

## ISA15 VALUES

### REQUEST:

In the case of a trading partner erroneously submitting test transactions (ISA15 = T) into a production environment, what is the recommended level of response to reject those transactions? It does not seem appropriate to reject the interchange with a TA1 as the ISA15 has a valid value of T, nor does it seem appropriate to reject the functional group with a 997 as the functional group has no errors. It would then seem that the rejects would be relegated to the transaction or application levels, however, from a processing standpoint this is not efficient as the transactions should be rejected up front before reaching those levels.

### REFERENCED X12 STANDARDS

A "Request for Interpretation" applies to a specific version of the X12 Standards. The author failed to provide a specific version of the standard in the request. We have chosen to base this response on Version 5 Release 4 of the X12 Standard. As the areas of the X12 Standards applicable to this interpretation have been relatively stable over time, it is likely that the same interpretation would be provided for earlier versions of the X12 Standards.

The following X12 Standards were reviewed in developing this interpretation:

X12.5 Interchange Control Structures      Version 005 Release 040  
(Defines enveloping of data)

X12.1 X12 Transaction Set Directory      Version 005 Release 040  
(Defines X12 Transaction Sets, such as 997 Functional Acknowledgment)

X12.22 Data Segment Directory              Version 005 Release 040  
(Defines segments ISA and TA1)

X12.3 Data Element Dictionary              Version 005 Release 040  
(Defines Data Element 114 Indicator Usage Indicator)

### FORMAL INTERPRETATION

Any response to a 'test' interchange (ISA15 = T). shall be conveyed in a 'test' interchange (ISA15 = T). The intent of field ISA15 is to allow internal EDI system testing to be performed using the same ISA addresses as intended to be used in production, regardless of the method of transmission. For this reason, the standard does not provide a means to reject the interchange for the reason you offered.

### FURTHER DISCUSSION:

The X12.5 standard provides instruction to the recipient of an X12 interchange of the type of processing required (test or production). Note that a test interchange must not be conveyed in an interchange having the same uniqueness identification (sender, receiver, date, time, control number) as a previously transmitted interchange, regardless of whether that interchange was intended for test or production.

The X12.5 standard does not address how an interchange is to be transmitted to the recipient system. Trading partners are free to adopt trading partner agreements to create different EDI addresses linked to different transmission methods. Trading partners may adopt trading partner agreements to use the value of the Test Indicator in ISA15 to link to different transmission methods. Any such trading partnership agreements lie outside the scope of the X12 Standards, and such agreements might not be supported by their current EDI/X12 application software, nor by the X12 standard. To report a failure to process the test interchange may require direct contact with the sender.