



SAP Ariba 

# Feature at a Glance

## External information source integration

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CONFIDENTIAL

# Feature at a Glance

## Introducing: External information source integration

Ease of implementation  Some complexity  
Geographic relevance  Global

### Customer challenge

Often buyers need to share additional information with their suppliers such as documents, interactive web forms or technical drawings related to purchase order, scheduling agreement or scheduling agreement release items. Today the Ariba Network allows them to attach documents as part of cXML messages but there are limitations regarding maximum allowed size of documents attached.

Specifically in direct procurement/supply chain collaboration scenarios the information to be shared with suppliers is sensitive and buyers don't want to send this information through a public network.

### Solution area

Supply Chain Collaboration

### Meet that challenge with SAP Ariba

This feature allows buyers to include URL-based links to information sources such as document management systems in the cXML for purchase order, scheduling agreement and scheduling agreement release line items. The links that are included in the cXML can be used by suppliers to access external information sources via Single Sign-On (SSO) in order to download the file.

The feature also provides a logging functionality to enable the buyer to track suppliers access to the content by downloading a corresponding report file.

### Implementation information

This feature is automatically on for all customers with the applicable solutions but requires **customer configuration**

### Experience key benefits

With the external information source integration feature, buyers benefit directly from the ability to securely share sensitive information with suppliers, and to view reports of who accessed that information. The key benefits of this feature include:

- More effective and efficient collaboration with suppliers by providing them access to a central source of information.
- Keeping sensitive information inhouse and providing secure access via Single Sign-On (SSO)
- Better control of document status, changes, versioning etc. by leveraging external document management system instead of sending files.
- Better control of suppliers' access to shared information through audit trail logging.

### Prerequisites and Restrictions

cXML DTD version from 1.2.030 is needed to support external information source integration.

URLs added in order line items can be HTTP(S) or FTP(S) protocols.

The buyer must import the appropriate public certificate for Ariba Network, see <https://support.ariba.com/item/view/178876>

Providing supplier access to the external information source is the responsibility of the buyer.

This feature does not provide standard integration into SAP ECC Document Management System or other SAP applications such as SAP Intelligent Product Design nor to non-SAP information sources/etc.

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### Buyer user interface changes

 A marker indicates that an order line item has at least one link to an external information source. It shows up next to the order number for the item and appears on:

**OUTBOX** → Orders and Releases page

**OUTBOX** → Orders and Releases → Item Details page

### Supplier user interface changes

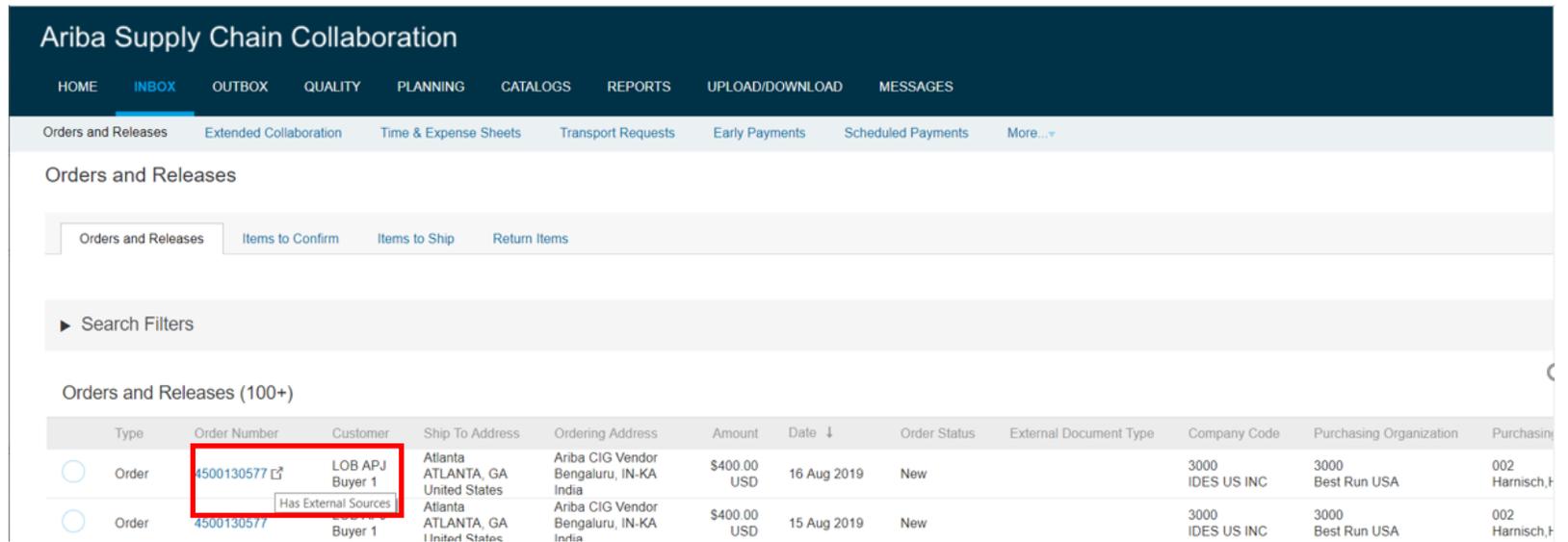
 A marker is visible on the Ariba Network user interface for suppliers when a link to an external information source is included in a purchase order line item:

This marker is shown next to the order number on the following tabs/pages

**INBOX** → Orders and Releases

**INBOX** → Items to Confirm

**INBOX** → Items to Ship



The screenshot shows the Ariba Supply Chain Collaboration interface. The top navigation bar includes links for HOME, INBOX, OUTBOX, QUALITY, PLANNING, CATALOGS, REPORTS, UPLOAD/DOWNLOAD, and MESSAGES. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with tabs for Orders and Releases, Extended Collaboration, Time & Expense Sheets, Transport Requests, Early Payments, Scheduled Payments, and More... The main content area is titled 'Orders and Releases' and contains a sub-tabbed interface with 'Orders and Releases', 'Items to Confirm', 'Items to Ship', and 'Return Items'. A 'Search Filters' section is visible. Below that, a table titled 'Orders and Releases (100+)' displays order data. The first row of the table is highlighted with a red box around the 'Order Number' and 'Customer' columns. The 'Order Number' is '4500130577' and the 'Customer' is 'LOB APJ Buyer 1'. A small icon next to the order number indicates an external source. The table also shows columns for Ship To Address, Ordering Address, Amount, Date, Order Status, External Document Type, Company Code, Purchasing Organization, and Purchasing Agent.

Type	Order Number	Customer	Ship To Address	Ordering Address	Amount	Date ↓	Order Status	External Document Type	Company Code	Purchasing Organization	Purchasing Agent
Order	4500130577 	LOB APJ Buyer 1	Atlanta ATLANTA, GA United States	Ariba CIG Vendor Bengaluru, IN-KA India	\$400.00 USD	16 Aug 2019	New		3000 IDES US INC	3000 Best Run USA	002 Harnisch,F
Order	4500130577	Buyer 1	Atlanta ATLANTA, GA United States	Ariba CIG Vendor Bengaluru, IN-KA India	\$400.00 USD	15 Aug 2019	New		3000 IDES US INC	3000 Best Run USA	002 Harnisch,F

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### Supplier user interface changes

In the Details of the Purchase Order Line item suppliers can see all attached links and can access the URLs directly.

**Line Items** Hide Item Details

Line #	Part #	Customer Part #	Type	Return	Revision Level	Qty (Unit)	Need By	Unit Price	Subtotal	Customer Location
10	FUXYZ	PROC-FU-0001	Material			2,000 (EA)	15 Aug 2019 <a href="#">CEST</a>	\$200.00 USD	\$400.00 USD	<a href="#">Summary</a>

Description: SAP Copter Flight control unit

**Status**  
2,000 Unconfirmed

**Control Keys**

Order Confirmation:	required before shipping
Ship Notice:	allowed
Service Entry Sheet:	not allowed Unit Price Editable:
Invoice:	is not ERS
Invoice Verification Type:	goods receipt

**Additional Sources**

Source Name	Version	Description
<a href="#">link name 1</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 2</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 3</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 4</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 5</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 6</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 7</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 8</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 9</a>		link and source description
<a href="#">link name 10</a>		link and source description

