

Transaction Set 997 User Guide

Introduction

This section defines the format and content of ASC X12.20, Transaction Set 997 (Version 4, Release 3): Functional Acknowledgment — as adopted by the Rail Industry. The Functional Acknowledgment provides for notification by the ultimate receiver that the sender's transmission has been received and is syntactically correct or incorrect.

The Rail Industry requires acknowledgment of all transmissions initiated by a railroad and intends to acknowledge all which originate with its supplier. (The obvious exception is that Functional Acknowledgments are not acknowledged.)

The following explains the use of the various segments:

If all documents within the group are accepted, only segments AK1 and AK9 are required (with AK901 = "A");

If the group is rejected because of problems with the GS or GE information, only AK1 and AK9 are sent. In this case AK901 = "R".

If the information in the GS segment is correct, but one or more documents are rejected, AK901 = "R" or "P", and an occurrence of AK2/AK5 is sent for each document rejected.

The transaction set data was developed to facilitate the interchange of Functional Acknowledgments at mutual benefit to the railroads and the suppliers. Each participant is strongly encouraged to bring to the attention of the Subcommittee on Information Standards any areas in which further agreement among the railroads can reduce implementation or operating costs.