Mercateo Unite Catalogue Format – BMEcat 1.2 (XML)

General information

BMEcat 1.2 is a standardised format (XML file) for exchanging product information and conditions. BMEcat was developed on the initiative of the Bundesverband Materialwirtschaft, Einkauf und Logistik e. V. (the German association for materials management, purchasing and logistics, BME).

BMEcat 1.2 is the Mercateo Unite catalogue format. In general, the catalogue must correspond to the specification for BMEcat 1.2.

We provide you with the BMEcat 1.2 specification which you can download here.

Requirements:

→ We only support catalogs containing the T_NEW_CATALOG tag
→ T_UPDATE_PRICES (from bmecat_update_prices_1_2.xsd) or T_UPDATE_PRODUCTS (from bmecat_update_products_1_2.xsd) are not supported
→ UDX and CLASSIFICATION_SYSTEM are not supported

On the following pages we describe further catalogue specifications of Mercateo Unite.

Information on providing image files and PDFs can be found in section "MIME_INFO and MIME".

Mercateo Unite Requirements − HEADER Information

The global information about the catalogue is saved in the HEADER area. Most of the HEADER information is not processed further in the Mercateo Unite system. Nevertheless, the mandatory fields defined in the BMEcat 1.2 specification must be present in catalogue.

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<HEADER>
<GENERATOR_INFO>name of used BMEcat generator</GENERATOR_INFO>
<CATALOG>
<LANGUAGE>eng</LANGUAGE>
<CATALOG_ID>B2453</CATALOG_ID>
<CATALOG_VERSION>1</CATALOG_VERSION>
<CATALOG_NAME>calender range 2017</CATALOG_NAME>
<DATETIME type="generation_date">
<DATE>2016-06-30</DATE>
<TIME>01:06:12</TIME>
</DATETIME>
<CURRENCY>GBP</CURRENCY>
</CATALOG>
<BUYER>
<BUYER_NAME>customer's name</BUYER_NAME>
</BUYER>
<SUPPLIER>
<SUPPLIER_NAME>supplier's name</SUPPLIER_NAME>
</SUPPLIER>
</HEADER>
```

The content of the following fields is relevant to the Mercateo Unite system:

BMEcat element	Requirement
GENERATOR_INFO	→ You can save the name of your BMEcat generator here → This information is helpful during error analysis
LANGUAGE	→ Mandatory field → Please select from the following list: ISO 639-2

Mercateo Unite Requirements – Product Information

SUPPLIER_AID

The unique item number, which you use in your system as a supplier, is stated in the field SUPPLIER_AID. This is an alpha-numeric mandatory field, under which a unique item number must be saved. Items without a SUPPLIER_AID are not processed by Mercateo Unite and are not shown in the shop.

```
<SUPPLIER_AID>XYZ000102</SUPPLIER_AID>
```

Requirements:

→ Mandatory field
→ Minimum length: 1 character
→ Maximum length: 80 characters
→ An item number can only be used in the catalogue once
→ Item numbers used twice are ignored, items are not displayed
→ Please do not use special characters such as commas, & and #
→ Please do not use any umlauts such as ö, ä, ü

ARTICLE_DETAILS

The ARTICLE_DETAILS element consists of data fields which identify an item and describe it in words.

The following BMEcat fields are located within the ARTICLE_DETAILS:

→ DESCRIPTION_SHORT (mandatory field)
→ DESCRIPTION_LONG
→ EAN
→ BUYER_AID (not supported)
→ MANUFACTURER_AID
→ MANUFACTURER_NAME
→ DELIVERY_TIME
→ SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS
→ KEYWORD
→ REMARKS (not supported)
→ ARTICLE_ORDER

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_DETAILS>
<DESCRIPTION_SHORT>sample article 1</DESCRIPTION_SHORT>
<DESCRIPTION_LONG>product description sample article 1</DESCRIPTION_LONG>
<EAN>4443123456789</EAN>
<MANUFACTURER_AID>123456790</MANUFACTURER_AID>
<MANUFACTURER_NAME>manufacturer's name</MANUFACTURER_NAME>
<DELIVERY_TIME>2 </DELIVERY_TIME>
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHS">GHS09</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHSSIGNAL">A</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
<KEYWORD>search term 1</KEYWORD>
<KEYWORD>search term 2</KEYWORD>
<ARTICLE_ORDER>1</ARTICLE_ORDER>
</ARTICLE_DETAILS>
```

DESCRIPTION_SHORT

The item brief description or the item name is stated in the field DESCRIPTION_SHORT. This is a unique and explanatory designation of the offered product, which is also displayed in the search results.

```
<DESCRIPTION_SHORT>sample article 1</DESCRIPTION_SHORT>
```

