13.

Clinical Laboratory Automation

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13.1   CHAPTER 13 CONTENTS

13.2   BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

13.2.1   Background

Clinical laboratory automation involves the integration or interfacing of automated or robotic transport systems, analytical instruments, and pre- or post-analytical process equipment such as automated centrifuges and aliquoters, decappers, recappers, sorters, and specimen storage and retrieval systems. In addition to the electrical and mechanical interfaces of these various components, the computers that control these devices or instruments must also be interfaced to each other and/or the Laboratory Information System (LIS).

The types of information communicated between these systems include process control and status information for each device or analyzer, each specimen, specimen container, and container carrier, information and detailed data related to patients, orders, and results, and information related to specimen flow algorithms and automated decision making. This wide array of communicated information is essential for a Laboratory Automation System (LAS) to control the various processes and to ensure that each specimen or aliquot has the correct tests performed in the proper sequence.

As of 1999 there are already more than 200 clinical laboratories in the world with "total laboratory automation" systems and hundreds more with a lesser level of automation – generally workcells or modular automation systems. The development of prospective standards for these aspects of clinical laboratory automation will facilitate the inter-operability of the systems being developed by the various players in lab automation – the vendors of analytical instruments, LIS systems, automation systems and components and their laboratory customers.

In the early 1990's an ad hoc task force, Clinical Testing Automation Standards Steering Committee (CTASSC), began to meet at the annual meetings of the International Conference on Automation and Robotics (ICAR) and the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC). In 1996, CTASSC approached NCCLS,[1] a globally-recognized, consensus standards organization that has developed more than 125 clinical laboratory standards and related products since it was founded in 1968, about taking on a project for clinical laboratory automation. NCCLS agreed to sponsor this project which was separately funded via a direct solicitation of the vendors in lab automation, instruments, LIS systems, and automation customers. It was organized as a "fast track" project to develop prospective standards to guide future developments in laboratory automation. With the oversight of an Area Committee on Automation, five separate subcommittees have worked since 1997 to develop a series of prospective standards for:

- Specimen containers and carriers

- Bar codes for specimen container identification

- Communications

- System operational requirements and characteristics

- Electromechanical interfaces

Approved level standards for all five of these areas were published by NCCLS.

13.2.2   Introduction

This chapter specifies HL7 triggers, messages, and segments required for implementation of clinical laboratory automation communication interfaces. It was developed jointly by the HL7 Laboratory Automation Special Interest Group and the NCCLS Subcommittee on Communications with Automated Systems. This chapter, by agreement between HL7 and NCCLS, is also published in its entirety as part of the NCCLS Approved Level standard:

- AUTO3, "Laboratory Automation: Communications with Automated Clinical Laboratory Systems, Instruments, Devices, and Information Systems, © NCCLS" [2]

This document contains other chapters to enable a vendor to successfully implement all of the elements essential to meet the standard.

The other related NCCLS clinical laboratory automation standards are:

- AUTO1: "Laboratory Automation: Specimen Container / Specimen Carrier", © NCCLS.

- AUTO2: "Laboratory Automation: Bar Codes for Specimen Container Identification", © NCCLS.

- AUTO4: "Laboratory Automation: Systems Operational Requirements, Characteristics, and Information Elements", © NCCLS.

- AUTO5: "Laboratory Automation: Electromechanical Interfaces", © NCCLS.

The reader is referred to any or all of these NCCLS standards, particularly AUTO3 and AUTO4, for detailed information on the communications requirements in clinical laboratory automation applications.

The control model proposed in this standard is an extension of the model described in LECIS:

- ASTM E1989-98. Laboratory Equipment Control Interface Specification (LECIS). American Society for Testing and Materials; 1998.

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[1]   NCCLS, 940 West Valley Road, Suite 1400, Wayne, PA 19087; `www.nccls.org`

[2]   (NCCLS. *Laboratory Automation: Communications With Automated Clinical Laboratory Systems, Instruments, Devices, and Information Systems*; Approved Standard - NCCLS Document AUTO3-A [ISBN 1-56238-361-2]. NCCLS, 940 West Valley Road, Suite 1400, Wayne, PA 19087-1898 USA, 2000). www.nccls.org

13.2.3   Glossary

The terminology found in ANSI X3.182-1990[3] shall be used where applicable. Other computer-related technical terms used in this document can be found in ASTM Terminology E 1013[4], IEEE 100[5], IEEE 610[6], and ANSI X3.172.[7]

13.2.3.0   Accession Identifier (also accession number):

A numeric (or alphanumeric) identifier assigned by the LIS for a test order. Depending on the particular LIS a patient's test orders for a single encounter may use one or more accession identifiers and each accession identifier may encompass one or more tests and one or more specimens and/or specimen containers. However, accession identifiers are unique within each patient encounter. The Accession identifier may not be equal to the Placer or Filler Order Numbers, because of uniqueness requirement.

13.2.3.1   Additive:

As used here, refers to a substance generally a chemical that has been added to a specimen collection tube or container to prevent degradation of one or more constituents of the specimen.

13.2.3.2   Aliquot:

In Quantitative Analysis, a sample comprising a known fraction or measured portion of the whole; **2) *In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents***, a portion of a specimen placed in a separate container to facilitate concurrent testing or to hold in reserve for future use.

> **Notes:** a) The portion of the specimen is typically removed from the original specimen after initial processing, such as centrifugation, to obtain serum or plasma samples, and is considered to be chemically identical to all other subdivisions of an original sample of serum, plasma, urine, CSF, etc.;
>
> b) It may be necessary to identify the aliquot as an individual specimen distinct from the original specimen in a collection container labeled with a unique identifier that may be linked to or associated with the primary collection container.

13.2.3.3   Analyzer:

An instrument and/or specimen processing and handling device that performs measurements on patient specimens of quantitative, clinically relevant analytes.

> **Note:**   A portion of a patient's specimen is consumed in the analytic process.

13.2.3.4   Automated:

A characterization applied when all analytical processes, including sample and reagent uptake, sample/reagent interaction, chemical/biological analysis, result calculation, and result readout are mechanized.

13.2.3.5   Automated instrument:

A laboratory instrument that may or may not be connected to a laboratory information system (LIS), hospital information system (HIS), and/or laboratory automation system (LAS), which performs measurements on a patient's sample;

> **Note:** These instruments may have specific hardware and/or software modifications that allow interfacing to a laboratory automation system.

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[3]   ANSI Standard X3.182-1990. Bar Code Print Quality Guidelines. New York, NY: American National Standards Institute; 1995

[4]   ASTM E1013-93. Standard Terminology Relating to Computerized Systems. West Conshohocken, PA: American Society for Testing and Materials; 1993

[5]   IEEE 100. Dictionary of Electrical and Electronics Terms. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.; 1996

[6]   IEEE 610. Glossary of Computer Languages. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.; 1993

[7]   ANSI X3.172-1996. Information Technology – American National Standards Dictionary of Information Technology (ANSDIT). New York, NY: American National Standards Institute; 1996

13.2.3.6 Automation system:

An automation system refers to a variety of possible systems that can include some of the following types: automated instruments, laboratory information systems (LIS), laboratory automation systems (LAS), hospital information systems (HIS), and front-end processing devices.

13.2.3.7 Bar code:

An array of parallel rectangular bars and spaces that creates a symbology representing a number or alphanumeric identifier.

13.2.3.8 Bar length:

The length of the bars in the bar code.

13.2.3.9 Barrier:

See Separator

13.2.3.10 Barrier Delta:

Identifies the distance from the Point of Reference to the separator material (barrier) within the container. This distance may be provided by the LAS to the instrument and/or specimen processing/handling device to facilitate the insertion of a sampling probe into the specimen without touching the separator. See the Point of reference definition or in NCCLS standard AUTO5 *Laboratory Automation: Electromechanical Interfaces*.

13.2.3.11 Bottom of cap:

The farthest point from the top of the container/test tube that the cap reaches.

Note: This point may be inside the tube.

13.2.3.12 Bottom of container//Bottom of tube:

The portion of the container/test tube farthest from the cap (see **Point of reference**).

13.2.3.13 Bottom of tube:

See Bottom of container.

13.2.3.14 Carrier:

See Specimen carrier.

13.2.3.15 Character:

1) The smallest abstract element of a writing system or script.

Note: A character refers to an abstract idea rather than to a specific shape.

2) A code element.

13.2.3.16 Clinical laboratory automation:

The integration of laboratory personnel and preanalytical, analytical, and postanalytical processes and information systems.

13.2.3.17 Clinical laboratory automation systems:

An assemblage of components that mechanically and electronically transfers, analyzes, and processes information and material related to clinical diagnostic testing of patient specimens, controls, calibrators, standards, and images.

13.2.3.18 Closed-container sampling//Closed-tube sampling:

The action of aspirating a sample from a container/tube with the closure in place, requiring the sample probe to pierce the closure of the container/sample container.

13.2.3.19 Closed-tube sampling:

See Closed-container sampling.

13.2.3.20 Container//Tube//Test Tube:

See Specimen container.

13.2.3.21 Container Identifier

A numeric (or alphanumeric) identifier provided by the LIS or LAS to uniquely identify each specimen container or aliquot container. The *NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION STANDARD* requires a unique identifier for each container introduced into the LAS or leaving the LAS.

13.2.3.22 Cycle time components:

The identified time segments of the process of moving from one sample to the next, including: presentation of specimen along transportation system to docking site at instrument; identification/recognition that the correct specimen is in place; either direct aspiration from specimen container by probe, or transfer of specimen container to instrument, aspiration, and return of specimen container to specimen carrier/transportation system; departure of completed specimen container; movement into position of next specimen container.

13.2.3.23 Decapping:

The removal of a closure from a specimen container.

13.2.3.24 Delimiter:

A symbol used to separate items in a list.

13.2.3.25 Directions of the specimen, Transportation system, Instrument or Specimen processing and handling device interfaces:

The orthogonal axes.

Note: a) These axes are demonstrated in Figure 13-1.

Z: Vertical Travel of Sample Probe or Sampling Device

X: Specimen Travel Direction in Horizontal Plane

Y: Direction in Horizontal Plane Perpendicular to Specimen Travel
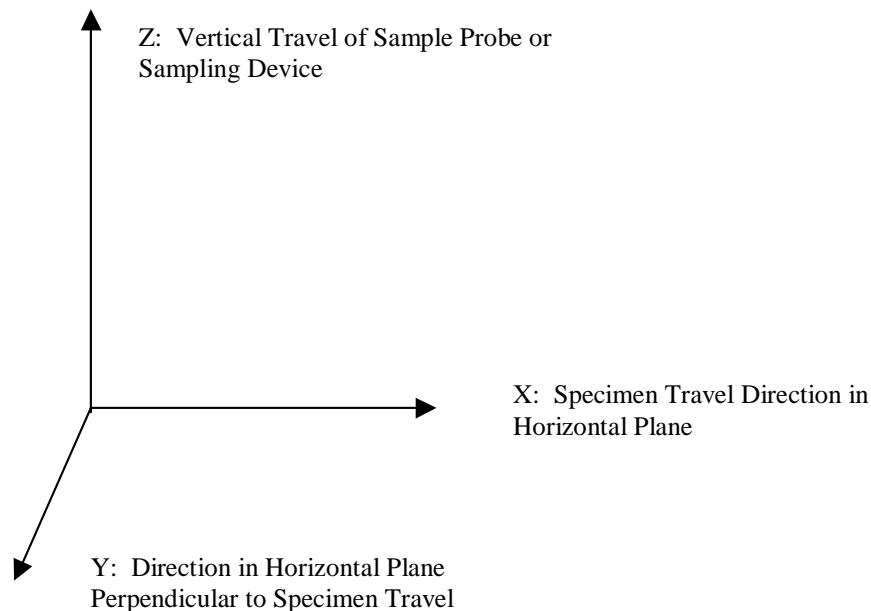
Figure 13-1. Physical Frame of Reference in a Three-Dimensional Space (X-Y-Z)

X–direction, *n* - The direction that a specimen travels along a transportation system.

