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Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) — Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4) —

Part 8:
Associated data in EDI

Contents

Foreword

This part of ISO 9735 was prepared by the UN/ECE Trade Division (as UN/EDIFACT).

Whereas this part supersedes the earlier publications, and shall use a version number of "4" in the mandatory data element 0002 (Syntax version number) in the segment UNB (Interchange header), interchanges continuing to use the syntax defined in the earlier published versions shall use the following Syntax version numbers, in order to differentiate them from each other and from this part:

ISO 9735:1988 — *Syntax version number: 1*

ISO 9735:1988 (amended and reprinted in 1990) — *Syntax version number: 2*

ISO 9735:1988 (amended and reprinted in 1990) plus Amendment 1:1992 — *Syntax version number: 3*

ISO 9735 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) - Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4)*:

— *Part 1: Syntax rules common to all parts, together with syntax service directories for each of the parts*

— *Part 2: Syntax rules specific to batch EDI*

— *Part 3: Syntax rules specific to interactive EDI*

— *Part 4: Syntax and service report message for batch EDI (message type - CONTRL)*

— *Part 5: Security rules for batch EDI (authenticity, integrity and non-repudiation of origin)*

— *Part 6: Secure authentication and acknowledgement message (message type - AUTACK)*

— *Part 7: Security rules for batch EDI (confidentiality)*

— *Part 8: Associated data in EDI*

— *Part 9: Security key and certificate management message (message type - KEYMAN)*

Further parts may be added in the future.

Introduction

This part of ISO 9735 includes the rules at the application level for the structuring of data in the interchange of electronic messages in an open environment, based on the requirements of either batch or interactive processing. These rules have been agreed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) as syntax rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (EDIFACT) and are part of the United Nations Trade Data Interchange Directory (UNTDID) which also includes both batch and interactive Message Design Guidelines.

This part of ISO 9735 may be used in any application, but messages using these rules may only be referred to as EDIFACT messages if they comply with other guidelines, rules and directories in the UNTDID. For UN/EDIFACT, messages shall comply with the message design rules for batch or interactive usage as applicable. These rules are maintained in the UNTDID.

Communications specifications and protocols are outside the scope of this part of ISO 9735.

This is a new part, which has been added to ISO 9735. It provides an optional capability of associating a package of data, which contains an object bounded by EDIFACT service segments as envelopes.

The option permits the transfer within an EDIFACT interchange of data which can be created by other applications, such as STEP (Standard for The Exchange of Product model data), CAD (Computer Aided Design), etc., and which cannot be carried by means of an EDIFACT message.

Within an interchange, packages may be contained in groups, which may contain messages and packages, or only packages. Lastly, an interchange may contain solely a package (or packages).

Package(s) transferred in an EDIFACT interchange may or may not be related to an EDIFACT message (or messages) contained in the same or a different interchange.

Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) — Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4) —

Part 8:
Associated data in EDI

1   Scope

This part of ISO 9735 specifies syntax rules for associated data in EDI to be interchanged between computer application systems. This provides a method to transfer data which cannot be carried by means of either a batch or interactive EDIFACT message. The data may be created by other applications (such as STEP, CAD, etc.), and is referred to in this part as associated data.

2   Conformance

Conformance to a standard means that all of its requirements, including all options, are supported. If all options are not supported, any claim of conformance shall include a statement which identifies those options to which conformance is claimed.

Data that is interchanged is in conformance if the structure and representation of the data conforms to the syntax rules specified in this International Standard.

Devices supporting this International Standard are in conformance when they are capable of creating and/or interpreting the data structured and represented in conformance with the standard.

Conformance to this part shall include conformance to ISO 9735-1, and ISO 9735-2 or ISO 9735-3.

When identified in this International Standard, provisions defined in related standards shall form part of the conformance criteria.

3   Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 9735. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 9735 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 9735-1:1998, *Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) — Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4) — Part 1: Syntax rules common to all parts, together with syntax directories for each of the parts.*

ISO 9735-2:1998, *Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) — Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4) — Part 2: Syntax rules specific to batch EDI.*

ISO 9735-3:1998, *Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) — Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4) — Part 3: Syntax rules specific to interactive EDI.*

