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Syntax Working Group (JSWG)
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Electronic data interchange for
administration, commerce and transport
(EDIFACT) — Application level syntax
rules (Syntax version number: 4) —

Part 2:
Syntax rules specific to batch EDI
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Foreword

This part of ISO 9735 was prepared by the UN/ECE Trade Division (as UN/EDIFACT) and was adopted, under a special "fast-track procedure", by Technical Committee ISO/TC 154, Documents and data elements in administration, commerce and industry.


Whereas this part supersedes the earlier publications, and shall use a version number of "4" in the mandatory data element 0002 (Syntax version number) in the segment UNB (Interchange header), interchanges continuing to use the syntax defined in the earlier published versions shall use the following Syntax version numbers, in order to differentiate them from each other and from this part:

ISO 9735:1988 — Syntax version number: 1

ISO 9735 consists of the following parts, under the general title Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) - Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4):

— Part 1: Syntax rules common to all parts, together with syntax service directories for each of the parts
— Part 2: Syntax rules specific to batch EDI
— Part 3: Syntax rules specific to interactive EDI
— Part 4: Syntax and service report message for batch EDI (message type - CONTRL)
— Part 5: Security rules for batch EDI (authenticity, integrity and non-repudiation of origin)
— Part 6: Secure authentication and acknowledgement message (message type - AUTACK)
— Part 7: Security rules for batch EDI (confidentiality)
— Part 8: Associated data in EDI
— Part 9: Security key and certificate management message (message type - KEYMAN)

Further parts may be added in the future.
Introduction

This part of ISO 9735 includes the rules at the application level for the structuring of data in the interchange of electronic messages in an open environment, based on the requirements of either batch or interactive processing. These rules have been agreed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) as syntax rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (EDIFACT) and are part of the United Nations Trade Data Interchange Directory (UNTDID) which also includes both batch and interactive Message Design Guidelines.

This part of ISO 9735 may be used in any application, but messages using these rules may only be referred to as EDIFACT messages if they comply with other guidelines, rules and directories in the UNTDID. For UN/EDIFACT, batch messages shall comply with the message design rules for batch usage. These rules are maintained in the UNTDID.

Communications specifications and protocols are outside the scope of this part of ISO 9735.

This part of ISO 9735 is a re-draft of corresponding sections in the previous version of ISO 9735. It is identical, except for minor changes to terminology, and for clarification of the use of segment groups.
Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) — Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4) —

Part 2:
Syntax rules specific to batch EDI

1 Scope

This part of ISO 9735 specifies syntax rules specifically for the formatting of batch messages to be interchanged between computer application systems. For the transfer of packages in a batch environment, see ISO 9735-8.

2 Conformance

Conformance to a standard means that all of its requirements, including all options, are supported. If all options are not supported, any claim of conformance shall include a statement which identifies those options to which conformance is claimed.

Data that is interchanged is in conformance if the structure and representation of the data conforms to the syntax rules specified in this International Standard.

Devices supporting this International Standard are in conformance when they are capable of creating and/or interpreting the data structured and represented in conformance with the standard.

Conformance to this part shall include conformance to ISO 9735-1.

When identified in this International Standard, provisions defined in related standards shall form part of the conformance criteria.

3 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 9735. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 9735 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 9735-1:1998, Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) — Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4) — Part 1: Syntax rules common to all parts, together with syntax directories for each of the parts.
4 Definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO 9735, the definitions in ISO 9735-1:1998, annex A apply.

5 Batch EDI interchange structure

The service string advice (if used) and the header and trailer service segments (excluding those used for security and associated data, which are defined in related parts of this International Standard), shall appear in a batch EDI interchange in the order shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service String Advice</td>
<td>UNA</td>
<td>Conditional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interchange Header</td>
<td>UNB</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Header</td>
<td>UNG</td>
<td>Conditional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message Header</td>
<td>UNH</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message Body</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message Trailer</td>
<td>UNT</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Trailer</td>
<td>UNE</td>
<td>Conditional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interchange Trailer</td>
<td>UNZ</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the diagram above, the lines to the left show the pairing of header and trailer segments. For simplicity, an interchange containing only one group and one message is shown.

When used, the UNA service string advice applies only to the interchange which it precedes. For the specification of the UNA see ISO 9735-1:1998, annex B.

For the specification of the header and trailer segments see ISO 9735-1, annex C.

NOTE — Segments for use in UN/EDIFACT messages are defined in the United Nations Trade Data Interchange Directory (UNTDID).
6 Batch EDI message within an interchange

Figure 1a — Batch EDI message within an interchange (Schematic)
An **INTERCHANGE** contains:
- UNA, Service String Advice, if used
- UNB, Interchange Header
- Either: Only group(s)  Or: Only message(s)
- UNZ, Interchange Trailer

A **GROUP** contains:
- UNG, Group Header
- message(s)
- UNE, Group Trailer

A **MESSAGE** contains:
- UNH, Message Header
- a message body
- UNT, Message Trailer

A **MESSAGE BODY** contains:
- segment(s) and/or segment group(s)

A **SEGMENT GROUP** contains:
- a trigger segment
- segment(s) and possibly segment group(s)

A **SEGMENT** contains:
- a segment tag
- stand-alone data element(s) and/or composite data element(s) and/or repeating
  stand-alone data element(s) and/or repeating composite data element(s)

A **REPEATING STAND-ALONE DATA ELEMENT** is:
- one or more occurrences of the same stand-alone data element

A **REPEATING COMPOSITE DATA ELEMENT** is:
- one or more occurrences of the same composite data element

A **COMPOSITE DATA ELEMENT** contains:
- two or more component data elements

A **COMPONENT DATA ELEMENT** is:
- a simple data element

A **STAND-ALONE DATA ELEMENT** is:
- a simple data element

A **SIMPLE DATA ELEMENT** contains:
- a single data element value

Figure 1b — Batch EDI message within an interchange (Legend)