Repeating Data Elements

Composite data structures and simple data elements can repeat within a segment. It is more efficient to include a repetition separator and another value as opposed to ending the segment with a terminator and then sending the same segment again to achieve the same result.

For the most part data elements do not repeat. In a TR3, when an element can repeat, the repeat value is to the right of the requirement, for example, see the highlighted value below:

This means that EQ02 can repeat up to 99 times in an EQ segment. Each repeat is separated by the value specified in ISA11, data element I65, the repetition separator. In a transmission, a repeating element looks like this when ISA11 specified a circumflex accent (^) as the repetition separator.