Note: b) Specimens would move along the X dimension as, for example, in transportation from station to station in a laboratory (see Figure 13-2.)
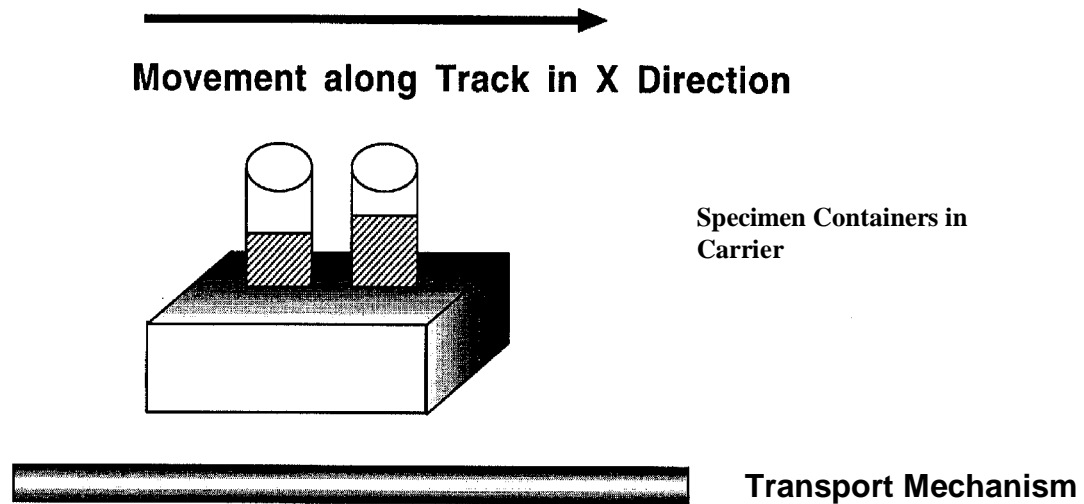
Figure 13-2. X Direction

Y–direction, *n* - The horizontal direction perpendicular to specimen travel along a transportation system;

Note: c) Specimens could move in the Y dimension away from a transport system to be placed onto an instrument for analysis (see Figure 13-3). The sample probe would move in the Y dimension as it moves out from the instrument or specimen processing and handling device to a position directly over the specimen container.
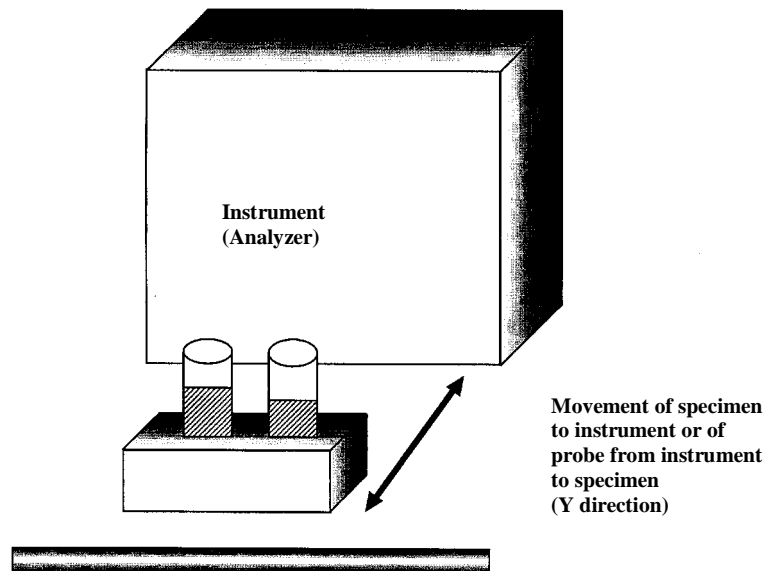
Figure 13-3. Y Direction

Z–direction, *n* - The vertical dimension;

Notes: d) Specimens could be lifted in the Z dimension off a transport system for transfer between locations;

e) The center line of a container should be controlled, so it is in the Z dimension; a specimen centering device would be referenced to the Z dimension; a sample probe would follow the Z dimension as it moves downward into a specimen container to aspirate serum, blood, etc. for analysis (see Figure 13-4);

f) Rotation about the Z dimension may be used to locate and read the bar-code label on a specimen container or to assess the quality of a specimen in terms of turbidity, hemolysis, icterus, etc.
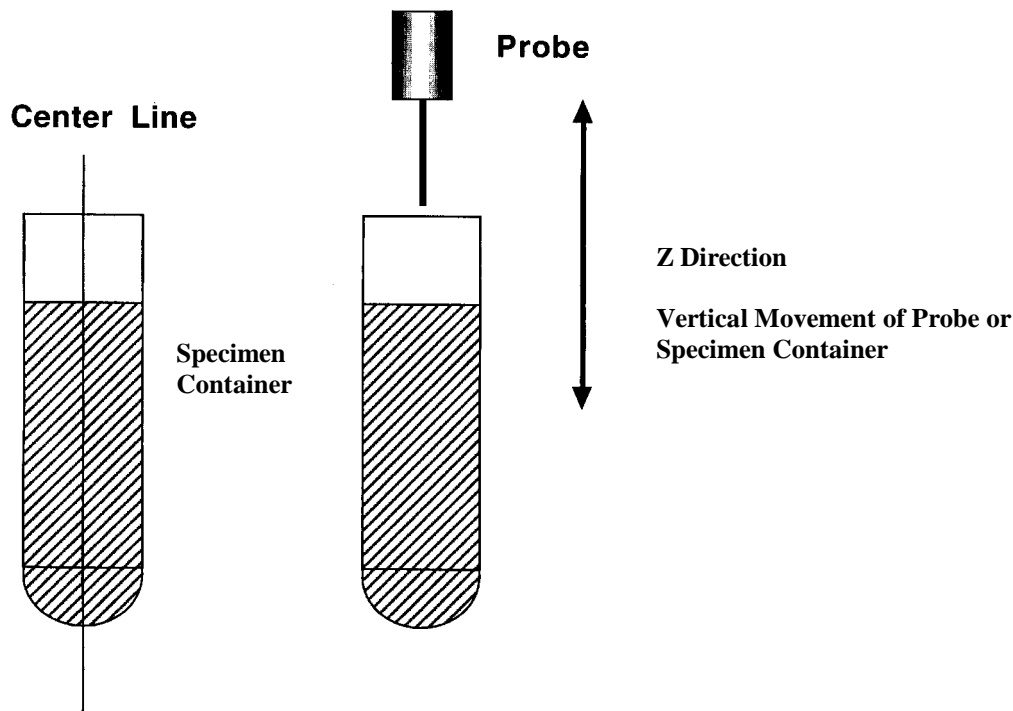
Figure 13-4. Z Direction

13.2.3.26 Directions of the sample, Transportation system, Instrument or Specimen processing handling device and interfaces

See Directions of the specimen, etc.

13.2.3.27 Direct track sampling:

The process in which aspiration of a sample occurs directly from the specimen container while it is on the transportation system, whereby the instrument probe extends to reach the specimen container on the transportation system;

Note: This process requires agreement between the transportation system and the instrument and specimen processing and handling devices regarding point of reference (POR) to guide movement of the probe to the specimen.

13.2.3.28 Docking site:

1) The location of the physical interface between two components of a system; **2)** *In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents,* the interface between the transportation system and the instrument and/or the specimen processing and handling devices where the specimen container arrives for sampling to occur.

13.2.3.29 Flection:

The point at which the vertical (straight) walls of the specimen container bend to form the base.

13.2.3.30 Interaction:

A standard exchange of messages between two instances of equipment that synchronizes the execution of one or more commands. State models are used describe the standard interactions.

13.2.3.31   Label:

1) The display of written, printed, or graphic matter upon the immediate container of any article; **2)** *In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents*, the paper and attached adhesive coating on which the bar code and other human readable information is printed.

13.2.3.32   Laboratory automation system (LAS):

A system of information and hardware technology that allows the operation of the clinical laboratory process without significant operator intervention;

Note: Typical functionality includes information system control of the instruments through direct LAS interfacing, including any technology that manipulates the specimen (i.e., centrifuge); transportation of the specimen; result evaluation, repeat testing, reflex testing; and quality assessment and results reporting.

13.2.3.33   Laboratory equipment control interface specification (LECIS):

A high-level protocol that defines message content for standard behaviors or interactions for remote control of analytical instruments and devices (ASTM E 1989-98).

13.2.3.34   Laboratory information system (LIS):

The information system that is responsible for management of data regarding patient specimen identification, tests requested, results reported, quality control testing, and other aspects of sample analysis.

Notes: a) The LIS interfaces directly with the LAS to communicate patient, visit, container, test orders, specimen status, and results about specific testing to be done;

b) Instrument or specimen processing and handling devices may be interfaced with the LIS or the LAS to direct specific testing and to retrieve results for reporting;

c) The LIS is frequently also interfaced to a clinical information system for use by physicians and other medical personnel.

13.2.3.35   LECIS:

Acronym for Laboratory Equipment Control Interface Specification, (ASTM E 1989-98).

13.2.3.36   Location:

A physical place within the laboratory, with a unique identifier (e.g., refrigerator shelf number, instrument buffer ID, track identifier).

13.2.3.37   Open-container sampling//Open-tube sampling:

The action of aspirating a sample from a specimen container from which the closure has previously been removed.

Note: The sample probe contacts the surface of the specimen without other physical barriers.

13.2.3.38   Open-tube sampling:

See Open-container sampling.

13.2.3.39   Pitch:

The center distance between two specimen containers in a carrier or between two sequential specimen container carriers.

13.2.3.40   Point of reference//Point in space, (POR):

The intersection of the xy plane and an infinite line in the 'z' direction.

Note: The POR is the reference from which all positioning and alignment of specimen containers are measured.

13.2.3.41   Process instruments:

In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents, components of an automated laboratory comprising the automated devices that perform a multitude of pre- and postanalytical tasks, and perform nonanalytical tasks on specimens, containers, carriers, and similar processes.

13.2.3.42   Quiet zone:

In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION documents, the white {blank} space on a bar code immediately preceding the first bar and immediately following the last bar.

13.2.3.43   Recap:

To replace the closure on a specimen container; either with the original closure or with a new replacement closure.

13.2.3.44   Robotic arm:

A device capable of moving a specimen container, specimen carrier, or another object in the X, Y, and Z directions.

Note: Unless this device is an integral part of the LAS system, it is considered an instrument for the purpose of this proposed standard.

13.2.3.45   Sample///(Specimen):

1) A small part of anything ... intended to show the quality, style, or nature of the whole; **2)** *In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents*, a portion or aliquot withdrawn from a container for the actual test;

Notes: In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents,

a) samples are typically not placed in containers that will have to be uniquely identified, but may go directly into the instrument or specimen processing and handling device test stream or may be placed in sample cups unique to the instrument or specimen processing and handling device;

b) the ID of the specimen is typically assured by computer linkage of the pipetting or aspiration step to the ID of the container from which it was obtained, or by a separate numbering system for the sample cups that is internal to the analytical instrument or specimen processing and handling device.

13.2.3.46   Sample carrier:

See Specimen carrier.

13.2.3.47   Sample container:

See Specimen collection container.

13.2.3.48   Sample-positioning system:

See Specimen-positioning system.

13.2.3.49   Sample probe:

See Specimen probe.

13.2.3.50   Separator:

A material such as a gel which is contained in blood collection tubes to facilitate separation of blood cells from blood serum by creating a physical "barrier" between them.

13.2.3.51   Serum/Plasma Separator:

See Separator.

13.2.3.52   Service envelope:

In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents, the space around the transportation system and instruments that may be accessed periodically for maintenance or repair of equipment.

Note: A transportation system and analytic instruments should not have mutually impinging service envelopes.

13.2.3.53   Specimen:

The discrete portion of a body fluid or tissue taken for examination, study, or analysis of one or more quantities or characteristics, to determine the character of the whole.

Note: The substance may still be referred to as a specimen if it has been processed from the obtained specimen; thus, examples of specimens include whole blood and serum or plasma prepared from whole blood; saliva;

cerebrospinal fluid; feces; urine; fingernail clippings; hair clippings; tissue samples, even if embedded in a paraffin block; etc.

13.2.3.54   Specimen carrier//Sample carrier//Carrier:

A device that holds the specimen container.

Note: The specimen carrier interfaces mechanically with the transportation system to move the specimen from location to location, and may carry one specimen container or many specimen containers. (See Figure 13-5.)

13.2.3.55   Specimen collection container//Specimen container//Sample container//Container:

The tube that holds a patient specimen.