Requirements:

→ Mandatory field
→ Maximum length: 600 characters
→ Please enter the precise item designation in the item name
→ Distinctive distinguishing features such as size, colour, width, material etc. should also be added
→ No HTML formatting is possible

DESCRIPTION_LONG

DESCRIPTION_LONG contains a clear description of the item with precise information that explains the item in more detail. This includes, e.g., product characteristics, such as colour, dimensions or scope of delivery. On the Mercateo Unite platform, the long description is displayed below the images.

```
<DESCRIPTION_LONG>description sample article 1</DESCRIPTION_LONG>
```

Content-related requirements:

→ Please ensure correct spelling and punctuation
→ Use engineer standards, DIN- and ISO- information and belongings
→ Be aware of completeness, a self-explaining description is important
→ Please give no information about packaging unit. The accordant values are to be put in ORDER_UNIT and CONTENT_UNIT
→ To specify characteristics of the product it is recommended to use the BMEcat element ARTICLE_FEATURES.

Technical requirements:

→ Maximum length: 100,000 characters
→ Structuring takes place via HTML formatting (e.g. paragraphs or lists).
  • Please do not use any HTML tags that actively influence the layout of the product detail page. This means: tables, body tags, font colours, etc.
  • Please do not use external links / hyperlinks (a href)

The following HTML tags are supported:

 ... 	for bold
<i> ... </i>	for italic
...	for paragraphs
 	for line break
... and ...	for lists

In case of the use of HTML formatting the text needs to be put into a CDATA section. Otherwise the system is not able to interpret the catalogue file (XML) correctly.

```
<![CDATA[ ... ]]>
```

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<DESCRIPTION_LONG><![CDATA[<p><b>STABILO POINT 88 Color Parade 20 assorted</b></p>
<p>A display pack of 20 Point 88 fineliners in assorted colours</p>
<ul>
<li>Colour: Night Blue, Apricot, Ultramarine</li>
<li>Line Width: 0.4 mm </li>
<li>Pack Quantity: 20</li>
</ul>]]></DESCRIPTION_LONG>
```

EAN

The globally valid GTIN (Global Trade Item Number) is stated in the EAN field. The name EAN (European Article Number) was used until 2009.

The GTIN is a unique identification number managed and awarded by GS1. An EAN can also represent a GTIN when preceded by a 0. If you state 13-digit EAN codes in the catalogue, these are automatically converted into GTINs in the Mercateo Unite system.

It is of great importance to state EAN or GTIN codes for all products. The completeness of the information has a positive influence on the search result and enables similar times to be grouped as a duplicate.

```
<EAN>04046719661183</EAN>
```

Requirements:

→ Both EAN and GTIN can be stated in the EAN field
→ The EAN contains 13 or, in exceptional cases, 8 digits
→ The GTIN contains 14 digits
→ Important: An EAN or GTIN is product-specific and can only appear once in the catalogue

MANUFACTURER_AID

The MANUFACTURER_AID states the unique item number issued by the manufacturer. The manufacturer number may deviate from the supplier item number (the SUPPLIER_AID).

The completeness of the information has a positive influence on the search result and enables similar times to be grouped as a duplicate.

```
<MANUFACTURER_AID>123456790</MANUFACTURER_AID>
```

Requirements:

→ Maximum length: 256 characters
→ Both the manufacturer number and the associated manufacturer name must be stated
→ A manufacturer number can only occur once in the catalogue for the same manufacturer
→ The manufacturer numbers must differ for product versions

MANUFACTURER_NAME

The name of the manufacturer without the corporate form is stated under MANUFACTURER_NAME.

```
<MANUFACTURER_NAME>manufacturer's name</MANUFACTURER_NAME>
```

Requirements:

→ Both the manufacturer number and the associated manufacturer name must be stated
→ Please do not state the corporate form (Ltd, PLC etc.)

DELIVERY_TIME

The DELIVERY_TIME defines the time in working days that you require to deliver the item to your customer.