Page 1 pagination

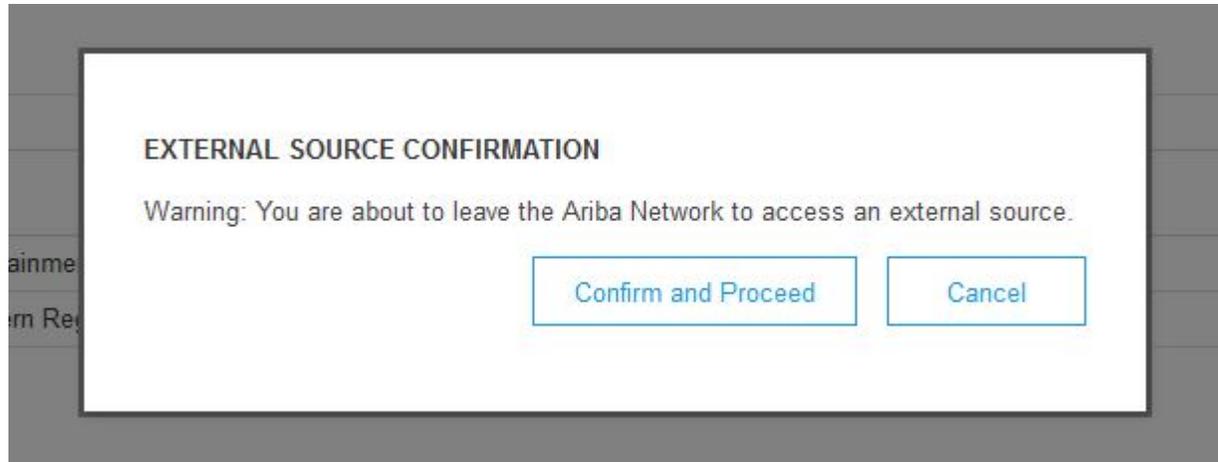
**Schedule Lines**  Messages

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#### Supplier user interface changes

After accessing the link a popup warning will appear. “Confirm and Proceed” will lead the supplier to the target in a new web browser tab or window while sending the SSO token to the target system in the background.



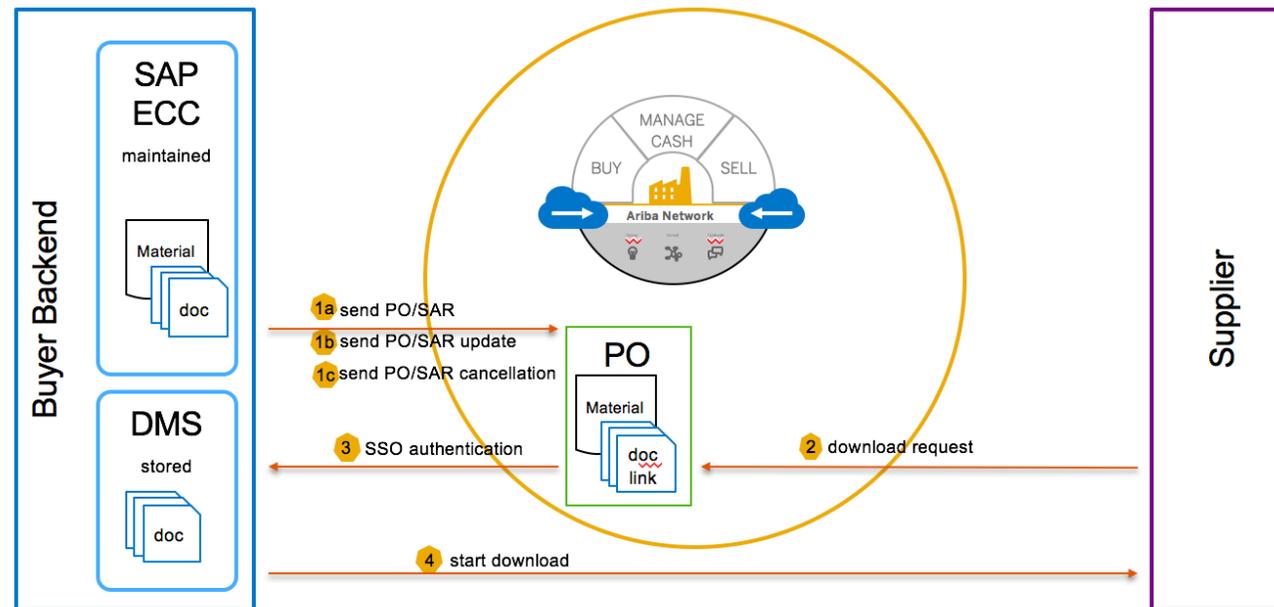
# Feature at a Glance

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### Technical details

- Any sources which use http(s) or ftp(s) protocol for transmission will be supported. Document Management system is optional.
- Ariba Network acts as the identity provider and sends a one way SSO token (using SAML 2.0) as the identity forwarding to the external information source/service provider for authentication.
- One way SSO token means, once Ariba delivers the SSO token, Ariba expects not to receive further feedback from the service provider
- The target service will grant the access and Ariba Network won't get involved, if the SSO authentication is successful or the requested resource has been successfully accessed (for example if the file download is completed).

