



**HIPAA Eligibility Transaction System
(HETS)
270/271**

**R2011Q400 Additional Release
Communication**

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R2011Q400 HETS 270/271 Release

Summary of Impact on Trading Partners

The purpose of this summary document is to inform submitters that as of Dec 17, 2011, patches are being installed in the HETS system that will enforce the suppression of trailing spaces in Alpha Numeric (A/N) Data Elements. Previously, the rule was not enforced and therefore trailing spaces did not return an error.

Per the Implementation Guide, trailing spaces are only allowed when necessary to satisfy a minimum length requirement. Refer to Appendix B.1.1.3.1.4 String. Currently there are two minimum length requirements in the 270/271. The Interchange Receiver ID element is located within the ISA segment in either the ISA06 or the ISA08 field. Except for the previous segments, if a 270 is received with trailing spaces in an Alpha Numeric data element field after 12/16/2011, the 271 will return a 997 error for 4010 transactions and a 999 error for 5010 transactions. If any files currently contain trailing spaces, it is critical that the spaces be suppressed prior to 12/16/2011 to prevent unwanted errors.