Note: The container typically consists of a glass or plastic closed-end tube with a removable closure on the opposite end. (See Figure 13-5.)
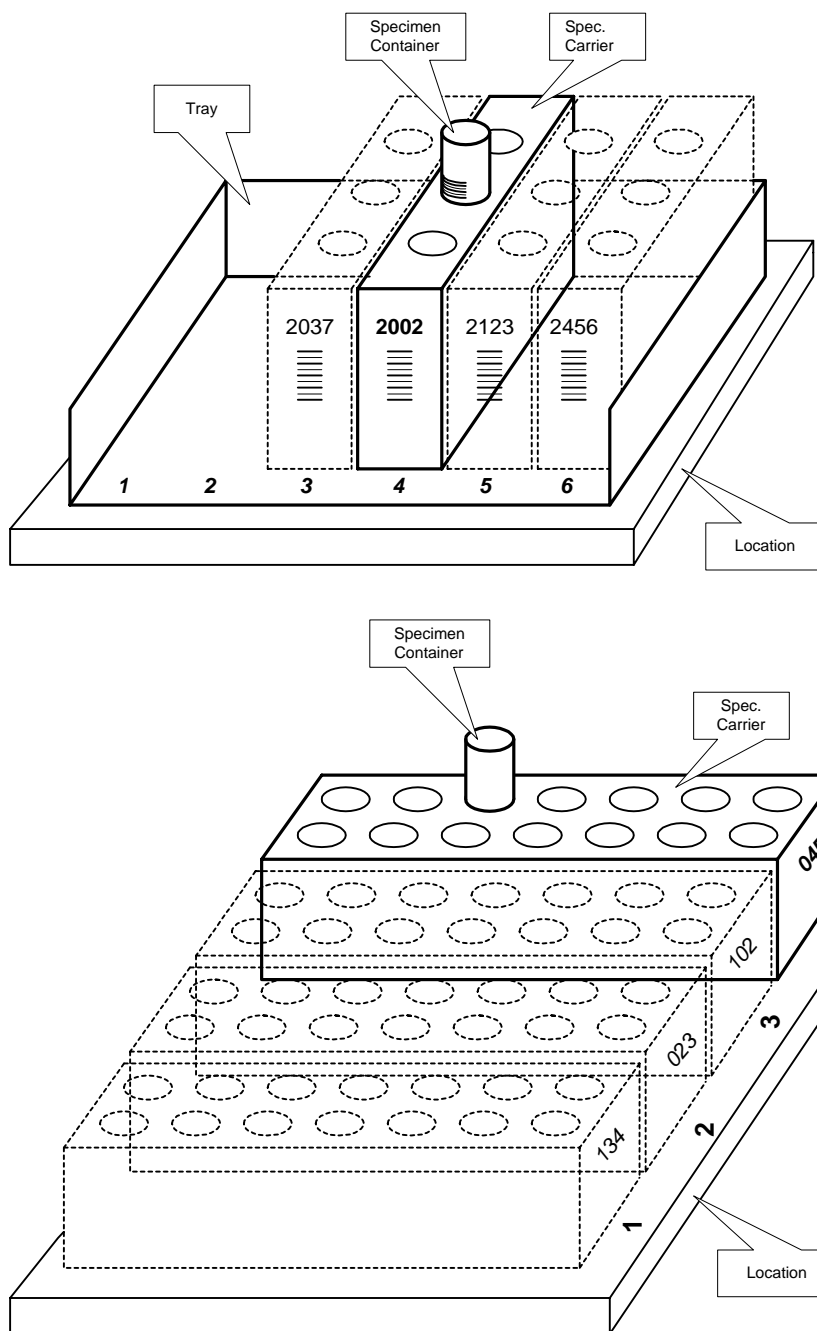
Figure 13-5: Relationship among Specimen Container, Specimen Carrier, Tray, and Locations.

13.2.3.56   Specimen-positioning system//Sample-positioning system (SPS):

A device to position a specimen container within acceptable tolerances of a POR.

13.2.3.57   Specimen probe//Sample probe:

A part of an instrument or specimen processing and handling device that aspirates fluid from a specimen and delivers it to the instrument for analysis.

Note: The sample probe can also be called sample proboscis, nozzle, needle, or sampling mechanism.

13.2.3.58 Stay clear zone:

In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents, the area between the instrument or specimen processing and handling device and the automation hardware that must remain clear of any physical device, ensuring that there is adequate access by the user or service person to either system.

13.2.3.59 Symbol:

In NCCLS LAB AUTOMATION Standard documents, a combination of bar-code characters, including start/stop characters, quiet zones, data elements, and check characters which form a complete scanning entity.

13.2.3.60 Test mnemonics:

Short, understandable contractions for test names.

13.2.3.61 Top of container//Top of tube:

The open end of the container/test tube, closest to the cap.

13.2.3.62 Top of tube:

See Top of container.

13.2.3.63 Tray:

A holder for one or more carriers (optional). (See Figure 13-5.)

13.2.3.64 X–direction:

See Directions.

13.2.3.65 Y–direction:

See Directions.

13.2.3.66 Z–direction:

See Directions.

13.3   TRIGGER EVENTS AND MESSAGE DEFINITIONS

Each trigger event is listed below, along with the application form of the message exchange. The notation used to describe the sequence, optionality and repetition of segments is described in Chapter 2.

The notation used to describe the sequence, the optionality, and the repetition of segments is described in Chapter 2 under "Format for Defining Abstract Message."

All the ACK messages are varieties of the 'general acknowledgement' message defined in Chapter 2, section 2.13.1. The only difference is the event code.

The "Equipment Notification" message (EAN/ACK event U09) is used to send information about the occurrence of an event. An event does not necessarily cause a state transition. The "Status Update" message (EAU/ACK event U01) is used to transfer information about the current status. This status can be the result of one or more events that led to the state transition. Example: The event of a "warning level of a consumable being reached" (e.g., 10% left) does not cause a state transition, because the system can remain "In operation". This results in an EAN/ACK message. An event "container transport jammed" causes the state transition to "Emergency stop". This results in both EAN/ACK and EAU/ACK messages.

For the transfer of laboratory automation orders and results refer to 4.4.6 OML - laboratory order message (event O21) instead of ORM and 7.3.2 OUL – unsolicited laboratory observation message (event O20) instead of ORU.

13.3.1   ESU/ACK - Automated Equipment Status Update (Event U01)

This message is used to send information about the status of a device or equipment from one application to another (e.g., automated device to a Laboratory Automation System). The status update can be sent unsolicited or as a response to the trigger "Automated Equipment Status Request."

ESU^U01^ESU_U01	Equipment Status Message	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{ [ISD] }	Interaction Status Detail		13
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U01^ACK	General Acknowledgement	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error[8]		2

13.3.2 ESR/ACK - Automated Equipment Status Request (Event U02)

This message is used to request information about a device's or piece of equipment's status from one application to another (e.g., Laboratory Automation System to automated equipment). The equipment identified in the EQU segment should respond with its status using the "Automated Equipment Status Update."

ESR^U02^ESR_U02	Equipment Status Message	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U02^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.3 SSU/ACK - Specimen Status Update (Event U03)

This message is used to send information concerning the location and status of specimens from one application to another (e.g., automated equipment to a Laboratory Automation System). The OBX segments attached to the SAC should be used for transfer of information not included in the SAC segment.

SSU^U03^SSU_U03	Specimen Status Message	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER begin		
SAC	Specimen Container Detail		13
{ [OBX] }	Additional specimen characteristics		7
[{	--- SPECIMEN begin		
SPM	Specimen		7

---

[8] This error segment indicates the fields that caused a transaction to be rejected.

SSU^U03^SSU_U03	**Specimen Status Message**	**Status**	**Chapter**
{ [OBX] }	Specimen related observation		7
}]	--- SPECIMEN end		
}	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER end		
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U03^ACK	**General Acknowledgment**	**Status**	**Chapter**
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.4   SSR/ACK - Specimen Status Request (Event U04)

This message is used to request information concerning the location and status of specimens from one application to another (e.g., Laboratory Automation System to automated equipment). The request can be addressed for a specific container, a specific carrier, a specific tray or a specific location, depending on the arguments set in the SAC segment. The equipment specified in the EQU segment should respond with the "Specimen Status Update."

SSR^U04^SSR_U04	**Specimen Status Message**	**Status**	**Chapter**
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER begin		
SAC	Specimen Container Detail		13
{ [SPM] }	Specimen		7
}	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER end		
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U04^ACK	**General Acknowledgment**	**Status**	**Chapter**
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.5   INU/ACK – Automated Equipment Inventory Update (Event U05)

This message is used to send information about inventory items from one application to another (e.g., automated Equipment to a Laboratory Automation System).

INU^U05^INU_U05	**Inventory Update Message**	**Status**	**Chapter**
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{ INV }	Inventory Detail		13
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U05^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.6   INR/ACK – Automated Equipment Inventory Request (Event U06)

This message is used to request information about inventory items from one application to another (e.g., Laboratory Automation System to automated equipment). The equipment specified in the EQU segment should respond with the information about inventory item requested in the INV segment (or all items).

INR^U06^INR_U06	Inventory Request Message	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{ INV }	Inventory Detail		13
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U06^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.7   EAC/ACK – Automated Equipment Command (Event U07)

This message is used to send equipment commands from one application to another (e.g., a Laboratory Automation System to automated Equipment).

EAC^U07^EAC_U07	Equipment Command Message	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{	--- COMMAND begin		
ECD	Equipment Command Detail		13
[TQ1]	Timing/quantity		?
[	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER begin		
SAC	Specimen Container Detail		13
{ [SPM] }	Specimen		7
]	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER end		
[CNS]	Clear Notification		13
}	--- COMMAND end		
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U07^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2

ACK^U07^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.8   EAR/ACK – Automated Equipment Response (Event U08)

This message is used to send equipment responses to previously issued commands from one application to another (e.g., automated Equipment to a Laboratory Automation System).

EAR^U08^EAR_U08	Equipment Command Message	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{	--- COMMAND_RESPONSE begin		
ECD	Equipment Command Detail		13
[	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER begin		
SAC	Specimen Container Detail		13
{ [SPM] }	Specimen		7
]	--- SPECIMEN_CONTAINER end		
ECR	Equipment Command Response		13
}	--- COMMAND_RESPONSE end		
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U08^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.9   EAN/ACK - Automated Equipment Notification (Event U09)

This message is used to send equipment notifications from one application to another (e.g., alerts sent by automated equipment to a Laboratory Automation System).

EAN^U09^EAN_U09	Equipment Status Message	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{	--- NOTIFICATION begin		
NDS	Notification Detail		13
[NTE]	Notification Note		2
}	--- NOTIFICATION end		
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U09^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.10 TCU/ACK - Automated Equipment Test Code Settings Update (Event U10)

This message is used to send information concerning test codes and parameters from one application to another (e.g., automated equipment to a Laboratory Automation System). This message transfers the current snapshot of the test parameters of the sending system. The sent parameter sets are supposed to replace the parameter sets existing at the receiver of this message before the trigger (there is no selective "Add" or "Delete").

TCU^U10^TCU_U10	Test Code Settings Update	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{	--- TEST_CONFIGURATION begin		
[SPM]	Specimen		7
{ TCC }	Test Code Configuration		13
}	--- TEST_CONFIGURATION end		
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U10^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.11 TCR/ACK - Automated Equipment Test Code Settings Request (Event U11)

This message is used to request information concerning test codes from one application to another (e.g., Laboratory Automation System to automated equipment).

TCR^U11^TCU_U10	Test Code Settings Request	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
EQU	Equipment Detail		13
{	--- TEST_CONFIGURATION begin		
[SPM]	Specimen		7
{ TCC }	Test Code Configuration		13
}	--- TEST_CONFIGURATION end		
[ROL]	Role Detail		12

ACK^U11^ACK	General Acknowledgment	Status	Chapter
MSH	Message Header		2
[{SFT}]	Software Segment		2
[UAC]	User Authentication Credential		2
MSA	Message Acknowledgment		2
[{ ERR }]	Error		2

13.3.12 LSU/ACK - Automated Equipment Log/Service Update (Event U12)

This message is used to send log and/or service events from one application to another (e.g., automated equipment to Laboratory Automation System).

```
LSU^U12^LSU_U12            Equipment Log/Service Message      Status    Chapter
MSH                        Message Header                                   2
[{SFT}]                    Software Segment                                 2
[UAC]                      User Authentication Credential                   2
EQU                        Equipment Detail                                13
{ EQP }                    Equipment Log/Service                           13
[ ROL ]                    Role Detail                                     12
```

```
ACK^U12^ACK                General Acknowledgment             Status    Chapter
MSH                        Message Header                                   2
[{SFT}]                    Software Segment                                 2
[UAC]                      User Authentication Credential                   2
MSA                        Message Acknowledgment                           2
[{ ERR }]                  Error                                            2
```

13.3.13   LSR/ACK - Automated Equipment Log/Service Request (Event U13)

This message is used to request log and/or service events from one application to another (e.g., Laboratory Automation System to automated equipment).

```
LSR^U13^LSU_U12            Equipment Log/Service Message      Status    Chapter
MSH                        Message Header                                   2
[{SFT}]                    Software Segment                                 2
[UAC]                      User Authentication Credential                   2
EQU                        Equipment Detail                                13
{ EQP }                    Equipment Log/Service                           13
[ ROL ]                    Role Detail                                     12
```

```
ACK^U13^ACK                General Acknowledgment             Status    Chapter
MSH                        Message Header                                   2
[{SFT}]                    Software Segment                                 2
[UAC]                      User Authentication Credential                   2
MSA                        Message Acknowledgment                           2
[{ ERR }]                  Error                                            2
```

13.4   MESSAGE SEGMENTS

The following section identifies the message segments proposed for incorporation in this standard, and will be submitted for incorporation or reference in other HL7 and NCCLS standard documents. Valid entries are presented in an Attribute Table for each segment.

13.4.1   EQU - Equipment Detail Segment

The equipment detail segment contains the data necessary to identify and maintain the equipment that is being used throughout the Laboratory Automation System.

