EBT Test Plan

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EBT Test Plan

Introduction

The purpose of the EBT Test Plan is to provide a standardized set of test conditions that Competitive Suppliers and Distribution Companies will use to verify their customer transactions and EDI interface. Each Supplier and Distribution Company must successfully execute the test plan before the Supplier will be allowed to enroll customers with the Distribution Company.

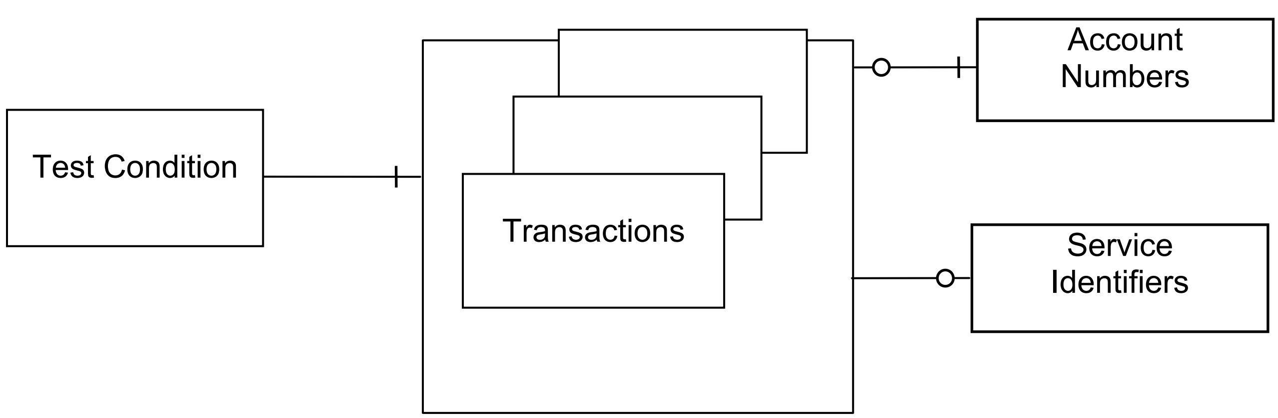
The test plan is not intended to exercise every conceivable transaction condition, but it will cover the most common scenarios and enough error conditions to demonstrate basic error handling. Trading partners may agree to perform additional testing or to add transactions to their specific test scenarios in order to cover special conditions. The test plan is not a substitute for internal testing of trading partners' systems. Each trading partner should conduct thorough testing of their internal systems to ensure that all transaction processing is accurate.

Test Constraints

There are certain transactions that cannot be fully tested in the context of this plan because they require special handling and/or the involvement of a third party. These transactions can be generated by the test, but they can only be verified by manual inspection and should not be transmitted. Specifically, these transactions are:

1. Settlement (there is no standard transmission mechanism at this time)
2. EDI 820 (transfer of funds)
3. Successful Enrollment (notification of switch sent to current supplier)
4. Successful Enrollment (notification of switch sent to default provider; does not apply to all companies)

Test Plan Structure



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Test Condition Descriptions

This worksheet describes each test condition and assigns it a reference number. The reference number is in the format X-999 where 'X' indicates the transaction category and '999' is a unique reference number within the transaction category.

Transaction Categories are:
A (Account Administration - Format I)
B (Usage and Billing - Format II)
C (Payments and Adjustments - Format III)
D (Settlement - Format IV)

The test simulates processing dates of 07/02/98 - 08/25/98. Test enrollment transactions are intended to take effect after the simulated July 1998 scheduled reading (the workbook includes a cycle calendar). The dates used for the test have no relationship to the actual date of customer choice, and the cycle schedule does not necessarily correspond with any Disco cycle numbers or schedules.

Presentation of Test Transactions

The test transactions are documented in an Excel workbook. There are two presentation layouts: one with descriptive information and one that represents the actual transaction file contents (these are in "EBT format", not "EDI format").

Descriptive Layout

Transactions are grouped by Transaction Category (Format I, Format II, etc.). The Transaction Type indicates the specific action to be taken for those Transaction Categories that have multiple transactions. Each transaction has a reference to one Test Condition and a Sequence Number (in case there are multiple transactions required to set up or fulfill a Test Condition).