```
<DELIVERY_TIME>2</DELIVERY_TIME>
```

Requirements:

→ Please state the delivery time in days
→ Please only use positive integers
→ Negative values, decimal places and letters are not permitted
→ If there is no delivery time within the catalog, the delivery time will not be displayed on the product detail page

SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS – Labelling in Accordance with GHS

For products containing hazardous substances a valid GHS labelling (GHS = hazardous substance indication) and a safety data sheet are required. It is not sufficient to simply label it in a PDF. There must be a clear indication for the customer or in the customer system.

The hazardousness has to be pointed out in the item description. The item description must contain the following information:

→ **Hazardous substance indication** (GHS), not as an image, but as a tag in the electronic catalogue

→ **Signal words**

→ **Hazard statements**

→ **Safety data sheet**

→ Item data sheet

→ Precautionary sentences

→ Indication that each package includes disposable gloves and a

→ Statement for re-sellers and professional users

Please note: You can find information on the labelling of individual items / mixtures / substances on the safety data sheet (SDS). Under point 2 (classification in accordance with Regulation (CE) 1272/2008), the labelling (hazard symbol) is stated.

GHS Value and Signal Word

The value of GHS (*type=GHS*) and the signal word (*type=GHSSIGNAL*) must be stated in the BMEcat field SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS.

As a signal word "Danger" (G) and "Warning" (A) can be used. The GHSSIGNAL may only occur once for an item.

Labelling for "Danger" (G):

```
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHSSIGNAL">G</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
```

Labelling for "Warning" (A):

```
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHSSIGNAL">A</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
```

The following GHS values are permitted:

Value CLP/GHS	Description of symbol
GHS02	Flame
GHS04	Gas cylinder
GHS05	Corrosion
GHS07	Exclamation mark
GHS08	Health hazard
GHS09	Environmental

→ Items with the values GHS01 (exploding bomb [explosive]), GHS03 (flame over circle [oxidising]) or GHS06 (skull and crossbones [severe toxic]) are prohibited products. Items with these GHS values will be rejected.

Example of a valid GHS labelling including GHS (GHS value) and GHSSIGNAL (signal word):

```
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHS">GHS02</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHS">GHS07</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHS">GHS09</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
<SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS type="GHSSIGNAL">G</SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS>
```

Elements of *type=GHS* can be present in various combinations. Up to four symbols are permitted at the same time.

The display in the customer system is automatically controlled. A pictogram will be provided for every GHS value stated within the SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS.

→ If the field SPECIAL_TREATMENT_CLASS contains a value for GHS and/or GHSSIGNAL, the existence of a safety data sheet will be checked.

Safety Data Sheets

In accordance with the REACH Directive, Article 31, safety data sheets are to be provided unrequested to the customer for substances and mixtures that are classified as dangerous.

The safety data sheet is to be given to the recipient at the latest with the first delivery of the substance/mixture. The law allows scope for depositing and the possibility of downloading as a PDF.

As added value for the customer, the safety data sheet is available to download at any time next to the item.

Safety data sheets are to be filed in BMEcat as follows. In doing so, it is particularly important to note the correct indication of the MIME_DESCR and MIME_PURPOSE fields.

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<MIME_INFO>
<MIME>
<MIME><MIME_TYPE>application/pdf</MIME_TYPE>
<MIME_SOURCE>safetydatasheet.pdf</MIME_SOURCE>
<MIME_DESCR>Safety Data Sheet</MIME_DESCR>
<MIME_PURPOSE>safety_data_sheet</MIME_PURPOSE>
</MIME>
</MIME_INFO>
```

→ The saftey data sheet must be in the language of the respective market
→ The safety data sheet must be up to date
→ The name of the referenced safety data sheet is specified in the MIME_SOURCE field
  • The name of the file may only contain lower case letters, digits and underscores
  • Please do not use spaces or special characters (<,>,&)
  • The file extension must be included.
→ MIME_TYPE: application/pdf
→ MIME_PURPOSE: safety_data_sheet
→ MIME_DESCR: Safety Data Sheet

> → Based on the classification system and associated ID given for an item via ARTICLE_FEATURES (reference feature
>
>   system) the existence of the safety data sheet is checked during catalogue processing. In case of a missing GHS la-
>
>   belling or a missing safety data sheet the item will not be processed and exported to the customer system.

Downloading Safety Data Sheets during Catalogue Processing

The download of safety data sheets during catalogue processing using URLs is supported.

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<MIME_INFO>
<MIME>
<MIME_TYPE>application/pdf</MIME_TYPE>
<MIME_SOURCE>http://www.homepage.co.uk/pdf/safetydatasheet.pdf</MIME_SOURCE>
<MIME_DESCR>Safety Data Sheet</MIME_DESCR>
<MIME_PURPOSE>safety_data_sheet</MIME_PURPOSE>
</MIME>
</MIME_INFO>
```

Requirements:

→ The URL must be stated in the BMEcat field MIME_SOURCE.
→ The URL must lead directly to a PDF, downloading from overview pages does not work.
→ For PDF files:
  • MIME_TYPE: application/pdf
  • MIME_DESCR: Safety Data Sheet
  • MIME_PURPOSE: safety_data_sheet

Further information regarding image files and PDFs you can find in section "MIME_INFO and MIME" .

KEYWORD

The Keyword makes the item easier to find. It should also be possible to find the item in the target system by entering this keyword.

