

**INTERPRETATION OF  
GS/GE SEGMENT FUNCTIONAL GROUP CONTROL NUMBERS  
X12.6 APPLICATION CONTROL STRUCTURE**

**REQUEST**

“Should the GS06/GE02 (Data Element 28, Group Control Number) be incremented for multiple GS/GE segments within the same ISA/IEA envelope?” BUSINESS CASE:

Receiver: Some translators do not accept duplicate GS06/GE02 control numbers within the same ISA/IEA envelope.

Sender: Some translators create duplicate GS06/GE02 control numbers for multiple GS/GE segments within the same ISA/IEA envelope.

This causes the trading partners to accept one of the following solutions:

1. Separate ISA/IEA envelopes for each GS/GE segment pairing.
2. A different starting point for each control number per GS segment (e.g., 001, 100, 200, etc.).

**INTERPRETATION**

Your request for interpretation with regard to the GS/GE group control number provoked concern for uniqueness in a broader sense. Accordingly, a project proposal (PP432) entitled “Uniqueness in EDI Transmissions” was initiated within X12C Communications and Controls subcommittee and accepted by the X12 Procedures Review Board.

The work to date has resulted in development of proposed changes to both X12.5 Interchange Control Structures and X12.6 Application Control Structures. These changes directly address your concern. These changes are progressing through X12C, and if they are approved by X12C, then work requests will be generated and processed through the standards maintenance process.