

Toolset for Implementing Best Practices in Healthcare Transactions

Designing accurate healthcare transaction guidelines is essential to effectively exchange information with trading partners. Guidelines that are poorly designed or tested result in high transaction error rates, poor first pass rates, long processing cycles, poor partner communications, and wasteful troubleshooting resources and time. Edifecs SpecBuilder is an integrated and intuitive design-time tool that simplifies, reduces errors in, and accelerates the design phase of healthcare transaction processing. Edifecs SpecBuilder can be purchased standalone or as part of the Edifecs Healthcare Channel Modernization Product Suite.

Capabilities

Using SpecBuilder's integrated tools (see Figure 1), business and EDI analysts can:

- **Develop guidelines** using a hierarchical editor and by leveraging a library of over 30,000 prebuilt templates. Specifications can be created from scratch, from an existing format, or even from a data file. Custom business rules can be added to ensure data format and values meet business needs. Processing errors can be relaxed or ignored where necessary.
- **Share guidelines and related data and error information** with trading partners, external vendors, or other third-parties. Information can be published in multiple formats including HTML, RTF, PDF, Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. De-identification capabilities help protect PHI (Personal Health Information) to ensure compliance with HIPAA data privacy rules.
- **Troubleshoot errors rapidly** by analyzing data files and visually cross-linking between error reports, guidelines, and data files to identify and resolve errors. Highlight differences in data files before and after system changes.
- **Map between multiple standards and formats** by performing gap analysis between different versions of guidelines, mapping between multiple standards and formats, and migrating guidelines between different versions of healthcare standards, including HIPAA 4010A1 and 5010. Maps showing transformation of one message definition format into another (including 4010A1 to 501 and vice versa) can be created for later use by Edifecs XEngine.
- **Achieve HIPAA 5010 compliance** with pre-built guidelines and maps that convert HIPAA 4010A1 data files to 5010 or HIPAA 5010 data files to 4010A1. These maps can be further customized for specific needs. HIPAA code values can be searched and viewed across 60+ code sets.



Figure 1
SpecBuilder provides integrated and intuitive tools for the design phase of healthcare information exchange

Benefits

As shown in Table 1, SpecBuilder provides a rich feature set that helps meet HIPAA mandates, improves transaction quality, streamlines guideline rollout to trading partners, reduces partner integration time, and enhances operational efficiency and costs savings.

Benefits	Supporting Features
Improve Transaction Quality and Achieve Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and test transactions in a desktop environment before deployment. • Use pre-defined HIPAA and NCPDP guidelines to achieve compliance. • Leverage monthly updated code sets to help maintain compliance. • Add custom business rules to guidelines to improve first pass rates.
Reduce Implementation Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize 30,000 templates including pre-defined HIPAA, NCPDP, HL7, X12 and other guidelines. • Reduce troubleshooting time with business and technical error reports that categorize HIPAA errors by WEDI SNIP Type. • Troubleshoot by visually cross-linking error reports, guidelines, and data files. • Share error information through HTML, RTF, and XML error reports. • Quickly perform gap analysis between different versions of guidelines. • Perform point-and-click migration of customizations from existing guidelines to new versions (e.g., 4010A1 to 5010 migration). • Import and export specifications with 3rd-party applications.
Operational Efficiencies and Cost Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use hierarchical data editor to reduce need for separate tools to view, edit, and search/replace data files in line. • Accelerate testing by generating “happy-path” and negative test data directly from guidelines. • Customize test data by specifying seed values in data dictionaries. • Use real-life data for testing; generate 5010 test data using 4010A1 production data. • Highlight differences in data files before and after system changes.
Streamline Rollout of Guidelines to Trading Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish guidelines to trading partners in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel formats, as well as HTML, RTF, and PDF formats. • De-identify data to protect PHI when sharing data with partners. • Test partner data files against implementation guidelines. • Troubleshoot HIPAA code value issues by viewing and searching across 60+ external code sets (e.g., ICD-9, ICD-10, Drug codes, ADA codes, ZIP codes, State codes) with effective and end dates. • Relax compliance requirements for non-material transaction to increase intake of electronic transactions.

Table 1: Benefits and Features of Edifecs SpecBuilder

Modules

SpecBuilder's library and integrated modules provide the tools needed to create and publish guidelines to trading partners and 3rd party applications.

Standards Library. Access a library with over 30,000 pre-built message templates that are maintained for various industry standards such as HIPAA, HL7, X12, X12N, and NCPDP. Troubleshoot by viewing and searching over 60 HIPAA external codes sets (e.g., ICD-9, ICD-10).

Guideline Editor. Create a specification, including custom business rules, either from scratch or by modifying a message template from Standards Library and share in MS-Word, MS-Excel, PDF, HTML and RTF formats.

SpecGenerator. Import a message specification or create from an existing data file. Export to 3rd party applications such as BizTalk, Oracle, or TIBCO.

Data Generator. Generate test data files including random valid/invalid data based on user test case (including specification of seed values in data dictionaries). Generate 5010 test data from 4010A1 production data. Share error information in HTML, RTF and XML reports.

Analyzer. Use a tree view editor (see Figure 2) and simultaneous viewing of guidelines, data files and associated errors to easily determine the location, as well as cause of an error. Analyzer can also highlight differences within data files before and after a system change.

Error Severity Framework. Relax specified errors (report as warnings or informational) to facilitate processing of non-material issues.

Migrator. Compare two specifications for gap analysis and migrate changes automatically or manually from one version to another.

Data Comparator. Compare and modify data files e.g. data files from different versions.