```
<KEYWORD>search term 1</KEYWORD>
```

Requirements:

→ We recommend that no more than 10 keywords are used per item
→ Every search term is created in a separate KEYWORD field
→ The main term for the item should also be saved as the search term, e.g. "photocopying paper"
→ The main term for the item should also be created in the DESCRIPTION_SHORT

Please avoid:

→ Keywords that are alien to the product/marketplace context
→ Manufacturer names
→ Manufacturer numbers
→ EAN numbers
→ Person names
→ Conjunctions such as "with", "for", "at", "and", "from" and verbs
→ Properties or adjectives such as "white", "transparent", "round" etc. Please save these properties in the ARTICLE_FEATURES

ARTICLE_ORDER

By using the ARTICLE_ORDER you can coordinate the order of items within a product group.

```
<ARTICLE_ORDER>1</ARTICLE_ORDER>
```

Requirements:

→ A positive integer must be used as a value
→ Please do not state any negative values, 0 or decimal places
→ The order of the items within the catalogue product group is set via ARTICLE_ORDER

ARTICLE_FEATURES and Classification Systems

The ARTICLE_FEATURES element can be used to classify an item. The following elements are located within the ARTICLE_FEATURES:

→ ARTICLE_FEATURES
- REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME
- REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID
- FEATURE
  - FNAME
  - FVALUE
  - FUNIT
  - FORDER

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_FEATURES>
<REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME>ECLASS-5.1.4</REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME>
<REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID>29-33-24-12</REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID>
<FEATURE>
<FNAME>width</FNAME>
<FVALUE>15</FVALUE>
<FUNIT>cm</FUNIT>
</FEATURE>
<FEATURE>
<FNAME>height</FNAME>
<FVALUE>8</FVALUE>
<FUNIT>cm</FUNIT>
</FEATURE>
</ARTICLE_FEATURES>

<ARTICLE_FEATURES>
<REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME>UNSPSC-7.0</REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME>
<REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID>47131704</REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID>
</ARTICLE_FEATURES>

<ARTICLE_FEATURES>
<FEATURE>
<FNAME>color</FNAME>
<FVALUE>red</FVALUE>
</FEATURE>
<FEATURE>
<FNAME>height</FNAME>
<FVALUE>8</FVALUE>
<FUNIT>cm</FUNIT>
</FEATURE>
</ARTICLE_FEATURES>
```

REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME and REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID

Specifies the classification or feature group system used within the ARTICLE_FEATURES element.

REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME contains the name of the classification system. The associated ID to which the item is allocated within the classification system is saved in the field REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID.

```
<REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME>ECLASS-5.1.4</REFERENCE_FEATURE_SYSTEM_NAME>
<REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID>24-11-03-21</REFERENCE_FEATURE_GROUP_ID>
```

Requirements:

→ The element ARTICLE_FEATURES can occur several times per item
→ A classification system can be stated in every ARTICLE_FEATURES element
→ An item can be allocated to several classification systems
  • For example ETIM, ECLASS-3.0, ECLASS-5.1.4, ECLASS-6.1, UNSPSC-7.0 and so on
→ It is also possible to add features and properties via FEATURE element to the classification system

FEATURE

The element FEATURE describes a measurable feature of an item, i.e. the name of the feature and the feature value together with further information about the feature. This is a supplement to the DESCRIPTION_LONG.

A feature is always comprised of both the fields FNAME and FVALUE. If it concerns a feature, e.g. length, volume, weight, etc. that also requires a unit, this unit is stated as FUNIT.

Features are searchable. The order can be controlled with FORDER. FUNIT and FORDER are not mandatory information within the FEATURE element.

```
<FEATURE>
<FNAME>diameter</FNAME>
<FVALUE>9</FVALUE>
<FUNIT>mm</FUNIT>
<FORDER>1</FORDER>
</FEATURE>
```

Requirements:

→ FNAME (feature name), mandatory information, should be unique within an item
→ FVALUE (expression of the referenced features), mandatory information, multiple use is possible
→ FUNIT (unit of measurement for the feature), standard units should be used

ARTICLE_ORDER_DETAILS

The element ARTICLE_ORDER_DETAILS contains elements which describe the terms and conditions which apply when a particular item is ordered as well as the packing modalities.

