

VALUES IN ST02

REQUEST

"I have a trading partner who wants to use the ST02 number in set 322 as a progressive number over transmissions, i.e. 1, 2, 3 in first batch, 4, 5, 6 in the next. I believe that is not part of the standard. The trading partner wants a verification from X12."

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 1 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:

X12.22 Data Segment Directory Version 005 Release 010
(Defines referenced ST segment, Transaction Set Header)

X12.3 Data Element Dictionary Version 005 Release 010
(Defines referenced data element 329, Transaction Set Control Number)

FORMAL INTERPRETATION

The X12 standard states, in the definition of DE 329: "Identifying control number that must be unique within the transaction set functional group assigned by the originator for a transaction set."

Aside from this constraint upon ST02 values and the range constraint implicit in the type and length attributes of DE 329, the standard places no other constraints on ST02 values. In particular, there is no "progressive value" constraint, nor is there a constraint that spans multiple functional groups.

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

The uniqueness constraint on ST02 values supports the identification of a specific transaction set within a functional group when reporting in a functional acknowledgement the results of a syntactic analysis of a transmitted functional group. The value of an ST02 instance is established by the sender of the transaction set, in accordance with the rules set forth in the X12 standards.

As with all details of the X12 standards, implementation guides and trading partner agreements may impose additional constraints upon syntax. For example, an implementation guide could impose a constraint that each functional group start a new sequence of ST02 values starting at the value '1' and incrementing by '1'. In the absence of such additional constraints, the creator of an X12 functional group need only adhere to the constraints specified in the X12 standards