HL7 Attribute Table – EQU – Equipment Detail

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	427	EI	R			01479	Equipment Instance Identifier
2	24	DTM	R			01322	Event Date/Time
3	705	CWE	C		0365	01323	Equipment State
4	705	CWE	O		0366	01324	Local/Remote Control State

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
5	705	CWE	O		0367	01325	Alert Level

13.4.1.0   EQU Field Definitions

13.4.1.1   EQU-1   Equipment Instance Identifier   (EI)   01479

Components: <Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>

Definition: This field identifies the equipment. This is the identifier from an institution's master list of equipment. The <namespace ID> identifies the institution.

13.4.1.2   EQU-2   Event Date/Time   (DTM)   01322

Definition: This field is the date/time that the event (e.g., state transition, issuing of command, finishing of command execution) occurred.

13.4.1.3   EQU-3   Equipment State   (CWE)   01323

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the status that the equipment was in at the time that the transaction was initiated. Refer to *HL7 Table 0365 – Equipment state* for valid values. The Equipment State is required in the ESU message and is optional otherwise.

HL7 Table 0365 - Equipment state

Value	Description	Comment
PU	Powered Up	
IN	Initializing	
ID	Idle	
CO	Configuring	
OP	Normal Operation	
CL	Clearing	
PA	Pausing	
PD	Paused	
ES	E-stopped	
	(null) No state change	

This table is based on LECIS (see sub-chapter "Introduction and Overview").

13.4.1.4   EQU-4   Local/Remote Control State   (CWE)   01324

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the current state of control associated with the equipment. An equipment can either work autonomously ('Local' control state) or it can be controlled by another system, e.g., LAS computer ('Remote' control state). Refer to *HL7 Table 0366 – Local/remote control state* for valid values.

HL7 Table 0366 - Local/remote control state

Value	Description	Comment
L	Local	
R	Remote	
	(null) No state change	

This table is based on LECIS (see sub-chapter "Introduction and Overview").

13.4.1.5   EQU-5   Alert Level   (CWE)   01325

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the highest level of the alert state (e.g., highest alert severity) that is associated with the indicated equipment (e.g., processing event, inventory event, QC event). Refer to *HL7 Table 0367 – Alert level* for valid values.

HL7 Table 0367 - Alert level

Value	Description	Comment
N	Normal	No Corrective Action Needed
W	Warning	Corrective Action Anticipated
S	Serious	Corrective Action Required
C	Critical	Shut Down, Fix Problem and Re-init
	(null) No level change	

13.4.2   ISD – Interaction Status Detail Segment

The interaction detail segment contains information about the status of specific interaction (e.g., processing — see section Glossary) on the specific equipment.

HL7 Attribute Table – ISD – Interaction Status Detail

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	20	NM	R			01326	Reference Interaction Number
2	705	CWE	O		0368	01327	Interaction Type Identifier
3	705	CWE	R		0387	01328	Interaction Active State

13.4.2.0   ISD Field Definitions

13.4.2.1   ISD-1   Reference Interaction Number   (NM)   01326

Definition: This number uniquely identifies the interaction. If the interaction is performed as the result of a previous command, then the Reference Command Number should be used. (See *13.4.5.1*, "*ECD-1 Reference Command Number   (NM)   01390.*")

13.4.2.2   ISD-2   Interaction Type Identifier   (CWE)   01327

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field specifies the type of interaction. If the interaction is performed as the result of a previous command, then the interaction type as specified in *User-defined Table 0368 - Remote control command* should be used.

13.4.2.3   ISD-3   Interaction Active State   (CWE)   01328

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field transfers the state of the interaction. If the interaction is performed as the result of a previous command, then the interaction state should be one of the Command Responses (Refer to *User-defined Table 0387 – Command response*). If the interaction is not performed as a result of a command (e.g., periodically time triggered automatic maintenance) then this state is interaction specific, and should refer to either the LECIS state transitions for interactions or a user or equipment specific table.

13.4.3   SAC– Specimen Container Detail Segment

The container detail segment is the data necessary to maintain the containers that are being used throughout the Laboratory Automation System.

The specimens in many laboratories are transported and processed in containers (e.g., sample tubes). When SPM and SAC are used in the same message, then the conceptually duplicate attributes will be valued only in the SPM. This applies to SAC-6 - Specimen Source, SAC-27 - Additives, and SAC-43 - Special Handling Considerations.

HL7 Attribute Table – SAC – Specimen Container detail

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	427	EI	O			01329	External Accession Identifier
2	427	EI	O			01330	Accession Identifier
3	427	EI	C			01331	Container Identifier
4	427	EI	C			01332	Primary (Parent) Container Identifier
5	427	EI	O			01333	Equipment Container Identifier
6	300	SPS	C			00249	Specimen Source
7	24	DTM	O			01334	Registration Date/Time
8	705	CWE	O		0370	01335	Container Status
9	705	CWE	O		0378	01336	Carrier Type
10	705	EI	O			01337	Carrier Identifier
11	80	NA	O			01338	Position in Carrier
12	705	CWE	O		0379	01339	Tray Type – SAC
13	427	EI	O			01340	Tray Identifier
14	80	NA	O			01341	Position in Tray
15	705	CWE	O	Y	9999	01342	Location
16	20	NM	O			01343	Container Height
17	20	NM	O			01344	Container Diameter
18	20	NM	O			01345	Barrier Delta
19	20	NM	O			01346	Bottom Delta
20	705	CWE	O		9999	01347	Container Height/Diameter/Delta Units
21	20	NM	O			00644	Container Volume
22	20	NM	O			01349	Available Specimen Volume
23	20	NM	O			01350	Initial Specimen Volume
24	705	CWE	O		9999	01351	Volume Units
25	705	CWE	O		0380	01352	Separator Type
26	705	CWE	O		0381	01353	Cap Type
27	705	CWE	O	Y	0371	00647	Additive
28	705	CWE	O		0372	01355	Specimen Component
29	36	SN	O			01356	Dilution Factor
30	705	CWE	O		0373	01357	Treatment
31	36	SN	O			01358	Temperature
32	20	NM	O			01359	Hemolysis Index
33	705	CWE	O		9999	01360	Hemolysis Index Units
34	20	NM	O			01361	Lipemia Index
35	705	CWE	O		9999	01362	Lipemia Index Units
36	20	NM	O			01363	Icterus Index
37	705	CWE	O		9999	01364	Icterus Index Units
38	20	NM	O			01365	Fibrin Index
39	705	CWE	O		9999	01366	Fibrin Index Units
40	705	CWE	O	Y	0374	01367	System Induced Contaminants

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
41	705	CWE	O	Y	0382	01368	Drug Interference
42	705	CWE	O		0375	01369	Artificial Blood
43	705	CWE	O	Y	0376	01370	Special Handling Code
44	705	CWE	O	Y	0377	01371	Other Environmental Factors

13.4.3.0   SAC Field Definitions

13.4.3.1   SAC-1   External Accession Identifier   (EI)   01329

Components: <Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>

Definition: This field identifies the laboratory accession (see section *Glossary*). This identifier is assigned by the external laboratory information system.

Example: If laboratory A sends a specimen to laboratory B, then within laboratory B this field contains accession identifier of lab A.

13.4.3.2   SAC-2   Accession Identifier   (EI)   01330

Components: <Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>

Definition: This field identifies the laboratory accession (see section *13.2.3*, "*Glossary*"). This identifier is assigned by the information system of the laboratory performing the tests.

An accession identifier can refer to more than one container. A Container Identifier (see below) is a Unique Identifier for that container.

13.4.3.3   SAC-3   Container Identifier   (EI)   01331

Components: <Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>

Definition: This field identifies the container. This field is the container's unique identifier assigned by the corresponding equipment. A container may contain the primary (original) specimen or an aliquot (secondary sample) of that specimen. For primary sample this field contains Primary Container ID; for bar-coded aliquot samples this field contains Aliquot Container ID; for non-bar-coded aliquot samples (e.g., microtiter plate) this field is empty.[9]

The NCCLS standard requires a unique identifier for each container introduced into the Laboratory Automation System. The combination of the fields: Primary Container ID, Container ID, Carrier ID / Position, Tray ID / Position must identify the container uniquely within the LAS. The naturally best solution is unique machine-readable ID attached to the container (which of course is sufficient to ensure the uniqueness of the fields' combination). A bar code that symbolizes this ID should meet the proposed standard NCCLS AUTO2 (*Laboratory Automation: Bar Codes for Specimen Container Identification).*

13.4.3.4   SAC-4   Primary (Parent) Container Identifier   (EI)   01332

Components: <Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>

Definition: If this field is filled in, it identifies the primary container from which this specimen came. For primary samples this field is empty; for aliquot samples this field should contain the identifier of primary container.

---

[9] Example of use of container ID fields for various sample types:

SAC field	Primary container	Aliquot container with Bar-code	Aliquot container without Bar-code, e.g. microtiter well
"Container ID" (SAC-3)	Primary Container ID	Aliquot Container ID	—
"Primary (parent) Container ID" (SAC-4)	—	Primary Container ID	Primary Container ID

13.4.3.5   SAC-5   Equipment Container Identifier   (EI)   01333

Components: `<Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>`

Definition: This field identifies the container in a particular device (e.g., one container in a carousel or rack of containers within an analyzer, analyzer specific bar code mapping, etc.).

13.4.3.6   SAC-6   Specimen Source   (SPS)   00249

Components: `<Specimen Source Name or Code (CWE)> ^ <Additives (CWE)> ^ <Specimen Collection Method (TX)> ^ <Body Site (CWE)> ^ <Site Modifier (CWE)> ^ <Collection Method Modifier Code (CWE)> ^ <Specimen Role (CWE)>`

Subcomponents for Specimen Source Name or Code (CWE): `<Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>`

Subcomponents for Additives (CWE): `<Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>`

Subcomponents for Body Site (CWE): `<Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>`

Subcomponents for Site Modifier (CWE): `<Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>`

Subcomponents for Collection Method Modifier Code (CWE): `<Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>`

Subcomponents for Specimen Role (CWE): `<Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field is the site where the specimen should be obtained or where the service should be performed.

This field is deprecated and retained for backward compatibility. This field is conditional, meaning that, in case where the SPM segment is used in a message together with the SAC, this field should be ignored. The reader is referred to the SPM Specimen segment in Chapter 7.

13.4.3.7   SAC-7   Registration Date/Time   (DTM)   01334

Definition: This field is the date/time that the container was last registered with the "automated system," e.g., reading of a container bar code by a device.

13.4.3.8   SAC-8   Container Status   (CWE)   01335

Components: `<Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field identifies the status of the unique container in which the specimen resides at the time that the transaction was initiated. Refer to *HL7 Table 0370 - Container status* for valid values. The equipment specific container status should be sent as *<alternate identifier>* as needed.

HL7 Table 0370 - Container status

Value	Description	Comment
I	Identified	
P	In Position	
O	In Process	
R	Process Completed	
L	Left Equipment	
M	Missing	
X	Container Unavailable	
U	Unknown	

The container states are relevant for the exchange of information among devices (within the LAS). Not all of them are relevant for information transfer between the LAS and the LIS.

In the explanations below the system means the LAS or any equipment interfaced to it or to another piece of equipment.

Identified status is used by one system to inform another that it has received a container. In the exchange between the LAS and LIS the *Identified* status can be used for reporting of the "In Lab" (Specimen Received) status. In some cases this may not be equal to the first event of sample recognition.

In Position status is used by one system to inform another that the container is in position for specimen transfer (e.g., container removal from track, pipetting, etc.).

In Process status is used by one system to inform another that the specific container is being processed by the equipment. It is useful as a response to a query about Container Status, when the specific step of the process is not relevant.

Process Completed status is used by one system to inform another that the processing has been completed, but the container has not been released from that system.

Left Equipment status is used by one system to inform another that the container has been released from that system.

Missing status is used by one system to inform another that the container did not arrive at its next expected location.

Cancelled status is used by one system to inform another that the container is no longer available within the scope of the system (e.g., tube broken or discarded).

Unknown status is used by one system to inform another that the container has not been identified.

