

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

What is an EDI 211? - The EDI 211 transaction set (Motor Carrier Bill of Lading) is used to electronically provide a motor carrier with the information contained on a legal Bill of Lading for an LTL shipment.

Will the EDI 211 replace the need for the VICS Bill of Lading? - No, the EDI 211 enhances the ability to accurately capture important business information contained in the Bill of Lading. For each shipment, an accurate and complete VICS Bill of Lading must be provided to the Lowe's Core LTL Carrier.

Who do I contact to begin setup? - Lowe's is not the recipient of your 211 data. You will need to contact your core LTL carrier(s) to initiate setup. Carrier contact information is available under the Partner Information/Transportation Information section of the LowesLink.com website.

When should we begin sending 211's? - Lowe's Companies, Inc. will be requiring 211's to be sent by July 31st 2007 for each LTL shipment. We encourage that the transaction be tested and utilized before this date.

What if my company does not have EDI capability? - For those vendors without the capability of EDI, Lowe's Companies, Inc. require that a bill of lading be created by entering the data via the appropriate core carrier's website. Lowe's Companies, Inc. core LTL carriers will work with these vendors to establish or recommend alternate means of communicating electronically.

At what time should the EDI 211 be sent to the core carrier? - The EDI 211 transaction should be sent to the Lowe's core LTL carrier prior to the trailer arriving at the carrier's origin terminal (typically by 5:00pm locally).

What are the benefits of the EDI 211? - Implementation of the 211 transaction set improves the data integrity for all parties. Proper utilization of the transaction improves shipment visibility, shortens carrier response time, reduces manual processes and promotes a more real-time environment.