

X12C COMMUNICATIONS AND CONTROLS SUBCOMMITTEE

Interim Meeting Minutes

APRIL 13, 12 noon–1 p.m. EDT

Attendance—7 people, 3 constituents

1. Thursday, April 13

1.1. Administration

1.1.1. The June interim meeting has been cancelled.

1.2. RFI Database

1.2.1. 2487 – TA1 and ISA 14 Connection

1.2.1.1. The following response was unanimously approved:

Within the X12 standard, code value 0 in data element I13 means no interchange acknowledgment requested, not that the TA1 is sent if there are errors. No matter where those errors may be Code value 1 in data element I13 means interchange acknowledgment requested, and yes TA1 is always sent if the code value is not zero.

In the X12 Interchange Control Structure, section 3.6, Order of Control Segments, indicates in part:

NOTE: In the diagram above, the functional group is not an interchange component of this standard but appears in this figure to establish positioning for the functional groups. Zero, one, or more than one interchange acknowledgments may appear in one interchange. Zero, one, or more than one functional groups may appear in one interchange. However, at least one interchange acknowledgment or functional group must appear in an interchange for an interchange sender.

The example you specified in your RFI is correct, but the TA1 may be followed by a GS and attendant transaction set(s).

1.2.2. 2612 – Clarification of graphical character definition in X12 Specification

1.2.2.1. The following response was unanimously approved:

There are three questions, summarized and numbered below and then answered following those summaries:

1. Could you clarify if grapheme clusters map to the x12 definition of ""graphical characters"" when using unicode for the underlying edi string data?
2. How long is it as an X12 string when it comes to enforcing min/max lengths?
3. What about non-graphical characters like unicode control characters. EG: \u0000 - the null code point. Should these be disallowed by the x12 spec as these are not 'graphical'? https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Null_character

Answers:

1. Originally X12 content was encoded, for the most part, as ASCII graphic characters. With the publication of the ISX segment, multiple character encodings are available to trading partners, including several Unicode encodings.

A grapheme cluster is a sequence of one or more Unicode code points that represents a single visual element or character in a writing system. Grapheme clusters can be composed of multiple individual characters or combining characters that are rendered as a single unit.

A graphic character, on the other hand, is a basic unit of writing in a particular writing system that is capable of being displayed on a screen or printed on paper. It is a character that has its own visual representation, and can include letters, numbers, punctuation marks, and other symbols.

In other words, a grapheme cluster is a sequence of Unicode code points that represents a single visual element or character, while a graphic character is a basic unit of writing that can be displayed on a screen or printed on paper.

2. If the transmission is encoded as one of the Unicode variants, see data element I70 - Character Encoding, even if there are multiple individual characters that compose a single unit, the length of that grapheme cluster is one.

3. Yes, the NULL character has no visual representation and is disallowed.

1.2.3. 2613 – AK5/ST's acceptance when AK9 group is rejected

1.2.3.1. The following response was unanimously approved:

In a 997, the AK2 and AK3 loops are optional. If an AK9 rejects an entire functional group, AK2 and AK3 are not needed.

- 1.3. Pending – Chair will follow-up with the ASC Chair concerning the subcommittee's recommendation for a JSON strategy.

1.4. Active - None

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. EDT