13.4.3.9   SAC-9   Carrier Type   (CWE)   01336

```
Components:   <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field identifies the type of the carrier (see section *13.2.3*, "*Glossary*"). Refer to *User-defined Table 0378 – Carrier type* for suggested values.   Because the geometry can be different, the carrier type should, if possible, express the number of positions in the carrier.

The definition assumes hierarchical nesting using the following phrases: container is located in a carrier; carrier is located in a tray.

User-defined Table 0378 – Carrier type

Value	Description	Comment
	No suggested values defined	

Examples of values: R01 (one position carrier), R05 (five position carrier)

13.4.3.10   SAC-10   Carrier Identifier   (EI)   01337

```
Components:   <Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>
```

Definition: This field identifies the carrier. It is the ID (e.g., number or bar code) of the carrier where the container (e.g., tube) is located.

Example: A carrier could be a rack with single or multiple specimen containers. A carrier is usually used for automated specimen transport. Multiple carriers can be stacked in a tray, which is then used for manual or automatic transport.

13.4.3.11   SAC-11   Position in Carrier   (NA)   01338

```
Components:   <Value1 (NM)> ^ <Value2 (NM)> ^ <Value3 (NM)> ^ <Value4 (NM)> ^ < ()>
```

Definition: This field identifies the position of the container in the carrier (e.g., 1...3...). The sub-components allow, if necessary, to transfer multiple axis information, e.g., 2-dimensional carrier (X^Y).

13.4.3.12   SAC-12   Tray Type - SAC   (CWE)   01339

```
Components:   <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field identifies the type of the tray (see section *13.2.3*, "*Glossary*"). Refer to *User-defined Table 0379 – Tray type* for suggested values. Because the geometry can be different, the tray type should if possible express the number of positions in the tray.

The definition assumes hierarchical nesting using the following phrases: container is located in a carrier, carrier is located in a tray.

User-defined Table 0379 – Tray type

Value	Description	Comment
	No suggested values defined	

13.4.3.13 SAC-13 Tray Identifier (EI) 01340

Components: `<Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>`

Definition: This field identifies the tray identifier (e.g., a number of a tray or a bar code on the tray) where the container carrier is located.

13.4.3.14 SAC-14 Position in Tray (NA) 01341

Components: `<Value1 (NM)> ^ <Value2 (NM)> ^ <Value3 (NM)> ^ <Value4 (NM)> ^ < ()>`

Definition: This field identifies the position of the carrier in the tray. The sub-components allow, if necessary, to transfer multiple axis information, e.g., 2-dimensional tray (X^Y).

13.4.3.15 SAC-15 Location (CWE) 01342

Components: `<Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^`
`<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^`
`<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field is the physical location that the specimen was at the time that the transaction was initiated. The location description can vary with the LAS. For example, it can be an X,Y,Z coordinate in a storage system; a refrigerator number and drawer number where the container-carrier-tray is located; or it can be the name of the institution and the laboratory which owns the container currently. The repeating of this field allows for hierarchical representation of location (lowest level first), e.g., shelf number, refrigerator storage id, lab name, institution name, etc.

13.4.3.16 SAC-16 Container Height (NM) 01343

Definition: This field identifies the height of the container in units specified below.

13.4.3.17 SAC-17 Container Diameter (NM) 01344

Definition: This field identifies the outside diameter of the container in units specified below.

13.4.3.18 SAC-18 Barrier Delta (NM) 01345

Definition: This field identifies the distance from the Point of Reference to the separator material (barrier) within the container in units specified below. This distance may be provided by the LAS to the instrument and/or specimen processing/handling device to facilitate the insertion of a sampling probe into the specimen without touching the separator. Refer to Point Of Reference definition in section *Glossary* or in NCCLS standard AUTO5 *Laboratory Automation: Electromechanical Interfaces*.

13.4.3.19 SAC-19 Bottom Delta (NM) 01346

Definition: This field identifies the distance from the Point of Reference to the outside bottom of the container in units specified below. Refer to Point Of Reference definition in section *13.2.3*, "*Glossary*," or in NCCLS standard AUTO5 *Laboratory Automation: Electromechanical Interfaces*.

13.4.3.20 SAC-20 Container Height/Diameter/Delta Units (CWE) 01347

Components: `<Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^`
`<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^`
`<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field is the unit identifier that is being used to describe the diameter, height and deltas of the container. If the units are ISO+ units, they should be recorded as single case abbreviations. If the units are ANS+ or L (local), the units and the source code table must be recorded, except that in this case,

component delimiters should be replaced by subcomponent delimiters. The default unit is millimeters (mm), which should be assumed if no units are reported.

13.4.3.21 SAC-21 Container Volume (NM) 00644

Definition: This field indicates the capacity of the container in the units specified below.

13.4.3.22 SAC-22 Available Specimen Volume (NM) 01349

Definition: This field identifies the current specimen volume available for use in this container in the units specified below.

13.4.3.23 SAC-23 Initial Specimen Volume (NM) 01350

Definition: This field identifies the volume of the specimen initially filled in this container in the units specified below.

13.4.3.24 SAC-24 Volume Units (CWE) 01351

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the unit identifier that is being used to describe the volume of the container. If the units are ISO+ units, they should be recorded as single case abbreviations. The default unit is milliliters (ml), which should be assumed if no units are reported.

13.4.3.25 SAC-25 Separator Type (CWE) 01352

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the type of the separator that is being used (e.g., gel separator in the container – not to be confused with the communication separators). Refer to *User-defined Table 0380 – Separator type* for suggested values. It is recommended that the first table entry be "NO" meaning "No Separator."

User-defined Table 0380 – Separator type

Value	Description	Comment
	No suggested values defined	

Examples of values: NO (no separator), GEL (gel separator), M01 (manufacturer specific).

13.4.3.26 SAC-26 Cap Type (CWE) 01353

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field indicates the type of cap that is to be used with this container for decapping, piercing or other mechanisms. Refer to *User-defined Table 0381 – Cap type* for suggested values.

User-defined Table 0381 – Cap type

Value	Description	Comment
	No suggested values defined	

Examples of values: SCR (screw cap), PSH (push cap), FOIL (foil).

13.4.3.27 SAC-27 Additive (CWE) 00647

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies any additives introduced to the specimen before or at the time of collection. These additives may be introduced in order to preserve, maintain or enhance the particular nature or component of the specimen. It is a repetitive field. Refer to *HL7 Table 0371 – Additive* for valid values. The value set can be extended with user specific values.

When the SPM (Specimen) segment is sent together with the SAC segment the additive attribute value from the SPM segment can be included in this field of the SAC.

13.4.3.28   SAC-28   Specimen Component   (CWE)   01355

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the specimen component, e.g., supernatant, sediment, etc. Refer to *User-defined Table 0372 – Specimen component* for valid values. This table's values are taken from *NCCLS AUTO4*. The value set can be extended with user specific values.

User-defined Table 0372 - Specimen component

Value	Description	Comment
SUP	Supernatant	
SED	Sediment	
BLD	Whole blood, homogeneous	
BSEP	Whole blood, separated	
PRP	Platelet rich plasma	
PPP	Platelet poor plasma	
SER	Serum, NOS (not otherwise specified)	
PLAS	Plasma, NOS (not otherwise specified)	

13.4.3.29   SAC-29   Dilution Factor   (SN)   01356

Components: <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>

Definition: This field identifies the factor of dilution already performed on the specimen. The equipment entity that changes the dilution is responsible for sending this information to other equipment. If the endogenous content of the test (analyte) in the diluent is required for the calculation of the test (analyte) concentration, then the test (analyte) specific values should be exchanged between the systems via Master Files or other means.

Examples of use:

|^1^:^5| - means dilution 1 to 5, i.e., 1 part sample, 4 parts diluent

|^1^+| - sample is diluted, but the factor is unknown

|^1^:^1| - not diluted sample

|| - dilution not changed

13.4.3.30   SAC-30   Treatment   (CWE)   01357

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the specimen treatment performed during lab processing. Refer to *User-defined Table 0373 – Treatment* for valid values. This table's values are taken from *NCCLS AUTO4*. The value set can be extended with user specific values.

User-defined Table 0373 – Treatment

Value	Description	Comment
LDLP	LDL Precipitation	
RECA	Recalification	
DEFB	Defibrination	
ACID	Acidification	
NEUT	Neutralization	
ALK	Alkalization	
FILT	Filtration	
UFIL	Ultrafiltration	

13.4.3.31 SAC-31 Temperature (SN) 01358

Components: <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>

Definition: This field identifies the specimen temperature in degrees Celsius [°C] at the time of the transaction specified in the EQU segment.

13.4.3.32 SAC-32 Hemolysis Index (NM) 01359

Definition: This field is the index identifier that is being used to describe the Hemolysis Index of the specimen.

13.4.3.33 SAC-33 Hemolysis Index Units (CWE) 01360

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the unit's identifier that is being used to describe the Hemolysis Index of the specimen. It is recommended to use g/L. (The transmission of the index values is added here instead of the original use of the OBX segments, because the frequency of the transfer of the specimen details justifies use of more efficient mechanism.)

If this field is null, the recommended value is assumed.

13.4.3.34 SAC-34 Lipemia Index (NM) 01361

Definition: This field is the index identifier that is being used to describe the Lipemia Index of the specimen. It is recommended to use the optical turbidity at 600 nm (in absorbance units).

13.4.3.35 SAC-35 Lipemia Index Units (CWE) 01362

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the unit's identifier that is being used to describe the Lipemia Index of the specimen.

If this field is null, the recommended value is assumed.

13.4.3.36 SAC-36 Icterus Index (NM) 01363

Definition: This field is the index identifier that is being used to describe the Icterus Index of the specimen.

13.4.3.37 SAC-37 Icterus Index Units (CWE) 01364

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the unit's identifier that is being used to describe the Icterus Index of the specimen. It is recommended to use mMol/L of bilirubin.

If this field is null, the recommended value is assumed.

13.4.3.38 SAC-38 Fibrin Index (NM) 01365

Definition: This field is the index identifier that is being used to describe the Fibrin Index of the specimen. In the case of only differentiating between Absent and Present, we recommend using 0 and 1 respectively and send the field Fibrin Index Units null.

13.4.3.39 SAC-39 Fibrin Index Units (CWE) 01366

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the unit's identifier that is being used to describe the Fibrin Index of the specimen.

13.4.3.40 SAC-40 System Induced Contaminants (CWE) 01367

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field describes the specimen contaminant identifier that is associated with the specimen in this container. Refer to *User-defined Table 0374 – System induced contaminants* for valid values. This table's values are taken from *NCCLS AUTO4*. The value set can be extended with user specific values.

User-defined Table 0374 - System induced contaminants

Value	Description	Comment
CNTM	Present, type of contamination unspecified	

13.4.3.41 SAC-41   Drug Interference   (CWE)   01368

Components: `<Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field describes the drug interference identifier that is associated with the specimen. Refer to *User-defined Table 0382 – Drug interference* for suggested values.

User-defined Table 0382 – Drug interference

Value	Description	Comment
	No suggested values defined	

13.4.3.42 SAC-42   Artificial Blood   (CWE)   01369

Components: `<Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field describes the artificial blood identifier that is associated with the specimen. Refer to *User-defined Table 0375 – Artificial blood* for valid values. This table's values are taken from *NCCLS AUTO4*. The value set can be extended with user specific values.

User-defined Table 0375 - Artificial blood

Value	Description	Comment
SFHB	Stromal free hemoglobin preparations	
FLUR	Fluorocarbons	

13.4.3.43 SAC-43   Special Handling Code   (CWE)   01370

Components: `<Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field describes any special handling considerations that are associated with the specimen in the specific container (e.g., centrifugation). This describes how the specimen needs to be stored during collection, in transit, and upon receipt. Refer to *User-defined Table 0376 – Special handling code* for valid values. 'The value set can be extended with user specific values.

13.4.3.44 SAC-44   Other Environmental Factors   (CWE)   01371

Components: `<Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>`

Definition: This field describes other environmental factors that are associated with the specimen in a specific container, e.g., atmospheric exposure. Refer to *User-defined Table 0377 – Other environmental factors* for valid values. This table's values are taken from *NCCLS AUTO4*. The value set can be extended with user specific values.

