive supply chain have established a whole range of requirements: identification of legal entities and non-legal entities, use of short codes to fit into the memory of cheap RFID tags, on-line maintainability and query capabilities, and all this at a reasonable price.

None of the existing services and coding systems combines all these features. Therefore the Odette membership requested the development of a new system.

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### IS ODETTE ONLY OFFERING CODES FOR LEGAL ENTITIES?

No, the Odette system goes way beyond legal entities. The need for identification does not stop at the level of a legal entity. Large companies are often split into several production plants, warehouses, local sales operations etc. Each of these entities may have to be identified either for logistics or communication processes or for providing a comprehensive picture of the company in a supplier data base. The Odette ID provides the flexibility to assign codes to any unit – i.e. **business entity** - within the legal entity. This allows the use of the same coding system in various, quite different environments such as accounting, partner identification and supplier database, but also asset identification, consignment labelling, parts marking and B2B communication.

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### IF I USE AN ODETTE ID DO I HAVE TO SCRAP MY EXISTING CODING SCHEME?

No you don't have to give up your current coding scheme. You can use Odette IDs for dedicated purposes / emerging processes at first and the Odette ID will co-exist with your already implemented coding-schemes. If you are happy with this co-existence, nothing else has to be done. However, there is of course the opportunity to migrate other application areas to the Odette ID to simplify your own administrative processes and to reduce the effort for your suppliers as well.

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### WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THE ODETTE ID AND THE OSCAR SYSTEM?

- The Odette ID is the best answer for the growing need for unique identification in the automotive industry.
- Odette IDs totally fit with the framework for logistics and data interchange in the automotive industry.
- The Odette coding scheme has been designed for any kind of unique identification such as OFTP based file transfers, EDI messages, Odette labelling, Odette RFID recommendations as well as the exchange of partner data between companies.
- The administration around the OSCAR system is extremely lean, being based on a web interface for allocation, maintenance and queries.
- Users can maintain their own data immediately according to the dynamics of their company organisation.
- OSCAR has been developed by the not-for-profit Odette community. In the OSCAR system the specific requirements of the automotive industry have been taken into account – it is tailor made. As members of Odette the automotive companies are able to influence the future development of the OSCAR system.

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### HOW DO ODETTE IDS DIFFER FROM DUNS OR EPC FOR EXAMPLE?

DUNS: DUNS numbers are globally unique, but have two major limitations:

1. They are assigned by local DUNS companies. In case of a multinational operating enterprise with subsidiaries in various countries – and many companies in the automotive supply chain belong to this category – you would have to deal with several local DUNS organisations. There is no centralised database and no centralised maintenance process. As a result it takes a significant time to get changes communicated and implemented. With OSCAR a **centralised system and a single database** is used to keep all information together. Changes can be applied quickly and consistently.
2. DUNS numbers are assigned to legal entities. As soon as you want to register other business entities and even sub-entities, the DUNS system will not satisfy the requirement. With the OSCAR system you have maximum flexibility to assign codes to any business or technical entity in your company.

EPC: EPC has been developed by GS1 to be used with RFID technology. Again there are two major drawbacks:

1. Obtaining an EPC code is much more expensive than obtaining an Odette ID.
2. EPC codes are to be used together with GS1/EPC recommendations for EDI, labelling and RFID. Identification of the logistical entities in the GS1/EPC system is based on definitions made for retail and distribution (so called Application Identifiers, AI). The automotive

## OSCAR Explained

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industry has developed its own set of definitions (so called Data Identifiers, DI). Over the years, there has been considerable usage of these DIs, e.g. for labelling (OTL1, OTL3 and the Global Transport Label).

Companies considering migrating to a GS1/EPC environment will face considerable investment needs and at the same time there will be a lack of functionality in relation to automotive business process requirements.

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### IS AN ODETTE ID OBTAINABLE WORLDWIDE?

The OSCAR system is based on an internet application and can be used from all over the world. No regional or time-zone restrictions apply to OSCAR.

The Odette organisation and its international service partners ensure a high data quality by validation of user registrations. The OSCAR system combines centralised data storage and repository services with global availability.

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### IS AN ODETTE ID RECOGNISED WORLDWIDE?

