Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) - Application level syntax rules

Part 2:
Syntax rules specific to batch EDI
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Foreword

(To be amended as necessary, according to ISO procedures)

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75% approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 9735 Release 2 was prepared by the UN/ECE Trade Division (as UN/EDIFACT) and was adopted, under the "fast-track procedure" as an existing standard, by Technical Committee ISO TC 154, Documents and data elements in administration; commerce and industry.

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

- ISO 9735-1 - Syntax rules common to all parts, together with syntax service directories for each of the parts
- ISO 9735-2 - Syntax rules specific to batch EDI
- ISO 9735-3 - Syntax rules specific to interactive EDI
- ISO 9735-4 - Syntax and service report message for batch EDI (message type CONTRL)
- ISO 9735-5 - Security rules for batch EDI (authenticity, integrity and non-repudiation of origin)
- ISO 9735-6 - Secure authentication and acknowledgement message (message type AUTACK)
- ISO 9735-7 - Security rules for batch EDI (confidentiality)
- ISO 9735-8 - Associated data in EDI
- ISO 9735-9 - Security key and certificate management message (message type KEYMAN)

Further parts may be added in the future.
Introduction

This International Standard 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.

These syntax rules 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, 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 standard.

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

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.

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 Part 1 of this International Standard.

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

3 Normative references

There are no other standards which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of this International Standard.

4 Definitions

For the purpose of this part of this International Standard, the definitions in Part 1 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>Message Body</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.

For the specification of the service string advice see Part 1 annex B.

For the specification of the header and trailer segments see Part 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 elements and/or repeating composite data elements

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

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

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

A **COMPONENT DATA ELEMENTS**:  
- a simple data element

A **STAND-ALONE DATA ELEMENTS**:  
- a simple data element

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

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