User-defined Table 0377 - Other environmental factors

Value	Description	Comment
ATM	Opened container, atmosphere and duration unspecified	
A60	Opened container, indoor atmosphere, 60 minutes duration	

13.4.4   INV – Inventory Detail Segment

The inventory detail segment is the data necessary to track the inventory of substances (e.g. reagent, tips, waste) on equipment.
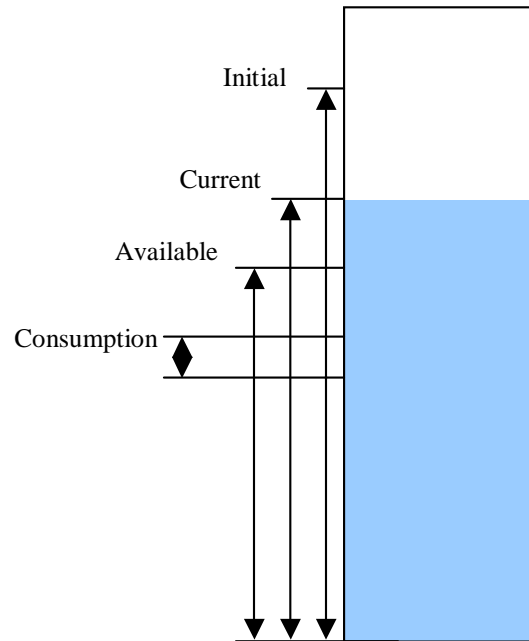
Figure 13-6. Information on the Types of Measures on a Container

HL7 Attribute Table – INV – Inventory Detail

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	705	CWE	R		0451	01372	Substance Identifier
2	705	CWE	R	Y	0383	01373	Substance Status
3	705	CWE	O		0384	01374	Substance Type
4	705	CWE	O		9999	01532	Inventory Container Identifier
5	705	CWE	O		9999	01376	Container Carrier Identifier
6	705	CWE	O		9999	01377	Position on Carrier
7	20	NM	O			01378	Initial Quantity
8	20	NM	O			01379	Current Quantity
9	20	NM	O			01380	Available Quantity
10	20	NM	O			01381	Consumption Quantity
11	705	CWE	O		9999	01382	Quantity Units
12	24	DTM	O			01383	Expiration Date/Time
13	24	DTM	O			01384	First Used Date/Time
14	200	TQ	B			01385	On Board Stability Duration
15	705	CWE	O	Y	9999	01386	Test/Fluid Identifier(s)
16	200	ST	O			01387	Manufacturer Lot Number
17	705	CWE	O		0385	00286	Manufacturer Identifier
18	705	CWE	O		0386	01389	Supplier Identifier

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
19	722	CQ	O			01626	On Board Stability Time
20	722	CQ	O			01896	Target Value

13.4.4.0   INV Field Definitions

13.4.4.1   INV-1   Substance Identifier   (CWE)   01372

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: Unique identifier for the substance that is in inventory. This is a manufacturer-specific identifier.

User-defined Table 0451 – Substance identifier

Value	Description	Comment
ALL	Used for query of all inventory items	

13.4.4.2   INV-2   Substance Status   (CWE)   01373

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: The status of the inventoried item. The status indicates the current status of the substance. Refer to *HL7 Table 0383 – Substance status* for suggested values.

HL7 Table 0383 - Substance status

Value	Description	Comment
EW	Expired Warning	
EE	Expired Error	
CW	Calibration Warning	
CE	Calibration Error	
QW	QC Warning	
QE	QC Error	
NW	Not Available Warning	
NE	Not Available Error	
OW	Other Warning	
OE	Other Error	
OK	OK Status	

13.4.4.3   INV-3   Substance Type   (CWE)   01374

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
             <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: The type of substance. Refer to *HL7 Table 0384 – Substance type* for suggested values.

HL7 Table 0384 - Substance type

Value	Description	Comment
SR	Single Test Reagent	
MR	Multiple Test Reagent	The consumption cannot be tied to orders for a single test
DI	Diluent	
PT	Pretreatment	
RC	Reagent Calibrator	
CO	Control	
PW	Purified Water	
LW	Liquid Waste	
SW	Solid Waste	
SC	Countable Solid Item	E.g., Pipetting tip

Value	Description	Comment
LI	Measurable Liquid Item	
OT	Other	

13.4.4.4   INV-4   Inventory Container Identifier   (CWE)   01532

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: Identifies the inventory container, e.g., unique identifier of a specific package instance of a specific substance. This is a manufacturer-specific identifier.

13.4.4.5   INV-5   Container Carrier Identifier   (CWE)   01376

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This is the carrier used to transport the substance containers (e.g., a removable rotor with reagent bottles).

13.4.4.6   INV-6   Position on Carrier   (CWE)   01377

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: Identifies the position (e.g., index) on the carrier.

13.4.4.7   INV-7   Initial Quantity   (NM)   01378

Definition: This field identifies the initial quantity of the substance in inventory.

13.4.4.8   INV-8   Current Quantity   (NM)   01379

Definition: This field is the current quantity, i.e., initial quantity minus what has been actually used.

13.4.4.9   INV-9   Available Quantity   (NM)   01380

Definition: This field is the available quantity of substance.   This is the current quantity minus any planned consumption (e.g., tests that are planned).

13.4.4.10   INV-10   Consumption Quantity   (NM)   01381

Definition: This field is the consumption that is used each time the equipment uses this substance.

13.4.4.11   INV-11   Quantity Units   (CWE)   01382

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
<Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
<Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the units of measure of the available quantity. If the units are ISO+ units, they should be recorded as single case abbreviations. If the units are ANS+ or L (local), the units and the source code table must be recorded, except that in this case, component delimiters should be replaced by sub-component delimiters. For example, "l" indicates liters, whereas pt&&ANS+ indicates pints (ANSI units). The default unit is milliliters (ml), which should be assumed if no units are reported.

13.4.4.12   INV-12   Expiration Date/Time   (DTM)   01383

Definition: This field is the expiration date/time of the substance.

13.4.4.13   INV-13   First Used Date/Time   (DTM)   01384

Definition: This field is the time and date when the substance was first used. This date and time can be necessary to determine the stability of the substance. The meaning of the "first used" element depends on the substance. In certain cases it means the time when the substance was put on board of the instrument or prepared (mixed), without actually using it in the analysis.

13.4.4.14   INV-14   On Board Stability Duration   (TQ)   01385

Components: <Quantity (CQ)> ^ <Interval (RI)> ^ <Duration (ST)> ^ <Start Date/Time (DTM)> ^ <End Date/Time
(DTM)> ^ <Priority (ST)> ^ <Condition (ST)> ^ <Text (TX)> ^ <Conjunction (ID)> ^ <Order Sequencing
(OSD)> ^ <Occurrence Duration (CWE)> ^ <Total Occurrences (NM)>

```
Subcomponents for Quantity (CQ):  <Quantity (NM)> & <Units (CWE)>

Subcomponents for Units (CWE):  <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate
            Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System
            Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>

Subcomponents for Interval (RI):  <Repeat Pattern (IS)> & <Explicit Time Interval (ST)>

Subcomponents for Order Sequencing (OSD):  <Sequence/Results Flag (ID)> & <Placer Order Number: Entity
            Identifier (ST)> & <Placer Order Number: Namespace ID (IS)> & <Filler Order Number: Entity
            Identifier (ST)> & <Filler Order Number: Namespace ID (IS)> & <Sequence Condition Value (ST)> &
            <Maximum Number of Repeats (NM)> & <Placer Order Number: Universal ID (ST)> & <Placer Order
            Number: Universal ID Type (ID)> & <Filler Order Number: Universal ID (ST)> & <Filler Order Number:
            Universal ID Type (ID)>

Subcomponents for Occurrence Duration (CWE):  <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> &
            <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> &
            <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field is the time duration that the substance is stable. ***This field is left for backward compatibility only.*** The TQ data type was deprecated; see Chapter 2A, section 2.A.81. The field INV-19 - On board stability time should be used to represent this concept.

13.4.4.15   INV-15   Test/Fluid Identifier(s)   (CWE)   01386

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field is the list of tests and body fluid that apply to this substance. This is a repeating field. An empty field means that this substance is not test specific, i.e., it applies to all tests.

13.4.4.16   INV-16   Manufacturer Lot Number   (ST)   01387

Definition: This field specifies the lot number assigned by the manufacturer during production of the substance.

13.4.4.17   INV-17   Manufacturer Identifier   (CWE)   00286

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field identifies the manufacturer of this substance. Refer to *User-defined Table 0385 – Manufacturer identifier* for suggested values. Relevant external code systems may be used, e.g., HIBCC Manufacturers Labeler ID Code (LIC), UPC, NDC, etc.

User-defined Table 0385 – Manufacturer identifier

Value	Description	Comment
	No suggested value defined	

13.4.4.18   INV-18   Supplier Identifier   (CWE)   01389

```
Components:  <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
            <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field identifies the supplier of this substance. Refer to *User-defined Table 0386 – Supplier identifier* for suggested values.

User-defined Table 0386 – Supplier identifier

Value	Description	Comment
	No suggested value defined	

13.4.4.19   INV-19   On Board Stability Time   (CQ)   01626

```
Components:  <Quantity (NM)> ^ <Units (CWE)>

Subcomponents for Units (CWE):  <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate
            Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System
            Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field is the duration of time that the calibration/usability of the substance is stable. The duration is used to calculate the date/time when this calibration is no longer valid by adding this "On board stability time" (INV-19) to the "First used date / time" (INV-13).

The 1st component defines the time quantity and the 2nd component the time units (see *HL7 Table 0255 – Duration categories*). Recommended accuracy is "minutes", "hours" and "days".

13.4.4.20 INV-20 Target Value (CQ) 01896

Components: <Quantity (NM)> ^ <Units (CWE)>

Subcomponents for Units (CWE): <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the target analytical value for a particular test for a specific lot of a manufactured material. Target values for QC purposes are usually selected for their relevance to a reference (normal) range or to a clinically significant decision level.

The 1st component defines the value and the 2nd component the measurement units.

13.4.5   ECD - Equipment Command Segment

The equipment command segment contains the information required to notify the receiving component what is to happen.

HL7 Attribute Table – ECD – Equipment Command

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	20	NM	R			01390	Reference Command Number
2	250	CWE	R		0368	01391	Remote Control Command
3	80	ID	O		0136	01392	Response Required
4	200	TQ	B			01393	Requested Completion Time
5	65536	TX	O	Y		01394	Parameters

13.4.5.0   ECD Field Definitions

13.4.5.1   ECD-1 Reference Command Number   (NM) 01390

Definition: This field contains the unique identifier for this particular command that should be used by the various components for future referral to this command. It is similar to the concept of MSH-10 Message control ID, but at the equipment command/response level. This number is generated by the originator of this command.

13.4.5.2   ECD-2 Remote Control Command   (CWE) 01391

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the command that the component is to initiate. Refer to *User-defined Table 0368 – Remote control command* for valid values. Refer to LECIS standard for details.

User-defined Table 0368 - Remote control command

Value	Description	Comment
SA	Sampling	
LO	Load	
UN	Unload	
LK	Lock	
UC	Unlock	
TT	Transport To	
CN	Clear Notification	
IN	Initialize/Initiate	
SU	Setup	

Value	Description	Comment
CL	Clear	
PA	Pause	
RE	Resume	
ES	Emergency –stop	
LC	Local Control Request	
RC	Remote Control Request	
AB	Abort	
EN	Enable Sending Events	
DI	Disable Sending Events	
EX	Execute (command specified in field Parameters (ST) 01394)	

13.4.5.3   ECD-3   Response Required   (ID)   01392

Definition: This field identifies the mode of synchronization that is to be used in relation to the execution of the command. "Y" (Yes) means that the response is required immediately after execution; "N" (No) response is not required at all. Refer to *HL7 Table 0136 – Yes/no indicator* for valid values.

13.4.5.4   ECD-4   Requested Completion Time   (TQ)   01393

```
Components:  <Quantity (CQ)> ^ <Interval (RI)> ^ <Duration (ST)> ^ <Start Date/Time (DTM)> ^ <End Date/Time
             (DTM)> ^ <Priority (ST)> ^ <Condition (ST)> ^ <Text (TX)> ^ <Conjunction (ID)> ^ <Order Sequencing
             (OSD)> ^ <Occurrence Duration (CWE)> ^ <Total Occurrences (NM)>

Subcomponents for Quantity (CQ):  <Quantity (NM)> & <Units (CWE)>

Subcomponents for Units (CWE):  <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate
             Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System
             Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>

Subcomponents for Interval (RI):  <Repeat Pattern (IS)> & <Explicit Time Interval (ST)>

Subcomponents for Order Sequencing (OSD):  <Sequence/Results Flag (ID)> & <Placer Order Number: Entity
             Identifier (ST)> & <Placer Order Number: Namespace ID (IS)> & <Filler Order Number: Entity
             Identifier (ST)> & <Filler Order Number: Namespace ID (IS)> & <Sequence Condition Value (ST)> &
             <Maximum Number of Repeats (NM)> & <Placer Order Number: Universal ID (ST)> & <Placer Order
             Number: Universal ID Type (ID)> & <Filler Order Number: Universal ID (ST)> & <Filler Order Number:
             Universal ID Type (ID)>

Subcomponents for Occurrence Duration (CWE):  <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> &
             <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> &
             <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field identifies when the remote control action must be completed. The devices managed in the LAS should have synchronized time (use original HL7 message NMQ, NMD with "System Clock Segment," NCK). If relative time quantity is used, then the referenced time is the time transferred in the EQU segment.

As of version 2.5 this field is defined for backward compatibility only. The TQ data type was deprecated; see Chapter 2A, section 2.A.81. Instead use the "Explicit time" (TQ1-4) or "Relative Time and Units" (TQ1-5) fields of the TQ1 segment in a message using ECD segment.

13.4.5.5   ECD-5   Parameters   (TX)   01394

Definition: This field identifies the parameters of the command (if they are not included in a separate segment(s)).

Note: Elements of this segment (or other elements not defined here) may be required for certain vendor-specific equipment such as centrifuges, aliquoters, sorters, uncappers, recappers, automated storage units, etc.

13.4.6   ECR - Equipment Command Response Segment

The equipment command response segment contains the receiving component's response to the previously received command.

