amazon

North America (NA) EDI 856 Business Requirements

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These requirements are applicable for ASNs associated with the shipments being sent within/to North America.

The Importance of an ASN

The ASN is critical to timely and seamless receipt of shipments we receive from you. It contains information about items being shipped, including purchase order number, ship date, estimated delivery date, lot number, expiration date, carrier tracking numbers and SSCC.

By receiving a valid and timely ASN, Amazon can correctly anticipate shipments you send us. Some of the advantages are listed below:
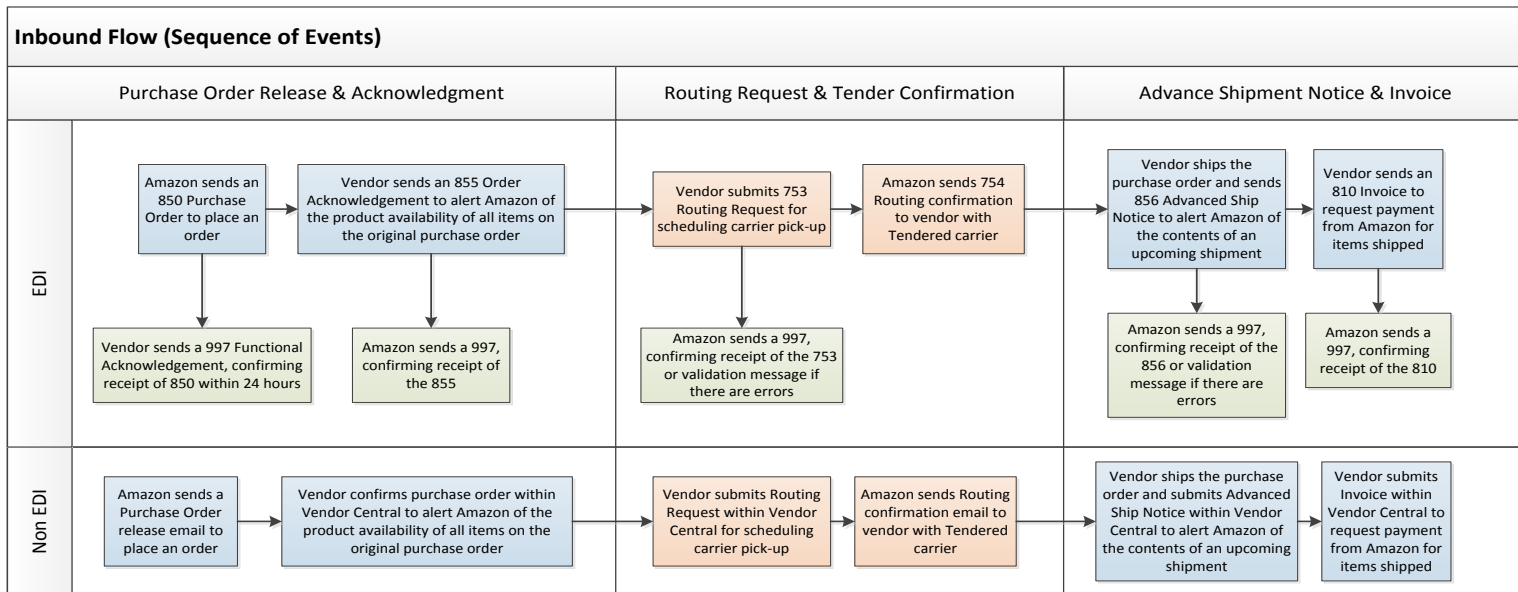
   i.   ASNs allow us to collaborate more effectively with carriers in tracking and receiving your shipments. This allows us to effectively plan our labor resources and ensure quicker and more efficient receipt of your shipment which means you can invoice your POs faster.

ii. ASN also allows Amazon to keep track of the incoming inventory and create automated orders to ensure that items do not go into Out of Stock.

iii. Faster receipt ensures quicker 'In-stock' status on Amazon website leading to higher product sales and profits.

iv. ASNs gives greater visibility into in-transit products, which enables us to more accurately reflect item availability (Deliver by period) to end customers.

v. Amazon's PO cancellation policies allow cancellation of outstanding PO shipments but POs with accurate ASN alert our internal systems of in-transit status. This could avoid unnecessary PO cancellation chargebacks and freight refusals.