The following BMEcat fields are located within the ARTICLE_ORDER_DETAILS:

→ ORDER_UNIT (mandatory field)
→ CONTENT_UNIT
→ NO_CU_PER_OU
→ PRICE_QUANTITY
→ QUANTITY_MIN
→ QUANTITY_INTERVAL

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_ORDER_DETAILS>
<ORDER_UNIT>PK</ORDER_UNIT>
<CONTENT_UNIT>C62</CONTENT_UNIT>
<NO_CU_PER_OU>500</NO_CU_PER_OU>
<PRICE_QUANTITY>100</PRICE_QUANTITY>
<QUANTITY_MIN>5</QUANTITY_MIN>
<QUANTITY_INTERVAL>5</QUANTITY_INTERVAL>
</ARTICLE_ORDER_DETAILS>
```

ORDER_UNIT

In the filed ORDER_UNIT the unit is stated in which the item can be ordered. The price always refers to this unit.

```
<ORDER_UNIT>PK</ORDER_UNIT>
```

Requirements:

→ Mandatory field
→ The order unit must be stated for every item
→ Please only use valid UN/ECE 20 units here
   • For compatibility reasons unit "04" from former revision is still used
→ Order unit and content unit must not be the same
→ The price always refers to the order unit

CONTENT_UNIT

The CONTENT_UNIT states which units are included in the order unit.

```
<CONTENT_UNIT>C62</CONTENT_UNIT>
```

Requirements:

→ Please only use valid UN/ECE 20 units here
   • For compatibility reasons unit "04" from former revision is still used
→ If a CONTENT_UNIT is used, the NO_CU_PER_OU must also be stated
→ ORDER_UNIT and CONTENT_UNIT must not be the same

NO_CU_PER_OU

The NO_CU_PER_OU states the number of content units within the order unit. It is often referred to as a packaging quantity.

```
<NO_CU_PER_OU>6</NO_CU_PER_OU>
```

Requirements:

→ If a NO_CU_PER_OU is used, a CONTENT_UNIT must also be stated
→ Only a positive integer can be saved as NO_CU_PER_OU
→ The packaging quantity and the minimum order quantity are not dependent on each other and can have different values

PRICE_QUANTITY

The PRICE_QUANTITY states to what number of order units the stated price refers.

```
<PRICE_QUANTITY>100</PRICE_QUANTITY>
```

Requirements:

→ Please only state positive integers
→ Please do not state any negative values, 0 or thousands separators

QUANTITY_MIN

QUANTITY_MIN describes the minimum number of order units which must be ordered.

```
<QUANTITY_MIN>10</QUANTITY_MIN>
```

Requirements:

→ Please only state positive integers
→ If no QUANTITY_MIN is stated in the catalogue, a default value of 1 is set automatically
→ QUANTITY_MIN cannot be smaller than QUANTITY_INTERVAL
→ QUANTITY_MIN is to be used independently of the packaging quantity (NO_CU_PER_OU)

QUANTITY_INTERVAL

QUANTITY_INTERVAL is a number indicating the quantity steps in which the items can be ordered.

```
<QUANTITY_INTERVAL>10</QUANTITY_INTERVAL>
```

Requirements:

→ Please only state positive integers
→ If no QUANTITY_MIN is stated in the catalogue, a default value of 1 is set automatically
→ QUANTITY_MIN cannot be larger than QUANTITY_INTERVAL
→ QUANTITY_INTERVAL and QUANTITY_MIN are normally the same, if not QUANTITY_MIN must be a multiple of QUANTITY_INTERVAL

ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS

The ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS element can be used to specify the price data for an item.

The following BMEcat fields are located within the ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS:

→ DATETIME (not supported)
→ DAILY_PRICE (not supported)
→ ARTICLE_PRICE (mandatory field)
  • PRICE_AMOUNT (mandatory field)
  • PRICE_CURRENCY (mandatory field)
  • TAX (mandatory field)
  • PRICE_FACTOR (not supported)
  • LOWER_BOUND
  • TERRITORY (not supported)

Important: ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS must occur exactly once in each ARTICLE. DAILY_PRICE and DATETIME are not supported by Mercateo Unite at present.

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS>
<DATETIME type="valid_start_date">
<DATE>2016-07-01</DATE>
</DATETIME>
<DATETIME type="valid_end_date">
<DATE>2016-12-31</DATE>
</DATETIME>
<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="net_list">
<PRICE_AMOUNT>50.00</PRICE_AMOUNT>
<PRICE_CUURENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
<TAX>0.19</TAX>
<LOWER_BOUND>1</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>
</ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS>
```

ARTICLE_PRICE

Each ARTICLE_PRICE element can specify a different price for the item. The following elements are secondary and are also supported in the Mercateo Unite system:

→ PRICE_AMOUNT (mandatory field)
→ PRICE_CURRENCY (mandatory field)
→ TAX (mandatory field)
→ PRICE_FACTOR (not supported)
→ LOWER_BOUND
→ TERRITORY (not supported)

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="net_list">
<PRICE_AMOUNT>50.00</PRICE_AMOUNT>
<PRICE_CURRENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
<TAX>0.19</TAX>
<LOWER_BOUND>1</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>
```

You can find further requirements with regard to price information in the table below.

BMEcat element	Requirement
price_type=	→ Mandatory field → If not otherwise agreed, the Unite purchase price should be provided as: price_type=net_list
PRICE_AMOUNT	→ Mandatory field → The amount of the price is determined in the field PRICE_AMOUNT → A dot is used as a decimal separator → The price can be given with a maximum of 2 decimal places → The price is to be saved without VAT
PRICE_CURRENCY	→ Mandatory field → There is a list of the currently valid currencies and abbreviations at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_4217 → The currency and VAT in the catalogue belong together. Please do not use currency and tax for different countries within a catalogue → The currency must correspond to the country the catalogue is activated in
TAX	→ Mandatory field → TAX must occur exactly once in each ARTICLE_PRICE → The tax rate states the factor for VAT that applies to this price → Please show the tax values as decimal numbers. For 20% VAT, 0.20 should be stated in the catalogue → A dot is used as a decimal separator → The currency and VAT in the catalogue belong together. Please do not use currency and tax for different countries within a catalogue → The tax must correspond to the country the catalogue is activated in
PRICE_FACTOR	→ This information is not supported at present
LOWER_BOUND	→ Bulk prices can be shown using the element LOWER_BOUND → The lower boundary for the respective bulk price is defined in LOWER_BOUND → The first LOWER_BOUND should correspond to the minimum order value → Please only use positive integers
TERRITORY	→ This information is not supported at present

Eco-Tax Specification for French Mercateo Unite Suppliers

If not otherwise agreed, the Eco-Tax as an absolute amount should be provided as:

```
price_type="eco_tax"
```

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="net_list">
 <PRICE_AMOUNT>150.05</PRICE_AMOUNT>
 <PRICE_CURRENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
 <TAX>0.19</TAX>
 <LOWER_BOUND>35</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>
<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="eco_tax">
 <PRICE_AMOUNT>0.15</PRICE_AMOUNT>
 <PRICE_CURRENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
 <LOWER_BOUND>35</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>
```

Bulk Prices

In case of a quantity discounts it is possible to state bulk prices.

Requirements:

→ For the use of bulk prices the LOWER_BOUND field is a mandatory field
→ The value must be differ from one LOWER_BOUND to the next one.
→ The prices have to decrease with an increase of the quantity limit (LOWER_BOUND)

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS>

<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="net_list">
<PRICE_AMOUNT>2.10</PRICE_AMOUNT>
<PRICE_CURRENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
<TAX>0.19</TAX>
<LOWER_BOUND>1</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>

<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="net_list">
<PRICE_AMOUNT>2.00</PRICE_AMOUNT>
<PRICE_CURRENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
<TAX>0.19</TAX>
<LOWER_BOUND>5</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>

<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="net_list">
<PRICE_AMOUNT>1.90</PRICE_AMOUNT>
<PRICE_CURRENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
<TAX>0.19</TAX>
<LOWER_BOUND>10</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>

<ARTICLE_PRICE price_type="net_list">
<PRICE_AMOUNT>1.50</PRICE_AMOUNT>
<PRICE_CURRENCY>EUR</PRICE_CURRENCY>
<TAX>0.19</TAX>
<LOWER_BOUND>100</LOWER_BOUND>
</ARTICLE_PRICE>

</ARTICLE_PRICE_DETAILS>
```

MIME_INFO and MIME

The MIME_INFO element can be used to specify references to additional multimedia documents, such as images, data sheets or safety data sheets, belonging to a particular item.

The following BMEcat fields are located within MIME_INFO:

→ MIME_INFO
- MIME
  - MIME_TYPE
  - MIME_SOURCE
  - MIME_DESCR
  - MIME_ALT
  - MIME_PURPOSE

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<MIME_INFO>
<MIME>
<MIME_TYPE>image/jpeg</MIME_TYPE>
<MIME_SOURCE>copypaper.jpg</MIME_SOURCE>
<MIME_DESCR>product view</MIME_DESCR>
<MIME_ALT>image for copy paper</MIME_ALT>
<MIME_PURPOSE>normal</MIME_PURPOSE>
</MIME>
<MIME>
<MIME_TYPE>application/pdf</MIME_TYPE>
<MIME_SOURCE>copypaper.pdf</MIME_SOURCE>
<MIME_DESCR>>item data sheet</MIME_DESCR>
<MIME_ALT>pdf for copy paper</MIME_ALT>
<MIME_PURPOSE>data_sheet</MIME_PURPOSE>
</MIME>
</MIME_INFO>
```