HL7 Attribute Table – ECR – Equipment Command Response

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	705	CWE	R		0387	01395	Command Response

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
2	24	DTM	R			01396	Date/Time Completed
3	65536	TX	O	Y		01397	Command Response Parameters

13.4.6.0   ECR Field Definitions

13.4.6.1   ECR-1   Command Response   (CWE)   01395

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the response of the previously issued command. Refer to *User-defined Table 0387 – Command response* for valid values.

User-defined Table 0387 - Command response

Value	Description	Comment
OK	Command completed successfully	
TI	Command cannot be completed within requested completion time	
ER	Command cannot be completed because of error condition	See response parameters.
ST	Command cannot be completed because of the status of the requested equipment	
UN	Command cannot be completed for unknown reasons	

13.4.6.2   ECR-2   Date/Time Completed   (DTM)   01396

Definition: This field contains the date and time that the receiving component completed the requested command.

13.4.6.3   ECR-3   Command Response Parameters   (TX)   01397

Definition: This field identifies any associated parameters that relate to the returned response command message.

13.4.7   NDS - Notification Detail Segment

The equipment notification detail segment is the data necessary to maintain an adequate audit trail as well as notifications of events, (e.g., alarms that have occurred on a particular piece of equipment.

HL7 Attribute Table – NDS – Notification Detail

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	20	NM	R			01398	Notification Reference Number
2	24	DTM	R			01399	Notification Date/Time
3	705	CWE	R		0367	01400	Notification Alert Severity
4	705	CWE	R		9999	01401	Notification Code

13.4.7.0   NDS Field Definitions

13.4.7.1   NDS-1   Notification Reference Number   (NM)   01398

Definition: This field contains a unique sequential reference number that may be used by various components to refer to this transaction. This number is generated by the originator of this notification.

13.4.7.2   NDS-2   Notification Date/Time   (DTM)   01399

Definition: This field is the date/time of the notifications.

13.4.7.3   NDS-3   Notification Alert Severity   (CWE)   01400

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: The severity of the specific notification. Refer to *HL7 Table 0367 - Alert level* for valid entries.

13.4.7.4   NDS-4   Notification Code   (CWE)   01401

```
Components:   <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field contains information about the type of notification being sent. These are manufacturer and equipment specific error or status codes, e.g., AQN0123 – aliquoting error – clot detected.

13.4.8   CNS – Clear Notification Segment

The clear equipment notification segment contains the data necessary to allow the receiving equipment to clear any associated notifications.

HL7 Attribute Table – CNS – Clear Notification

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	20	NM	O			01402	Starting Notification Reference Number
2	20	NM	O			01403	Ending Notification Reference Number
3	24	DTM	O			01404	Starting Notification Date/Time
4	24	DTM	O			01405	Ending Notification Date/Time
5	705	CWE	O		9999	01406	Starting Notification Code
6	705	CWE	O		9999	01407	Ending Notification Code

13.4.8.0   CNS Field Definitions

13.4.8.1   CNS-1   Starting Notification Reference Number   (NM)   01402

Definition: This field contains the starting notification reference number that is to be cleared.

13.4.8.2   CNS-2   Ending Notification Reference Number   (NM)   01403

Definition: This field contains the ending notification reference number that is to be cleared. If empty, then only notification with Starting Notification Reference Number will be cleared.

13.4.8.3   CNS-3   Starting Notification Date/Time   (DTM)   01404

Definition: This field is the starting date/time of the notifications to be cleared. If this field is empty but Ending Notification Date/Time is filled, then all notifications before Ending Notification Date/Time will be cleared.

13.4.8.4   CNS-4   Ending Notification Date/Time   (DTM)   01405

Definition: This field is the ending date/time of the notifications to be cleared. If this field is empty but Starting Notification Date/Time is filled, then all notifications after Starting Notification Date/Time will be cleared.

13.4.8.5   CNS-5   Starting Notification Code   (CWE)   01406

```
Components:   <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field contains the starting notification code that is to be cleared (see *13.4.7.4*, "*NDS-4 Notification Code   (CWE)   01401*").

13.4.8.6   CNS-6   Ending Notification Code   (CWE)   01407

```
Components:   <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
              <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field contains the ending notification code that is to be cleared (see *13.4.7.4*, "*NDS-4 Notification Code   (CWE)   01401*"). If empty, then only notification with Starting Notification Code will be cleared.

13.4.9   TCC - Test Code Configuration Segment

The test (e.g., analyte) code configuration segment is the data necessary to maintain and transmit information concerning the test entity codes that are being used throughout the "automated system."

<p align="center">HL7 Attribute Table – TCC – Test Code Configuration</p>

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	705	CWE	R		9999	00238	Universal Service Identifier
2	427	EI	R			01408	Equipment Test Application Identifier
3	300	SPS	B			00249	Specimen Source
4	36	SN	O			01410	Auto-Dilution Factor Default
5	36	SN	O			01411	Rerun Dilution Factor Default
6	36	SN	O			01412	Pre-Dilution Factor Default
7	36	SN	O			01413	Endogenous Content of Pre-Dilution Diluent
8	10	NM	O			01414	Inventory Limits Warning Level
9	1	ID	O		0136	01415	Automatic Rerun Allowed
10	1	ID	O		0136	01416	Automatic Repeat Allowed
11	1	ID	O		0136	01417	Automatic Reflex Allowed
12	36	SN	O			01418	Equipment Dynamic Range
13	705	CWE	O		9999	00574	Units
14	705	CWE	O		0388	01419	Processing Type

13.4.9.0   TCC Field Definitions

13.4.9.1   TCC-1   Universal Service Identifier   (CWE)   00238

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the test code that information is being transmitted about. The alternate elements represent the test code identifier that has been assigned by the manufacturer to this particular test code.

13.4.9.2   TCC-2   Equipment Test Application Identifier   (EI)   01408

Components: <Entity Identifier (ST)> ^ <Namespace ID (IS)> ^ <Universal ID (ST)> ^ <Universal ID Type (ID)>

Definition: This field identifies the test application code assigned by the manufacturer of the equipment or reagents and associated with performing of the particular test specified by the Universal Test Identifier.

13.4.9.3   TCC-3   Specimen Source   (SPS)   00249

Components: <Specimen Source Name or Code (CWE)> ^ <Additives (CWE)> ^ <Specimen Collection Method (TX)> ^ <Body Site (CWE)> ^ <Site Modifier (CWE)> ^ <Collection Method Modifier Code (CWE)> ^ <Specimen Role (CWE)>

Subcomponents for Specimen Source Name or Code (CWE): <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>

Subcomponents for Additives (CWE): <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>

Subcomponents for Body Site (CWE): <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>

Subcomponents for Site Modifier (CWE): <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>

```
Subcomponents for Collection Method Modifier Code (CWE):  <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding
         System (ID)> & <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding
         System (ID)> & <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> &
         <Original Text (ST)>

Subcomponents for Specimen Role (CWE): <Identifier (ST)> & <Text (ST)> & <Name of Coding System (ID)> &
         <Alternate Identifier (ST)> & <Alternate Text (ST)> & <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> &
         <Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> & <Original Text (ST)>
```

Definition: This field is the site where the specimen should be obtained or where the service should be performed.

As of version 2.5 this field is deprecated and retained for backward compatibility only. This field is conditional, meaning that, in case where the SPM segment is used in a message together with the SAC, this field should be ignored. The reader is referred to the SPM Specimen segment in chapter 7.

13.4.9.4   TCC-4 Auto-Dilution Factor Default (SN) 01410

```
Components:  <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>
```

Definition: This field is the value that is to be used as the default factor for automatically diluting a specimen by an instrument for this particular test code. (See examples in definition of *13.4.3.29*, "*SAC-29 Dilution Factor* (SN) 01356" in, "Specimen Container Detail Segment.")

13.4.9.5   TCC-5 Rerun Dilution Factor Default (SN) 01411

```
Components:  <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>
```

Definition: This field is the value that is to be used as the default factor for automatically diluting a specimen in case of rerun for this particular test code.

13.4.9.6   TCC-6 Pre-Dilution Factor Default (SN) 01412

```
Components:  <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>
```

Definition: This field is the value that is to be used as the default factor for a specimen that is delivered to the laboratory automation system as pre-diluted for this particular test code.

13.4.9.7   TCC-7 Endogenous Content of Pre-Dilution Diluent (SN) 01413

```
Components:  <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>
```

Definition: This field represents a baseline value for the measured test that is inherently contained in the diluent. In the calculation of the actual result for the measured test, this baseline value is normally considered.

13.4.9.8   TCC-8 Inventory Limits Warning Level (NM) 01414

Definition: This field is the value that is to be used as the threshold for initiating inventory warning-level messages.

13.4.9.9   TCC-9 Automatic Rerun Allowed (ID) 01415

Definition: This field identifies whether or not automatic reruns are to be initiated on specimens for this particular test code. Refer to *HL7 Table 0136 -Yes/no indicator* for valid values.

13.4.9.10 TCC-10 Automatic Repeat Allowed (ID) 01416

Definition: This field identifies whether or not automatic repeat testing is to be initiated on specimens for this particular test code. Refer to *HL7 Table 0136 -Yes/no indicator* for valid values.

13.4.9.11 TCC-11 Automatic Reflex Allowed (ID) 01417

Definition: This field identifies whether or not automatic or manual reflex testing is to be initiated on specimens for this particular test code. Refer to *HL7 Table 0136 -Yes/no indicator* for valid values.

13.4.9.12 TCC-12 Equipment Dynamic Range (SN) 01418