Lack of a valid ASN results in: Inadequate visibility for incoming shipments; Errors in reconciling the physical shipments with purchase orders; Manual follow-ups to resolve the discrepancy; providing PODs for invoicing.

Sequence of Events

Inbound Flow (Sequence of Events)		
Purchase Order Release & Acknowledgment	Routing Request & Tender Confirmation	Advance Shipment Notice & Invoice

EDI

- Amazon sends an 850 Purchase Order to place an order → Vendor sends an 855 Order Acknowledgement to alert Amazon of the product availability of all items on the original purchase order
- Vendor sends a 997 Functional Acknowledgement, confirming receipt of 850 within 24 hours
- Amazon sends a 997, confirming receipt of the 855
- Vendor submits 753 Routing Request for scheduling carrier pick-up → Amazon sends 754 Routing confirmation to vendor with Tendered carrier
- Amazon sends a 997, confirming receipt of the 753 or validation message if there are errors
- Vendor ships the purchase order and sends 856 Advanced Ship Notice to alert Amazon of the contents of an upcoming shipment → Vendor sends an 810 Invoice to request payment from Amazon for items shipped
- Amazon sends a 997, confirming receipt of the 856 or validation message if there are errors
- Amazon sends a 997, confirming receipt of the 810

Non EDI

- Amazon sends a Purchase Order release email to place an order → Vendor confirms purchase order within Vendor Central to alert Amazon of the product availability of all items on the original purchase order
- Vendor submits Routing Request within Vendor Central for scheduling carrier pick-up → Amazon sends Routing confirmation email to vendor with Tendered carrier
- Vendor ships the purchase order and submits Advanced Ship Notice within Vendor Central to alert Amazon of the contents of an upcoming shipment → Vendor submits Invoice within Vendor Central to request payment from Amazon for items shipped

Required Fields

The EDI 856 Technical Specifications provides the EDI technical documentation for the universal standards. To simplify the process for vendors, below is a list of the 17 fields that Amazon requires in the 856 transaction. Vendors would need to refer both business and technical specifications for complete guidelines, but this summary will allow vendors to focus exactly on what's needed for a successful 856.

- Vendors are required to send 856 within 30 minutes of departure from their warehouse/distribution center or at least 6 hours prior to the appointment time at the Amazon destination warehouse, whichever is sooner. Missing or delayed 856 will result in chargebacks.

- Currently there is a limit of 100 ASNs for every truck load shipment. This means you can send separate EDI 856 at PO level or carton level only if the total number of individual EDI 856s are less than or equal to 100 for that truck load (TL) / less than truck load (LTL) shipment. It is always recommended to send a single EDI 856 transmission for the entire TL/LTL shipment having all PO and carton details.

- For Small Parcel Shipments ASN information is required to be provided for every package/carton.

- All fields below are required by Amazon and are measured to track compliance.

North America (NA) EDI 856 Business Requirements

Data Element	Business Definition	Maps to Technical Specifications	Hierarchical Level within the 856	Requirement
Shipment Identification	Unique ASN ID	BSN02 Segment (Page 11)	Shipment	Mandatory for all 856s
Shipped Date	Date on which vendor's shipment departed from their warehouse	DTM02, (DTM01 Code '011') (Page 23)	Shipment	Mandatory for all 856s
Estimated Delivery Date	Date on which vendor's shipment is expected to reach Amazon's FC. It can be an estimate based on the average transit time for the carrier.	DTM02, (DTM01 Code '017') (Page 23)	Shipment	Mandatory for all 856s
Carton Count	Number of Cartons present in the Shipment	TD102 (TD101, Code 'CTN') (Page 14)	Shipment	Mandatory for all 856s
Pallet Count	Number of Pallets present in the Shipment	TD102 (TD101, Code 'PLT') (Page 15)	Shipment	Should be mentioned for TL/LTL shipments
Standard carrier Alpha Code (SCAC)	Code that identifies the Carrier for the shipment. The Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) is a unique two-to-four-letter code used to identify a carrier. Carrier SCAC codes are assigned and maintained by the NMFTA (National Motor Freight Association).	TD503 (TD502, Code'2') (Page 16)	Shipment	Mandatory for all 856s
Bill of Lading Number	BOL number is the unique number assigned by the shipper in creating the Bill of Lading. BOL Number present in the ASN should match the paper BOL provided with the shipment.	REF02 (REF01, Code 'BM') (Page 19)	Shipment	Mandatory for TL/LTL Shipments
PRO Number	The PRO number (Pro Number) is a unique number assigned by the carrier. It is used to identify and track the shipment that goes out for delivery.	REF02 (REF01, Code 'CN') (Page 20 - Shipment, 44 - Package)	Truck Load (TL)/Less Truck Load (LTL) - Shipment Small Parcel Shipments - Package	Mandatory for all 856s
Amazon Reference Number (ARN)	The ARN is a unique identifier generated by Amazon for all collect (Amazon paid) shipments when you submit a routing request.	REF02 (REF01, Code 'BX') (Page 22)	Shipment	Mandatory for Collect Shipments
Shipping Location (Ship To)	Address and ID of the location where the products are being shipped to.	N104 (N101, Code 'ST') (Page 30)	Shipment	Mandatory for all 856s
Purchase Order Number	The Amazon Purchase Order Number; Written authorization for a supplier to ship products at a specified price, which becomes a legally binding contract once the supplier accepts it.	PRF01 (Page 37)	Order	Mandatory for all 856s