Requirements:

→ At least one meaningful illustration must be indicated per item in the catalogue
→ For each image or PDF there is a MIME area
→ Several MIME elements can be created for each item
→ The image format is JPG and GIF
→ Product data sheets are required as PDFs
→ MIME_TYPE, MIME_SOURCE and MIME_PURPOSE are mandatory fields within a MIME element

You can find further requirements with regard to MIME_INFO section in the table below.

BMEcat element	Requirement
MIME_TYPE	→ The file type is defined in the MIME_TYPE field: • JPG or JPEG: <MIME_TYPE>image/jpeg</MIME_TYPE> • PNG: <MIME_TYPE>image/png</MIME_TYPE> • GIF: <MIME_TYPE>image/gif</MIME_TYPE> • PDF: <MIME_TYPE>application/pdf</MIME_TYPE>
MIME_SOURCE	→ The name of the referenced image file or data sheet is specified in the MIME_SOURCE field → The name of the file may only contain lower case letters, digits and underscores → Please do not use spaces or special characters (<,>)
MIME_DESCR	→ It is possible to describe the image or state the data sheet in the MIME_DESCR field.
MIME_ALT	→ Alternative image description → Maximum length: 256 characters

BMEcat element	Requirement
MIME_PURPOSE	→ MIME_PURPOSE is the intended purpose at Unite. The following specifications are possible: • Images: \<MIME_PURPOSE>normal\</MIME_PURPOSE> • Data sheets: \<MIME_PURPOSE>data_sheet\</MIME_PURPOSE> • Safety data sheets (SDS): \<MIME_PURPOSE>safety_data_sheet\</MIME_PURPOSE>
MIME_ORDER	→ The MIME_ORDER can be used to control the sequence of the illustrations on the product detail page → A positive integer must be used as the value → Please do not enter negative values, 0 or decimal numbers → The image with the lowest number will be shown first

Note: The images and pdf files themselves can be provided via URL or uploaded via HTTPS on your Mercateo Unite Account. The Upload as a ZIP file is preferable.

Image and PDF download via URLs in BMEcat

The download of images and data sheets during catalogue processing using URLs is supported.

Extract from BMEcat (image files):

```
<MIME_INFO>
<MIME>
<MIME_TYPE>image/jpg</MIME_TYPE>
<MIME_SOURCE>http://www.supplierwebsite.co.uk/images/copypaper.jpg</MIME_SOURCE>
<MIME_DESCR>Copypaper white</MIME_DESCR>
<MIME_PURPOSE>normal</MIME_PURPOSE>
<MIME_ORDER>1</MIME_ORDER>
</MIME>
</MIME_INFO>
```

Extract from BMEcat (PDF files):

```
<MIME_INFO>
<MIME>
<MIME_TYPE>application/pdf</MIME_TYPE>
<MIME_SOURCE>http://www.lieferantenhomepage.co.uk/pdf/copypaper.pdf</MIME_SOURCE>
<MIME_DESCR>Copypaper white</MIME_DESCR>
<MIME_PURPOSE>data_sheet</MIME_PURPOSE>
<MIME_ORDER>1</MIME_ORDER>
</MIME>
</MIME_INFO>
```

Extract from BMEcat (safety data sheets):

```
<MIME_INFO>
<MIME>
<MIME_TYPE>application/pdf</MIME_TYPE>
<MIME_SOURCE>http://www.lieferantenhomepage.co.uk/pdf/copypaper.pdf</MIME_SOURCE>
<MIME_DESCR>Safety data sheet</MIME_DESCR>
<MIME_PURPOSE>safety_data_sheet</MIME_PURPOSE>
<MIME_ORDER>1</MIME_ORDER>
</MIME>
</MIME_INFO>
```

Requirements:

→ The URL must be stated in the BMEcat field MIME_SOURCE.
→ Maximum length of the element MIME_SOURCE: 1900 characters
→ The URL must lead directly to an image or PDF, downloading from overview pages does not work.
→ For image files:
  • MIME_TYPE: image/jpeg, image/png or image/gif must be set
  • MIME_PURPOSE: normal
→ For PDF files:
  • MIME_TYPE: application/pdf must be set
  • MIME_PURPOSE: data_sheet
→ For Safety data sheets:
  • MIME_TYPE: application/pdf must be set
  • MIME_PURPOSE: safety_data_sheet

ARTICLE_REFERENCE

Using the information for reference items in the field ARTICLE_REFERENCE, you can refer to alternative items, accessories, other products and so on.