```
Components:  <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>
```

Definition: This is the range over which the equipment can produce results.

13.4.9.13 TCC-13   Units   (CWE)   00574

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
          <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
          <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field is the units that have a data type of CWE. The default coding system for the units codes consists of the ISO+ abbreviation for a single case unit (ISO 2955-83) plus extensions, that do not collide with ISO abbreviations (see Chapter 7, section 7.4.2.6). We designate this coding system as ISO+. Both the ISO unit's abbreviations and the extensions are defined in Chapter 7, section 7.4.2.6.2 and listed in Figure 7-9. The ISO+ abbreviations are the codes for the default coding system. Consequently, when ISO+ units are being used, only ISO+ abbreviations need be sent, and the contents of the units field will be backward compatible to HL7 Version 2.1. For more information on this field see reference Chapter 7, section 7.4.2.6.

These units apply to fields "Endogenous content of pre-dilution diluent" and "Equipment dynamic range".

13.4.9.14 TCC-14   Processing Type   (CWE)   01419

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
          <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
          <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the processing type that applies to this test code. If this attribute is omitted, then regular production is the default. Refer to *HL7 Table 0388 – Processing type* for valid values.

HL7 Table 0388 - Processing type

Value	Description	Comment
P	Regular Production	
E	Evaluation	

13.4.10   TCD - Test Code Detail Segment

The test code detail segment contains the data necessary to perform operations or calculations, or execute decisions by the laboratory automation system, and which are not supported by the original HL7 segments related to orders (ORC, OBR). For detail of use see messages of laboratory orders and observations in chapters 4 and 7.

HL7 Attribute Table – TCD – Test Code Detail

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	705	CWE	R		9999	00238	Universal Service Identifier
2	36	SN	O			01420	Auto-Dilution Factor
3	36	SN	O			01421	Rerun Dilution Factor
4	36	SN	O			01422	Pre-Dilution Factor
5	36	SN	O			01413	Endogenous Content of Pre-Dilution Diluent
6	1	ID	O		0136	01416	Automatic Repeat Allowed
7	1	ID	O		0136	01424	Reflex Allowed
8	705	CWE	O		0389	01425	Analyte Repeat Status

13.4.10.0   TCD Field Definitions

13.4.10.1   TCD-1   Universal Service Identifier   (CWE)   00238

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^
          <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^
          <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the test code that information is being transmitted about.

13.4.10.2   TCD-2   Auto-Dilution Factor   (SN)   01420

Components: <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>

Definition: This field is the value that is to be used as the factor for automatically diluting a particular specimen by an instrument for this particular test code. (See examples in definition of *13.4.3.29*, "*SAC-29 Dilution Factor* (SN) 01356," in the "Specimen Container Detail Segment.")

13.4.10.3 TCD-3 Rerun Dilution Factor (SN) 01421

Components: <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>

Definition: This field is the value that is to be used as the factor for automatically diluting a particular specimen in case of rerun for this particular test code.

13.4.10.4 TCD-4 Pre-Dilution Factor (SN) 01422

Components: <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>

Definition: This field is the value that is to be used as the factor for a particular specimen that is delivered to the automated system as pre-diluted for this particular test code.

13.4.10.5 TCD-5 Endogenous Content of Pre-Dilution Diluent (SN) 01413

Components: <Comparator (ST)> ^ <Num1 (NM)> ^ <Separator/Suffix (ST)> ^ <Num2 (NM)>

Definition: This field represents the rest concentration of the measured test in the diluent. It is the value that is to be used for calculation of the concentration of pre-diluted specimens for this particular test code.

13.4.10.6 TCD-6 Automatic Repeat Allowed (ID) 01416

Definition: This field identifies whether or not automatic repeats are to be initiated for this particular specimen for this particular test code. Refer to *HL7 Table 0136 -Yes/no indicator* for valid values.

13.4.10.7 TCD-7 Reflex Allowed (ID) 01424

Definition: This field identifies whether or not automatic or manual reflex testing is to be initiated for this particular specimen. Refer to *HL7 Table 0136 -Yes/no indicator* for valid values.

13.4.10.8 TCD-8 Analyte Repeat Status (CWE) 01425

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the repeat status for the analyte/result (e.g., original, rerun, repeat, reflex). Refer to *HL7 Table 0389 – Analyte repeat status* for valid values.

For purpose of this chapter we assume the following:

- Repeated test without dilution — performed usually to confirm correctness of results (e.g., in case of results flagged as "Panic" or mechanical failures).

- Repeated test with dilution — performed usually in the case the original result exceeded the measurement range (technical limits).

- Reflex test — this test is performed as the consequence of rules triggered based on other test result(s).

HL7 Table 0389 - Analyte repeat status

Value	Description	Comment
O	Original, first run	
R	Repeated without dilution	
D	Repeated with dilution	
F	Reflex test	

13.4.11 SID – Substance Identifier Segment

The Substance Identifier segment contains data necessary to identify the substance (e.g., reagents) used in the production of analytical test results. The combination of these fields must uniquely identify the substance, i.e., depending on the manufacturer all or some fields are required (this is the reason the optionality is 'C' (conditional)). If the analysis requires multiple substances, this segment is repeated for each substance. The segment(s) should be attached to the TCD segment.

Another purpose of this segment is to transfer the control manufacturer, lot, etc., information for control specimens. In this case the SID segment should be attached to the SAC segment describing the container with the control specimen.

HL7 Attribute Table – SID – Substance Identifier

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	705	CWE	C		9999	01426	Application/Method Identifier
2	20	ST	C			01129	Substance Lot Number
3	200	ST	C			01428	Substance Container Identifier
4	705	CWE	C		0385	01429	Substance Manufacturer Identifier

13.4.11.0 SID Field Definitions

13.4.11.1 SID-1 Application/Method Identifier (CWE) 01426

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the application/method used for the analysis.

Example: GLUCOSE is an orderable test. GLUCOSE can be analyzed using various applications/methods, which have manufacturer specific identifiers.

13.4.11.2 SID-2 Substance Lot Number (ST) 01129

Definition: This field specifies the lot number assigned by the manufacturer during production of the substance.

13.4.11.3 SID-3 Substance Container Identifier (ST) 01428

Definition: This field specifies the container assigned by the manufacturer during production of the substance. This identifier should be unique within specific lot of specific application / method.

13.4.11.4 SID-4 Substance Manufacturer Identifier (CWE) 01429

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the manufacturer of this substance. Refer to *User-defined Table 0385 - Manufacturer identifier* for suggested values.

13.4.12 EQP - Equipment Log/Service Segment

The equipment log/service segment is the data necessary to maintain an adequate audit trail of events that have occurred on a particular piece of equipment.

HL7 Attribute Table – EQP – Equipment/log Service

SEQ	LEN	DT	OPT	RP/#	TBL#	ITEM #	ELEMENT NAME
1	705	CWE	R		0450	01430	Event type
2	20	ST	O			01431	File Name
3	24	DTM	R			01202	Start Date/Time
4	24	DTM	O			01432	End Date/Time
5	65536	FT	R			01433	Transaction Data

13.4.12.0 EQP Field Definitions

13.4.12.1 EQP-1 Event Type (CWE) 01430

Components: <Identifier (ST)> ^ <Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Coding System (ID)> ^ <Alternate Identifier (ST)> ^ <Alternate Text (ST)> ^ <Name of Alternate Coding System (ID)> ^ <Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Alternate Coding System Version ID (ST)> ^ <Original Text (ST)>

Definition: This field identifies the type of event of the message. Refer to *HL7 Table 0450 – Event type* for valid values.

<p align="center">HL7 Table 0450 – Event type</p>

Value	Description	Comment
LOG	Log Event	
SER	Service Event	

13.4.12.2 EQP-2 File Name (ST) 01431

Definition: This field is the physical file name that is being used to store information about the transmitted log and/or service event.

13.4.12.3 EQP-3 Start Date/Time (DTM) 01202

Definition: This field is the date/time that the event started.

13.4.12.4 EQP-4 End Date/Time (DTM) 01432

Definition: This field is the date/time that the event was completed.

13.4.12.5 EQP-5 Transaction Data (FT) 01433

Definition: This field is the data that the log and/or service event was about and is to be logged.

13.5 NOTES REGARDING USAGE

13.5.1 Other Required Original HL7 Messages

The transaction for synchronization of system clocks must be supported by all equipment as receiver. The master (sender) of the time is either the LAS computer or the LIS.

13.5.2 Transfer of Laboratory Test Orders and Results

For the transfer of laboratory automation orders and results refer to 4.2.6 OML - laboratory order message (event O21) instead of ORM and 7.2.2 ORL – unsolicited laboratory observation message (event O20) instead of ORU.

13.5.3 Transfer of QC Results

Use SPM-11 Specimen Role, or SAC-6 -specimen source, or the 7th component of OBR-15-specimen source or SAC-6 -specimen source to indicate that this is a control specimen. Use SAC-3-container identifier for the identification of a control specimen container. The SID segment appended to this SAC segment specifies the manufacturer, lot identifiers, etc. for the control specimen.

The identification of the instrument performing the QC measurement, should be transferred with the OBX-18-equipment instance identifier), the measurement data/time with the OBX-19 date/time of the analysis.

13.5.4 Query for Order Information – Triggers for Download of Test Orders

There is no specific query for laboratory order information. Instead, the order information should be downloaded to the LAS either unsolicited (based on LIS internal triggers such as Sample Collected or Order Entered) or after an implicit trigger such as Sample Status Update – sample identified by the LAS.

13.5.5 Transfer of Additional Information for Automated Processing

Instruments requiring additional information for performing of automated processing based on automatic validation, such as Expected Date of Birth (Delivery Date), Menstrual Status, History of Medication Use, should consider using OBX segments and LOINC codes. For example, the LOINC code for Delivery Date is 11778-8, Menstrual status is 8678-5, History of Medication Use is 10160-0.

13.6   EXAMPLE MESSAGES

This sub-chapter contains examples to messages defined in the chapter 13. Examples for other messages using segments defined in the chapter 13 are published in corresponding chapters, e.g., for laboratory orders in chapter 4 and for laboratory observations in chapter 7.

13.6.1   Automated Equipment Status Update

The chemistry analyzer 0001 was powered up directly by the operator (local control) and correctly performed the initialization process. This information is sent by the analyzer to the LAS.

```
MSH|^~\&|INSTPROG|AUTINST|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |ESU^U01|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038|PU^POWERED_UP|L^LOCAL|N^NORMAL<cr>
ISD|123456789|IN^INIT|OK<cr>
```

13.6.2   Automated Equipment Status Request

The LAS queries the chemistry analyzer 0001 for status information.

```
MSH|^~\&|LASPROG|LASSYS|INSTPROG|AUTINST|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |ESR^U02|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
```

13.6.3   Specimen Status Update

The chemistry analyzer 0001 recognized an aliquot container (id=092321A) with blood. This container is in a position 1 of carrier type R5 (id=120) and is located in the input buffer 1.

```
MSH|^~\&|INSTPROG|AUTINST|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |SSU^U03|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
SAC|991912376^EXTLAB|01039421^THISLAB|092321A^LAS|092321^LAS||BLD^BLOOD
    |19980620080037|I^IDENTIFIED|R5^5_HOLE_RACK|120|1||||BUF1^INPUT BUFFER 1<cr>
```

A pre-analytical instrument 0001 performed aliquoting and sorting operation.
(See Fig. 13-5 for visualization of positions and locations)
The carrier (id=2002) with primary/parent container (id=12345) at position 2 was transported in the location: output buffer 1, into position 4 of the output tray (id=A1203).
The aliquot container (id=12345A) was sorted into the manual transportable carrier (id=045), in row 3, column 2. This carrier is located in the sorter bed at location 4.

```
MSH|^~\&|PREANPROG|AUTPREAN|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |SSU^U03|MSG00002|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^AQS|19980630080043<cr>
SAC|991912376^EXTLAB|01039421^THISLAB|12345^LAS||||19980620080039|R^COMPLETED
    |R3^3_HOLE_RACK|2002|1|OT^OUTPUTTRAY|A1203^AQSTRAY|4|OB1^OUTPUTBUFFER<cr>
SAC|991912376^EXTLAB|01039421^THISLAB|12345A^LAS|12345^LAS|||19980620080039
    |R^COMPLETED|R14^14_HOLE_RACK|045|3^2||||AQSBED||||||2|0.5||ml<cr>
```

13.6.4   Specimen Status Request

The chemistry analyzer 0001 queries the LAS for status of specimen/container (id=092321A).

```
MSH|^~\&|LASPROG|LASSYS|INSTPROG|AUTINST|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |SSR^U04|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
SAC|991912376^EXTLAB|01039421^THISLAB|092321A^LAS|||||199806200823<cr>
```

13.6.5   Automated Equipment Inventory Update

The chemistry analyzer 0001 sends to the LAS the status of a TSH reagent (id=MF01239) in bottle (id=12345).

```
MSH|^~\&|INSTPROG|AUTINST|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |INU^U05|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
INV|MF01239^REAGENT1|OK^OK_STATUS|SR^SINGLE_TEST_REAGENT
    |12345^BOTTLE_NUM|||||190||ML|20000101||^^D60|TSH|A12345678|PROD1<cr>
```

13.6.6   Automated Equipment Inventory Request

The LAS queries the chemistry analyzer 0001 for status of all packages of the substance (id=MF01239).

```
MSH|^~\&|LASPROG|LASSYS|INSTPROG|AUTINST|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |INR^U06|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
INV|MF01239^REAGENT1|OK^OK_STATUS<cr>
```

13.6.7   Automated Equipment Command

The LAS sends command of "Clearing Notification" to the chemistry analyzer 0001.

```
MSH|^~\&|LASPROG|LASSYS|INSTPROG|AUTINST|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |EAC^U07|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
ECD|89421|CN^CLEAR NOTIFICATION|Y^YES<cr>
CNS|1209|1500|199806010800|199806300800<cr>
```

13.6.8   Automated Equipment Response

The chemistry analyzer confirms completion of the execution of the initialization command.

```
MSH|^~\&|INSTPROG|AUTINST|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |EAR^U08|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
ECD|89421|IN^INIT|Y^YES<cr>
ECR|OK^COMMAND_COMPLETE|19980630080035<cr>
```

13.6.9   Automated Equipment Notification

The chemistry analyzer sends a notification (warning) about drift in the detection unit.

```
MSH|^~\&|INSTPROG|AUTINST|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |EAN^U09|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
NDS|8923|199806300800|W^WARNING^|DU001^DETECTIO UNIT DRIFT<cr>
```

13.6.10   Automated Equipment Test Code Settings Update

The LAS send update of configuration parameters for Glucose test.

```
MSH|^~\&|LASPROG|LASSYS|INSTPROG|AUTINST|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |TCU^U10|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
TCC|15074-8^GLUCOSE|GLU-HK^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|SER^SERUM|10|10|0|0|500|
    Y^YES|Y^YES|N^NO |^2^-^400|mg/dL|P<cr>
```

13.6.11   Automated Equipment Test Code Settings Request

The chemistry analyzer 0001 queries the LAS for configuration parameters of the Glucose test.

```
MSH|^~\&|INSTPROG|AUTINST|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
    |TCR^U11|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
TCC|15074-8^GLUCOSE|GLU-HK^CHEMISTRYANALYZER<cr>
```

13.6.12   Automated Equipment Log/Service Update

The chemistry analyzer 0001 sends 1 record from the event log to the LAS.

```
MSH|^~\&|INSTPROG|AUTINST|LASPROG|LASSYS|19980630080040|SECURITY
     |LSU^U12|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
EQP|LOG^LOG_EVENT||199806300755|199806300800|I976 Instrument Initialization<cr>
```

13.6.13 Automated Equipment Log/Service Request

The LAS queries chemistry analyzer for log file of events occurring between 7am and 8am on 30th June 1998.

```
MSH|^~\&|LASPROG|LASSYS|INSTPROG|AUTINST|19980630080040|SECURITY
     |LSR^U13|MSG00001|P|2.4|<cr>
EQU|0001^CHEMISTRYANALYZER|19980630080038<cr>
EQP|LOG^LOG_EVENT||199806300700|199806300800<cr>
```

13.7   OUTSTANDING ISSUES

None.