The Sequence Number must be used in context with the Transaction Type and File ID to determine both the order of transactions in a file, the direction of the transaction (ES > DS, DS > ES), and the timing of transactions (day one, day two).

Shaded fields within a transaction indicate that these elements are not filled in for this transaction.

File Layout

There are six of these worksheets (one for each test file - see next section). Transactions are grouped and ordered according to test condition requirements. Headers and trailers are included. There is no descriptive information, just the transaction data.

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Test File Processing

A total of six transaction sets (files) are needed to complete the test:

File ID	Simulated Date	Description
1A	7/2/98	1st file from supplier to Disco. Contains Enrollments.
1B	7/3/98	Disco's response to file 1A.
2A	7/3/98	2nd file from supplier to Disco. Contains Changes, Drops and more Enrollments.
2B	7/6/98	Disco's response to file 2A plus Changes, Moves and Drops.
3B	8/10/98	From Disco to supplier. Usage and Billing records for August cycle 6.
4B	8/25/98	From Disco to supplier. Payments and Adjustments.

The supplier may transmit files 1A and 2A without waiting to receive the first file from the Disco. The Disco will process File 1A and 2A as if they were actually transmitted on two separate days. A complete test cycle can typically be completed in two days, assuming no problems.

Account Number Tables

Each transaction contains the Distribution Company Account Number and the Supplier Account Number. Since the actual account numbers are not known at this time, the test transaction account numbers have been arbitrarily assigned. A translation table for each company will have to be developed to replace the test script account numbers with "real" account numbers. The Account Number Tables have been provided as a template for this. Note that a given account may be used in more than one test condition.

Service Identifier Table

Where the Service Identifier (i.e., meter number) is used, a translation table for each company will have to be developed to replace the test script Service Identifier with "real" ids (meter number, rate code, etc.). The Service Identifier Table is provided as a template for this.

Optional Fields

The distribution companies have documented their unique requirements as optional fields. This information is included in Appendix D of the EDI Working Group Report dated March __, 1998. Trading partners will have to work together to ensure that adequate testing of optional fields is performed.

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File Headers and Trailers

Specific test conditions covering File Headers and Trailers are not necessary. These EBT record types do not directly translate to EDI format. Refer to EDI Implementation Guidelines for specific information about mapping Header and Trailer data to EDI segments.

Test Systems

Each distribution company and supplier must develop a test environment to comply with this test plan. These test systems will likely evolve as time goes on (more automation, enhanced features, etc). Data used for testing (customer names, rates, etc.) should match that presented in the enclosed worksheets, or necessarily be coordinated between trading partners. The initial versions of the test systems must meet these minimum requirements (follow the sequence numbers):

Supplier Test System	Disco Test System
1. Generate test transactions (File 1A and 2A) from pre-established test database	4. Receive suppliers' test files
2. Translate test transactions into EDI format (814)	5. Convert from EDI to internal format
3. Transmit files to Discos	6. Validate transactions against a pre-established test customer database; generate appropriate internal results
10. Receive Disco test files 2A and 2B	7. Generate test transactions (File 1B and 2B)
11. Convert from EDI to internal format	8. Translate test transactions into EDI format (814, 810, 820)
12. Process transactions and/or resolve errors for appropriate internal results	9. Transmit files to supplier
14. Receive Disco test files 3B and 4B	13. Transmit files 3B and 4B to supplier
15. Convert from EDI to internal format	
16. Process transactions and/or resolve errors for appropriate internal results	

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EBT Testing Procedure

This procedure provides Suppliers and Utility Distribution Companys (UDCs) with a guide to initiating and successfully completing the EBT Test Plan. This procedure is to be followed for each UDC with which the Supplier wants to test and/or enroll customers.

Successful completion of the Test Plan is required before the UDC will accept enrollment transactions from the Supplier.