All types of ARTICLE_REFERENCE are supported as defined in BMEcat 1.2 Specification.

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_REFERENCE type="similar">
<ART_ID_TO>30025</ART_ID_TO>
</ARTICLE_REFERENCE>
<ARTICLE_REFERENCE type="accessories">
<ART_ID_TO>34-53468</ART_ID_TO>
</ARTICLE_REFERENCE>
<ARTICLE_REFERENCE type="others">
<ART_ID_TO>110bz-r2</ART_ID_TO>
</ARTICLE_REFERENCE>
```

Description of the most common values for ARTICLE_REFERENCE type="...":

Attribute value	Description
similar	<ARTICLE_REFERENCE type="similar"> → Alternative item → The reference item listed under ART_ID_TO is a similar item to this source item, which has similar functions to the source item and may be used as an alternative
accessories	<ARTICLE_REFERENCE type="accessories"> → Accessory item → The reference item listed under ART_ID_TO is an accessory part for this source item. An accessory expands the functionality of the source item
others	<ARTICLE_REFERENCE type="others"> → Other item → Reference type that can be used if none of the other reference types sufficiently describes the relationship between the reference and source item

Requirements:

→ As the ART_ID_TO, please enter the unique item number that you have used for the referenced item in the field SUPPLIER_AID
→ Referencing is only possible for items within a catalogue
→ Maximum length of ART_ID_TO: 80 characters

Mercateo Unite Requirements – Categories

CATALOG_GROUP_SYSTEM

The purpose of catalog group systems is to structure articles hierarchically. The catalogue group system contains the following elements:

→ CATALOG_GROUP_SYSTEM
- GROUP_SYSTEM_ID
- GROUP_SYSTEM_NAME
- CATALOG_STRUCTURE
- GROUP_SYSTEM_DESCRIPTION

Requirements:

→ There is no output of the catalogue group system within the API.
→ Catalogue group system can be constructed from the elements CATALOG_STRUCTURE
→ The product groups can be chosen freely
→ The item number is allocated to the respective product group via ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP
→ An item can be allocated to several product groups
→ If no CATALOG_GROUP_SYSTEM is defined in the catalogue, problems concerning the availability of the items and the search can occur

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<CATALOG_GROUP_SYSTEM>

<GROUP_SYSTEM_ID>2017/01</GROUP_SYSTEM_ID>
<GROUP_SYSTEM_NAME>office range</GROUP_SYSTEM_NAME>

<CATALOG_STRUCTURE type="root">
<GROUP_ID>1</GROUP_ID>
<GROUP_NAME>catalogue</GROUP_NAME>
<PARENT_ID>0</PARENT_ID>
</CATALOG_STRUCTURE>

<CATALOG_STRUCTURE type="node">
<GROUP_ID>10</GROUP_ID>
<GROUP_NAME>main category 1</GROUP_NAME>
<PARENT_ID>1</PARENT_ID>
</CATALOG_STRUCTURE>

<CATALOG_STRUCTURE type="leaf">
<GROUP_ID>101</GROUP_ID>
<GROUP_NAME>subcategory 1-1</GROUP_NAME>
<PARENT_ID>10</PARENT_ID>
</CATALOG_STRUCTURE>

<CATALOG_STRUCTURE type="leaf">
<GROUP_ID>102</GROUP_ID>
<GROUP_NAME>subcategory 1-2</GROUP_NAME>
<PARENT_ID>10</PARENT_ID>
</CATALOG_STRUCTURE>

</CATALOG_GROUP_SYSTEM>
```

ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP

Items are arranged in the product group structure using the BMEcat element ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP.

Requirements:

→ The product groups are created in the area CATALOG_GROUP_SYSTEM
→ Items can only be allocated to product groups of the type="leaf"
→ An item can be allocated to several product groups

Extract from BMEcat:

```
<ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP>
<ART_ID>123456</ART_ID>
<CATALOG_GROUP_ID>101</CATALOG_GROUP_ID>
</ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP>

<ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP>
<ART_ID>123456</ART_ID>
<CATALOG_GROUP_ID>102</CATALOG_GROUP_ID>
</ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP>

<ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP>
<ART_ID>987654</ART_ID>
<CATALOG_GROUP_ID>101</CATALOG_GROUP_ID>
</ARTICLE_TO_CATALOGGROUP_MAP>
```