Serial Shipping Container Code (SSCC)	2 Digit Application Identifier (00) followed by Unique 18-digit Serial Shipment Container Code (SSCC) to be included to define a Pallet/Carton	MAN02 (MAN01, Code 'GM') (Page 41 -Pallets, 46 - Cartons)	Tare/Package	Mandatory for every carton, Optional for Pallets
Item Identification	Name and ID for the item that is being shipped.	LIN01 (Page 49)	Item	Mandatory for all 856s
Lot Number	The batch or lot number associates an item with information the manufacturer considers relevant for traceability of the trade item to which the Element String is applied. The data may refer to the trade item itself or to items contained.	LIN05 (LIN04, Code 'LT') (Page 49)	Item	Mandatory for Perishable Items
Expiry Date	The date that determines the limit of consumption or use of a product. Its meaning is determined based on the trade item context.	DTM02 (DTM01, Code '36') (Page 52)	Item	Either Expiry or Manufacturer Date and Shelf Live is required
Manufacture Date	Production, Packaging or Assembly Date determined by the manufacturer. Its meaning is determined based on the trade item context.	DTM02 (DTM01, Code '094') (Page 52)	Item	Either Expiry or Manufacturer Date and Shelf Live is required
Shelf life	Duration for manufacturing date for product is valid for consumption.	MEA03 (Page 51)	Item	Either Expiry or Manufacturer Date and Shelf Live is required
Quantity	Number of Units shipped for a specific item	SN102 (Page 50)	Item	Mandatory for all 856s

Additional Reference

Below mentioned are the additional notes for each of the fields.

1. Shipment Identification

   This field will be a **Unique ID** (uniqueness is defined within context of the vendor) which represents this ASN. Failure to provide a "Shipment Identification" would result in ASN being rejected.

   Note that failure to use a unique ID for each shipment will result in ASN data being overwritten and chargebacks for missing ASN data. Please only use the same ASN ID and BGN01 code "05" if you would like to replace the information provided via the earlier ASN message.

   For further information on how to edit an ASN please refer Vendor Central > Help Center > Shipment Management > Edit an Advance Shipment Notification > Edit an EDI 856 ASN

2. PRO Number/Tracking Number/AirBill Number

   PRO Number/Tracking Numbers are the unique numbers assigned by the carriers for the shipment. These Identifiers are used for capturing status updates of the shipment. PRO Numbers / Carrier Reference Numbers are required for all freight terms (Collect/Prepaid) and Ship Modes (TL/LTL/Small Parcel). This information is required to be entered in REF02 (REF*CN*) segment of EDI ASN. Please take a note of the following important parameters while entering the PRO# in the ASN:

   a. TL/LTL Shipments – The PRO# should be provided at the header level. One PRO# per ASN/Shipment.
   b. Small Parcel Shipments – PRO# should be provided for each individual packages/cartons. Number of PRO# should be equal to number of packages/cartons in the physical shipment.
   c. PRO# entered by the vendor should conform to the validation rule specified for SCAC. These validation rules help us determine the validity and accuracy of the PRO# in the ASN.
   The PRO SCAC logic for frequently used carriers can be found in the pdf document located at Resource Center > Technical > EDI Specifications > EDI Package X12 >2.4_AdvanceShipNotice_856 > PRO_SCAC_Logic
   d. PRO# provided in the ASN should be the same as the PRO# provided by the carrier while scheduling an appointment at Amazon FC through CARP (Carrier Appointment Request Portal). Mismatch between the PRO# in ASN and CARP might lead to validation failures in future.
   e. PRO# should not be date/time.
   f. PRO# should not be single character.