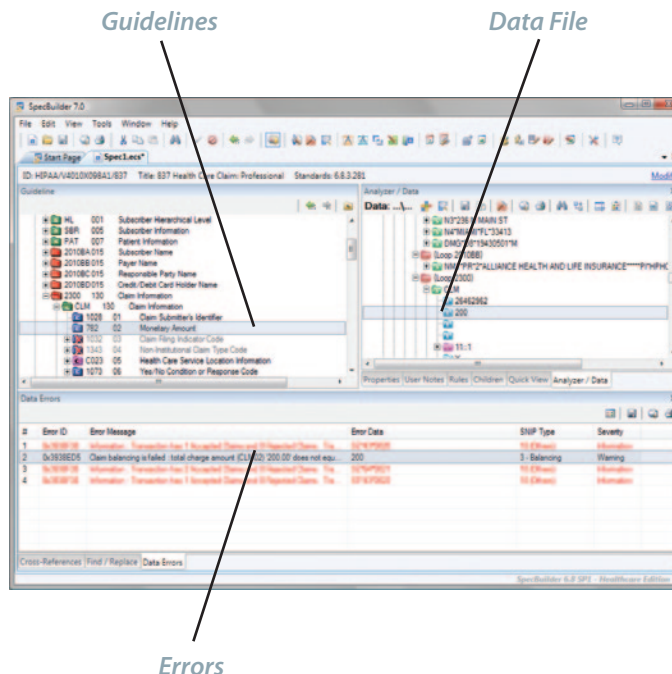


Figure 2: 3-way editor provides simultaneous viewing of guidelines, data files and associated errors.

MapBuilder. Create a map that shows how one message definition is transformed into another. Includes 30 pre-built functions to transform data between source and target definitions.

HIPAA 4010A1-5010 Mapping Library. Attain compliance by leveraging pre-built maps that convert HIPAA 4010A1 data files to 5010, or HIPAA 5010 data files to 4010A1.

De-identification. Protect PHI while sharing data files with trading partners by replacing private information with dummy content.

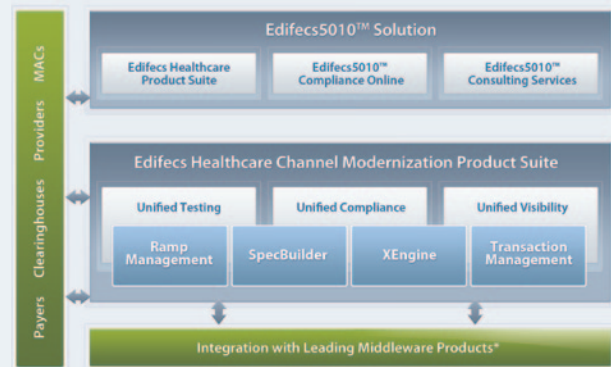
The Edifecs Healthcare Product Suite includes three product lines – Unified Testing™, Unified Compliance™ and Unified Visibility™. Together, these three product lines make up the Edifecs Unified Channel™ solution for modernization of the information processing (channels) infrastructure. The three product lines are composed of four products –Ramp Management, SpecBuilder, XEngine and Transaction Management.

Edifecs Product Lines

Unified Testing™ provides a consistent, centralized, end-to-end, collaborative and uniform way to on-board the entire trading partner community of providers, submitters and more. Edifecs Unified Testing™ includes guideline migration, test data generation, internal testing, external testing, 3rd party testing, connectivity testing and various others steps required in moving partners from initial engagement to ongoing production. Unified Testing™ consists of Edifecs SpecBuilder, Edifecs Ramp Management and Edifecs Compliance Online.

Unified Compliance™ provides a channel-independent, centralized single front-end to ensure on-going compliance of production information exchanged with business partners and between business systems. Edifecs Unified Compliance™ supports all file formats and all standards including HIPAA 5010. Unified Compliance™ consists of Edifecs SpecBuilder (including MapBuilder) and Edifecs XEngine (including Translator).

Unified Visibility™ allows full insight into all transaction activity across all information processing channels. With a unique business-normalized repository of all transaction information, Unified Visibility provides one centralized system for a full 360-degree view into a transaction lifecycle from initiation to fulfillment of that transaction. Unified Visibility™ enables a



“single source of truth” for transactional information for internal as well as external users. Unified Visibility™ includes Edifecs Transaction Management and Edifecs XEngine products.

Edifecs Products

Edifecs Ramp Management allows healthcare organizations to create a branded self-service portal for trading partners to perform end-to-end scenario-based testing of transactions.

Edifecs SpecBuilder is a design-time tool that simplifies, reduces errors in and accelerates the design phase of healthcare information exchange.

Edifecs XEngine delivers unparalleled performance to validate transactions for syntax, semantics and custom business rules, while enabling splitting, routing, aggregation, enrichment of transactions and translation between multiple standards.

Edifecs Transaction Management provides a secure, end-to-end view of the healthcare transaction lifecycle to internal users and trading partners.

About Edifecs

An industry leader since 1996, Edifecs provides healthcare software and solutions that automate exchange of information between health plans, hospitals, pharmacy benefit managers and other healthcare organizations. Edifecs' healthcare offerings enable compliance with current mandates, improve governance through enhanced end-to-end visibility and enhance operational efficiency by reducing costs.

Edifecs has over 350 healthcare customers (that include Blue Plans, Medicaid, State and Federal agencies, Healthcare Providers) and partners such as IBM, Oracle, TIBCO, Informatca and Axway.

Edifecs has been recognized as one of the 100 Fastest Growing Private Companies in Washington state, 100 best places to work for in Washington state, and Inc5000 fastest growing private companies in the US. Edifecs' CEO is a recognized business leader (40-Under-40). Edifecs is headquartered in Bellevue, WA. Company website: www.edifecs.com.