Step by Step

1. The Supplier representative (either the Business Contact or Technical Contact) must contact the person identified as the Business Contact for the UDC with which testing is to be conducted. This contact must be made at least two weeks before test files are transmitted to the UDC. The two week lead time is so the Supplier has time to work with the UDC Business Contact to establish the following:

   1) A mutual understanding of the Test Plan conditions and requirements (refer to EBT Test Plan)
   2) Test rates and pricing structures in the UDC test system
   3) Test mailboxes and passwords or alternate method of file exchange
   4) Specific test data (customer account numbers, utility-specific conditions and options, dates, etc.)
   5) Schedule for transmitting test data and conducting the test(s) – see Attachment 1

2. Supplier transmits test files in EDI format (see EBT EDI Implementation Guide) according to the schedule. Supplier notifies the UDC Business Contact when files have been transmitted. The UDC Business Contact or Technical Contact will provide prompt notification of any problems encountered with the input files.

3. The UDC will process Supplier input files and send result files according to the schedule. Supplier should process each file through its test record keeping system according to the test schedule. Promptly notify the UDC Business Contact of any problems.

4. The Business Contact and Technical Contact for each party will review the results of their individual test system processing cycles. This review will ensure 1) that test results are consistent with internal requirements, 2) that the intent of the EBT Test Plan is fulfilled, and 3) that any deviations from the

expected results are legitimate and do not jeopardize the quality of the test.

5. The test is considered to be completed successfully when the Business and Technical Contacts for both the Supplier and UDC sign off on the test results. The test can be rescheduled and rerun as many times as necessary to provide the reviewers with the confidence to sign off. The Business Contact for each party should keep a record of the test acceptance (paper/fax or electronic) – see Attachment 2.

EBT Test Procedure Attachment 1: Sample Testing Schedule

The following schedule assumes that all preliminary tasks identified in Step 1 of the EBT Testing Procedure have been completed. The duration of the test can be adjusted to suit the needs of trading partners, but the test should be contiguous (start to finish) with successful completion of all intermediate steps. Unsuccessful completion of an intermediate step should generally result in the entire test being rescheduled and rerun.

Day 1: Supplier transmits Files 1A and 2A to UDC.
UDC receives Files 1A and 2A.

Day 2: UDC processes File 1A.
UDC reviews results of File 1A processing.
UDC sends File 1B.
Supplier receives File 1B.

Day 3: Supplier processes File 1B.
Supplier reviews results of File 1B processing.
UDC processes File 2A.
UDC reviews results of File 2A processing.
UDC sends File 2B.
Supplier receives File 2B.

Day 4: Supplier processes File 2B.
Supplier reviews results of File 2B processing.
UDC sends Files 3B and 4B.
Supplier receives Files 3B and 4B.

Day 5: Supplier processes File 3B.
Supplier reviews results of File 3B processing.
Supplier processes File 4B.
Supplier reviews results of File 4B processing

Day 6: Sign-off

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EBT Test Procedure Attachment 2: Test Acceptance Form

The undersigned agree that [supplier company] and [UDC] have successfully completed electronic interchange testing on [date].

Subject to finalization of bilateral agreements between [supplier] and [UDC] and fulfillment of all other registration requirements as directed by the New Hampshire Public Utility Commission, [supplier] may submit customer enrollment transactions electronically to [UDC] beginning on [date].

Supplier Company: ___________________________________

Supplier Business Contact Signature: _______________________________
Date of Test Acceptance: _____________

Supplier Technical Contact Signature: _______________________________
Date of Test Acceptance: _____________

Distribution Company: ___________________________________

Distribution Company Business Contact Signature:
____
Date of Test Acceptance: _____________

Distribution Company Technical Contact Signature:
____
Date of Test Acceptance: _____________

Test Plan Worksheets (Excel)

A Test Conditions: File Layout
B Customer Information
C Generic Bill Cycle Calendar
D Test Supplier Rate Tables

E Transaction Detail: Descriptive Layout
- E1 Format I Transaction Detail
- E2 Format II Transaction Detail
- E3 Format III Transaction Detail
- E4 Format IV Transaction (No Test Data: Layout Only)

F Transaction Detail: File Layout
- F1 File 1A (From Supplier)
- F2 File 2A (From Disco)
- F3 File 1B (From Supplier)
- F4 File 2B (From Disco)
- F5 File 3B (From Disco)
- F6 File 4B (From Disco)

G Disco Account Number Table
H Supplier Account Number Table
I Service Identifier Table