   PRO Numbers are very important for Amazon to match the ASN and the shipment. Carriers are required to share the PRO# with the vendors before or during the pickup of the shipment and vendors need to provide the same PRO# in the ASN. Please follow up with your carrier to provide the PRO# for your shipment (including TL carriers).

   Missing / Invalid / Inaccurate PRO# might lead to chargebacks and validation failures in future.

3. Amazon Reference Number (ARN)

   The ARN is a unique identifier generated by Amazon for all collect (Amazon paid) shipments when vendor submits a routing request. The ARN is used internally at Amazon to associate ASNs with the physical shipments received at our Fulfillment Centers. Use of the ARN within EDI 856 transmission ensures that Amazon receives your merchandise accurately and with fewer defects. Additionally, the ARN enables better resource planning and faster receiving of vendor's items.

Vendors can get ARN through the one of the following options:

a. Via BGN06 element in the EDI Routing Instructions (EDI 754).
b. Via the View Recent Shipments feature in Vendor Central after the Routing Request is tendered.
c. Via email as part of the TL / LTL tender confirmation for your submitted routing request.

ARN would be generated for each routing request. There should be one to one mapping between the routing request and ASN. Thus if vendor sends multiple routing request for the same shipment then they need to ensure that ASNs aligns with the routing requests and individual ARNs are mentioned in each ASN.

ARN requirement doesn't apply for PrePaid (Vendor Paid) Shipments.

4. SCAC

The Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) is a unique two-to-four alphanumeric code used to identify a carrier. Carrier SCAC codes are assigned and maintained by the NMFTA (National Motor Freight Association). Examples: For UPS Freight the SCAC Code is UPGF; For BNSF Logistics the SCAC is BNLS; For Burlington Northern the SCAC BNSF.

For Small Parcel Shipments please ensure that SCAC is one of the following:

Carrier Name	SCAC
UPS Main	UPSN / UPSS / UPSZ
Federal Express	FDE / RPSI / FXSP / FDEG / FEDX / FEDZ /
United States Postal Service	USPS
DHL Airways	DHLC

Please follow up with your carrier and ensure that you use the correct SCAC for the shipment. Invalid or Incorrect SCAC Code might lead to validation failures in future.

A list of frequently used carriers and their SCACs and PRO number format is available in the in the pdf document located at Resource Center > Technical > EDI Specifications > EDI Package X12 >2.4_AdvanceShipNotice_856 > PRO_SCAC_Logic.

5. Bill of Lading (BOL#)

Bill of Lading (BOL#) is the reference number of the document accompanying the physical shipment. BOL# in the ASN should match the BOL# provided in the shipment documentation. BOL# is required for the TL/LTL Shipments. It can be excluded for Small Parcel Shipments (UPS/FedEx). Please take a note of the following parameters while defining the BOL#:

a. BOL# should be unique for every shipment. It should not be repeated for a vendor.
b. BOL# should not be a single character.
c. BOL# should not be a date/time.

For further information on the BOL Requirements please refer to the Section 12 of "North American Vendor Shipment Prep and Transportation Manual" in the Vendor Central Resource Center under the Operations section.

6. Shipped Date

    This field indicates the date of the departure of the shipment from vendor's location. Vendors are requested to send ASNs within 30 minutes of departure from your warehouse/distribution center or at least 6 hours prior to the appointment time at the Amazon destination warehouse, whichever is sooner.

    Ship date mentioned in the ASN should be either within past 7 calendar days (from the ASN Submission Date) or upto 2 calendar days in future (from the ASN Submission Date).

7. Estimated Delivery Date

    This is a rough estimate based on vendor's experience of when a shipment would be delivered to the desired amazon FC. Vendors are required to determine this based on the average transit time of the carrier. This information helps us plan for the shipment if we do not get any EDDs from the carrier.