### Technical flow



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### Introducing: External information source integration

Example cXML extract with attached link on PO Item Detail level

```
<ItemOut quantity="2.000" requestedDeliveryDate="2019-08-15T00:00:00+01:00" lineNumber="10">
  <ItemID>
    <SupplierPartID>FUXYZ</SupplierPartID>
    <BuyerPartID>PROC-FU-0001</BuyerPartID>
  </ItemID>
  <ItemDetail>
    <UnitPrice>
      <Money currency="USD">200</Money>
    </UnitPrice>
    <Description xml:lang="EN">SAP Copter Flight control unit</Description>
    <UnitOfMeasure>EA</UnitOfMeasure>
    <PriceBasisQuantity quantity="1" conversionFactor="1">
      <UnitOfMeasure>EA</UnitOfMeasure>
    </PriceBasisQuantity>
    <Classification domain="NotAvailable">01001</Classification>
    <AttachmentReference>
      <Name xml:lang="en">link name</Name>
      <Description xml:lang="en">link and source description</Description>
      <InternalID></InternalID>
      <URL>https://www.sap2.com</URL>
    </AttachmentReference>
  </ItemDetail>
</ItemOut>
```

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## Introducing: External information source integration

### Buyer capability to report on external information access

#### 1. Create Report of type 'External Document Source'

Ariba Network Help

Report Next Exit

Enter a title and description for this report. Check the Time Zone and Language settings. You can set the Time Zone and Language for each report. Then, select the Report Type. [More](#)

- 1 Report Description
- 2 Report Schedule
- 3 Criteria

Title:\*

Description:

Time zone:

Language:

**Report Type:\***

Next Exit

#### 2. Select whether to run job manually or as scheduled report

Specify whether you want to run the report manually or as a scheduled event. Your organization can run a maximum of 20 scheduled reports and 100 reports total.

- 1 Report Description
- 2 Report Schedule
- 3 Criteria

Select your preference for running the report:

Manual Report

Scheduled Report ⓘ

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### Buyer capability to report on external information access

3. Define selection criteria (supplier; time interval) and press Submit button

Ariba Network Help

Report Previous Submit Exit

Set the parameters for this report. To save your changes and put the report into the queue to be run, click Submit. To exit without saving changes or running this report, click Exit.

1 Report Description

2 Report Schedule

3 Criteria

Supplier: All Suppliers Select

External Document Sources Access Date: \* 1 Aug 2019 📅 To 17 Aug 2019 📅

Previous Submit Exit

4. Refresh Status of job until Processed, then click Download

Title ↑	Schedule Type	Report Type	Status	Last Run	Next Run	Created	Created By	Report Size
<input type="radio"/> Check Order usage	Manual	Order Summary	Processed	16 Jul 2019		16 Jul 2019	Admin LOB APJ Buyer 1	495 B
<input checked="" type="radio"/> DMS test	Manual	External Document Sources	Processed	22 Aug 2019		16 Aug 2019	Admin LOB APJ Buyer 1	360 B
<input type="radio"/> FU_audit	Manual	External Document Sources	Processed	22 Aug 2019		22 Aug 2019	Admin LOB APJ Buyer 1	360 B
<input type="radio"/> Test FU	Manual	Serial Number Report	Processed	11 Mar 2019		11 Mar 2019	LOB APJ Buyer 1	674 B

↳ Run Download Edit Copy Delete | Create | Refresh Status

Download the processed report to your local drive

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Introducing: **External information source integration**

**Buyer capability to report on external information access**

5. Open file to see logs (csv format)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Supplier	Supplier ANID	Mail	Accessed	Payload ID	Order No.	Order Item Line No.	PO Type	Link Name	Link URL
2	SK Enterprise	AN01400994956-T	sourabh.kothari@sap.com	16 Aug 2019 3:03:58 PM GMT+02:00	AF1VU_U3Gty7SXvs8BdCoPxOD-t321	4500130577	10	Regular	link name	<a href="https://www.sap2.com">https://www.sap2.com</a>
3	Report generated on 22 Aug 2019 2:52:12 PM GMT+02:00									