

**Different versions of UN/ISO EDIFACT Syntax Version 4 ?**

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### **Different versions of UN/ISO EDIFACT Syntax Version 4 ?**

It has become apparent to the German Delegation that comments received during the Fast-track processing of ISO 9735 Part 1, Part 2, Part 3 and Part 8 will require certain enhancements to Version 4 of the UN/EDIFACT syntax before approving its issue as an ISO Standard.

Therefore, with the UN/ECE having issued and approved Version 4 of the UN/EDIFACT syntax in the same form as has been submitted to ISO, there will be two different issues of Version 4, both of which will have been published as the version that should be implemented. This will undoubtedly cause confusion amongst users of the UN/EDIFACT syntax and, unless a clear statement of intent is made, might well hinder its wider adoption.

In anticipation that the UN/ECE will unreservedly accept the final ISO issue of the UN/EDIFACT syntax version 4 as its final and approved issue, the German Delegation would like to request the UN/ECE to consider the following:

- (i) The immediate issue of a document, and/or an addendum to each of the issued and approved UN/EDIFACT Syntax documents, stating that the UN/ECE issued and approved Version 4 as a prerequisite to submitting the document to the ISO under the fast-track procedure and;
  - (ii) That the same document(s) clearly states that the UN/EDIFACT Version 4 should not be used until after its approval by the ISO as there are likely to be changes made during this process and;
  - (iii) That, without awaiting a further meeting, the UN/ECE should reissue the UN/EDIFACT syntax Version 4 immediately following ISO approval, including such amendments as have been made. This issue, either as a new document or as revisions to the current documents, should be accompanied by a clear statement that it is the only one that has been approved by both the ISO and the UN/ECE and is therefore the only issue that should be implemented.
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