8. SSCC

    Serial Shipping Container Code (SSCC) is a 2 Digit Application Identifier (00) followed by unique 18 digit code that defines a Pallet/Carton. Providing SSCC in the ASN allows Amazon to process receipts using a highly automated approach, called License Plate or LP Receive. This approach utilizes electronic information provided by the vendor (via an EDI 856 ASN transmission), in conjunction with industry-standard UCC-128 SSCC labeling on each carton/pallet. It is a receive process in which items are received by scanning a SSCC barcode on the outside of a carton/pallet, eliminating the need to scan each item within the carton/pallet. This process has a number of significant advantages, including increased efficiency, improved receiving accuracy, more accurate payment and faster payment cycle time. While defining SSCC Code within the ASN please ensure the following:

    a. It is in accordance to GS1 standards. The Application Identifier (00) indicates that the GS1 Application Identifier data fields contain an SSCC.
    b. It should be a unique number

    This is the preferred receive path for products at Amazon. For additional details, please refer the "License Plate Receive Vendor Manual" document in Vendor Central Resource Center under the Operations section.

9. Hierarchical Level – Pallet

    Pallet level hierarchy has been introduced in the ASN to enable vendors to provide us information specific to each pallet in the shipment. Providing pallet level information helps Amazon FCs with faster and automated receiving thereby resulting in quicker 'In-stock' status on Amazon.com website. Important segments required are:

    a. Number of Cartons within a Pallet – This information is mandatory if it's a single ASIN Pallet. For Mixed ASIN Pallets the 'Number of Cartons' is Optional.
    b. SSCC for Pallet – 2 Digit Application Identifier (00) followed by unique 18 digit code identifying items within the pallet.

    Please note that:

    -   For single ASIN pallets, pallet or carton level SSCC in EDI 856 would be acceptable (we prefer a pallet level SSCC)
    -   If it's a mixed ASIN Pallet then the ASN should have both Pallet and Package level hierarchy and SSCC Codes for each Carton should be defined.

10. Hierarchical Level – Package

Package hierarchy enables vendors to provide us information specific to each carton in the shipment. Important segments required for each carton are:

a. PRO/Tracking number – This is required to be provided for every carton in the small parcel shipments
b. SSCC for the Carton - 2 Digit Application Identifier (00) followed by unique 18 digit code identifying items within the carton.
c. **Starting July 2014; SSCC would be mandatory for every Carton in the shipment.**

11. Expiration Date

The expiration date is the date that determines the limit of consumption or use of a product. Its meaning is determined based on the trade item context (e.g., for food, the date will indicate the possibility of a direct health risk resulting from use of the product after the date, for pharmaceutical products, it will indicate the possibility of an indirect health risk resulting from the ineffectiveness of the product after the date). It is often referred to as "use by date" or "maximum durability date."

12. Manufacturing Date

It is the date when the goods were packaged or manufactured. This field should be provided if an item is perishable or has a defined shelf life.

13. Shelf Life

If Expiration Date is not defined then Manufacturing Date and Shelf Life should be defined for all the perishable products.

14. Lot Number

The batch or lot number associates an item with information the manufacturer considers relevant for traceability of the trade item to which the Element String is applied. The data may refer to the trade item itself or to items contained. The number may be, for example, a production lot number, a shift number, a machine number, a time, or an internal production code.

15. Usage of Expiration Date / Manufacturing Date / Lot Numbers in the EDI ASN

These fields would be mandatory only for perishable items, i.e., for those items where 'is expiration dated product' attribute was filled with a 'Yes' in NIS (new item set-up) form. Please take a note of the following important parameters while defining the Expiration Dates / Manufacturing Dates / Lot Numbers in the ASN:

a. Expiration Dates / Manufacturing Dates / Lot Numbers should be defined at an Item Level.
b. A Case/Pallet can have multiple ASINs each with its individual Expiration Dates / Manufacturing Dates / Lot Numbers
c. One ASIN should not have multiple Expiration Dates / Manufacturing Dates / Lot Numbers within the same Case/Pallet

Vendors are required to provide Expiration Date and Manufacturing Date within the EDI ASN in the YYYYMMDD Format.