Odette is officially recognised as a Code Issuing Agency within two of the most relevant and influential ISO standards in the area of unique identification: ISO 15459 – Information Technology – Unique Identifiers(Parts 1 – 6) and ISO 6523 – Data Interchange – Structures for the identification of organisations (Parts 1 & 2).

Therefore the Odette ID is recognized worldwide.

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### CAN ANY COMPANY APPLY FOR AN ODETTE ID, EVEN IF THEY ARE NOT IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR?

**YES!** The OSCAR system is neither limited to the automotive industry nor to the region of Europe. Although the business requirements of the European automotive industry have been the drivers for the OSCAR development, the system is open to other regions and industries as well. It is very likely that the requirements of other supply chains are identical or similar to those that formed the basis of the OSCAR system.

In particular, the extended range of the automotive supply chain, emerging markets and off-shore suppliers were taken into account when the OSCAR system was developed.

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### CAN I USE ODETTE IDS IN OFTP/OFTP2?

Yes, you can: the OFTP/OFTP2 protocols contain a specific requirement for identification with a so called organisation code and computer sub-address. Even if older coding systems still work, the advantage with OSCAR is that there is now one totally consistent coding scheme. This is a definite benefit, not least for OFTP/OFTP2 users in emerging markets.

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### CAN I USE ODETTE IDS FOR LABELLING?

Yes, you can: if you use the Global Transport Label (GTL) or recent versions of the Odette Transport label, you will find that there is a specific facility called the Licence Plate, which is the globally unique ID for a single package. The main component in this Licence Plate is the Odette ID.

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### CAN I USE ODETTE IDS FOR RFID?

Yes, you can: each RFID tag must carry a unique identification of the object that is linked to the tag. The main component in this code is the Odette ID.

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### CAN I USE ODETTE IDS IN ELECTRONIC MESSAGING SUCH AS EDI DATA EXCHANGE?

Yes, you can. Beside the technical identification (physical sender and receiver) in EDI messages it is necessary to identify the logical sender and receiver. They may be different: physical sender/receiver may be a third party service provider whereas the logical sender and receiver are the supplier and the customer. Also in large enterprises there might be several business units, plants etc. and all of them use the same centralised OFTP station for data transmission. The Odette ID fits perfectly into this situation since it can also be used to assign individual codes to these business units.

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### HOW DO I OBTAIN AN ODETTE ID?

You can obtain an Odette ID on-line via the OSCAR system <https://oscar.odette.org>.

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### I WANT TO IMPLEMENT OFTP2. WHAT ELSE DO I NEED IN ADDITION TO AN OSCAR CODE?

A: If you want to use OFTP2 over the internet (most likely) you will need a digital certificate to secure the data exchange. You may obtain a certificate from [www.odetteca.com](http://www.odetteca.com). If you buy an OSCAR OFTP code, the first annual certificate use comes free of charge.

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### I WANT TO IDENTIFY MY OFTP STATION ONLY. WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

You will have to:

- [register yourself as a user](#)
- [order an OFTP code](#)
- [register the data set.](#)

Once the code is assigned (e.g. X00A) you can build your SSID:

**OSCAR Explained**

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| ISO ID    | OFTP code from the OSCAR System | Sub address |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 0 0 1 7 7 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 X 0 0 A     | 0 0 0 0 0 0 |

**WHO IS MY NATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR?**

France – GALIA

Germany – VDA

Spain and Portugal - ANFAC / Odette Spain

Sweden and Scandinavia - Odette Sweden

Czech Republic – AIA

UK – SMMT

all other countries - Odette International

**PRICE LIST**

|                     | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Purchase Price | Annual Maintenance Fee |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Full OSCAR Code     | The full OSCAR code can be used for any identification purpose (Auto ID, partner identification etc.). Sub-codes can be registered without additional fee.                                                                                                                                                                  | 1,000.00 €     | 0.00 €                 |
| OFTP Code           | OFTP codes can be used for OFTP station / session identification only.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 175.00 €       | 0.00 €                 |
| Digital Certificate | Digital certificates are used for secure data exchange (e.g. with OFTP2 protocol), file or email signing and encryption.<br>The purchase of an OFTP code will allow you to obtain a digital certificate from the Odette CA ( <a href="https://www.odetteca.com">https://www.odetteca.com</a> ) for one year free of charge. | 180.00 €       | 180.00 €               |