4 Definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO 9735, the definitions in ISO 9735-1:1998, annex A apply.

5 Associated data within an EDI interchange

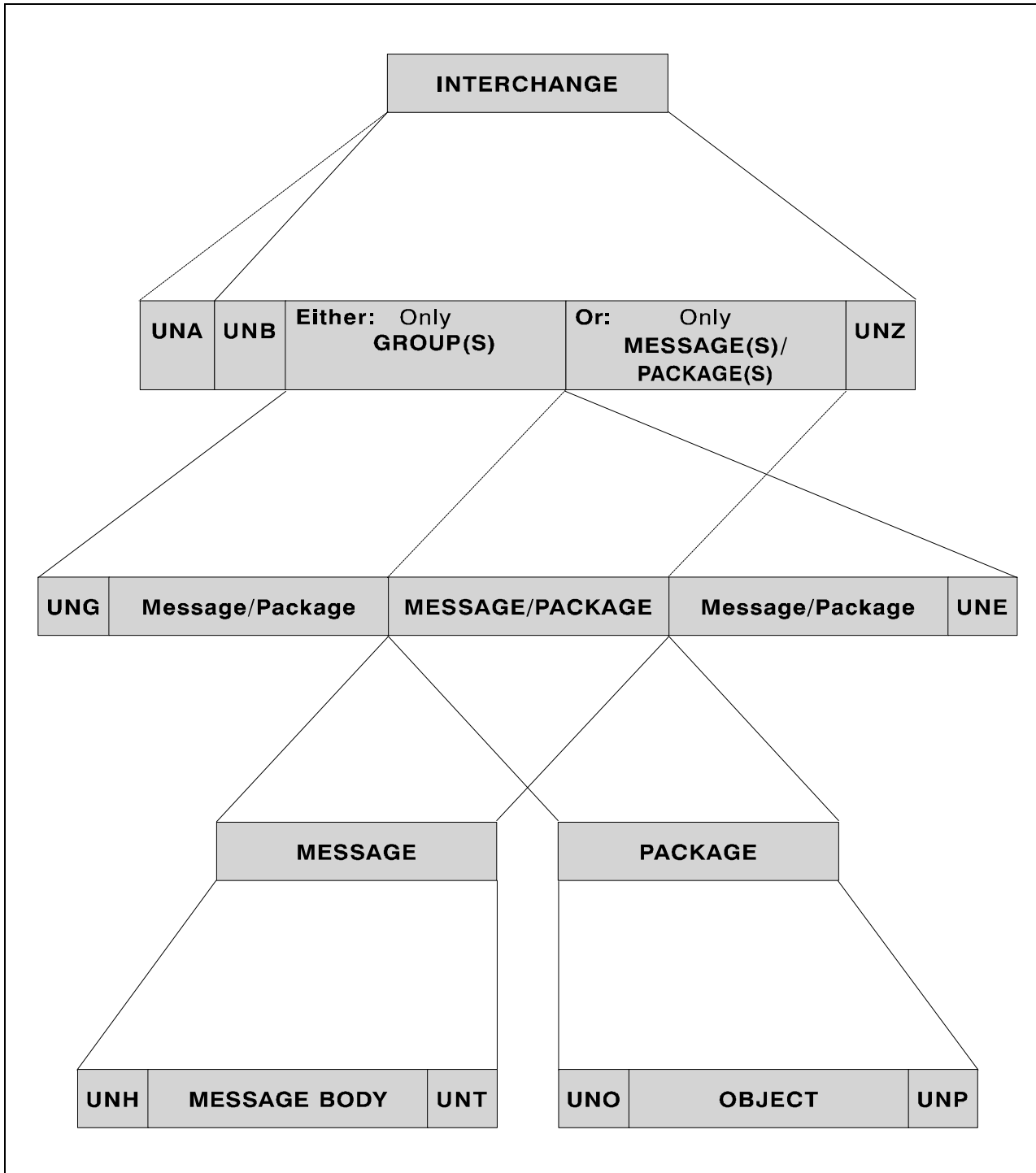## 5.1 Associated data within a batch EDI interchange

Figure 1a — Associated data within a batch EDI interchange (Schematic)

An **INTERCHANGE** contains:
  - UNA, Service String Advice, if used.
  - UNB, Interchange Header
  - Either: Only group(s)   Or: Only message(s) and/or package(s)
  - UNZ, Interchange Trailer

A **GROUP** contains:
  - UNG, Group Header
  - message(s) and/or package(s)
  - UNE, Group Trailer

A **MESSAGE** contains:
  - UNH, Message Header
  - a message body
  - UNT, Message Trailer

A **PACKAGE** contains:
  - UNO, Object Header
  - an object
  - UNP, Object Trailer

A **MESSAGE BODY** contains:
  - segment(s) and/or segment group(s)

An **OBJECT** contains:
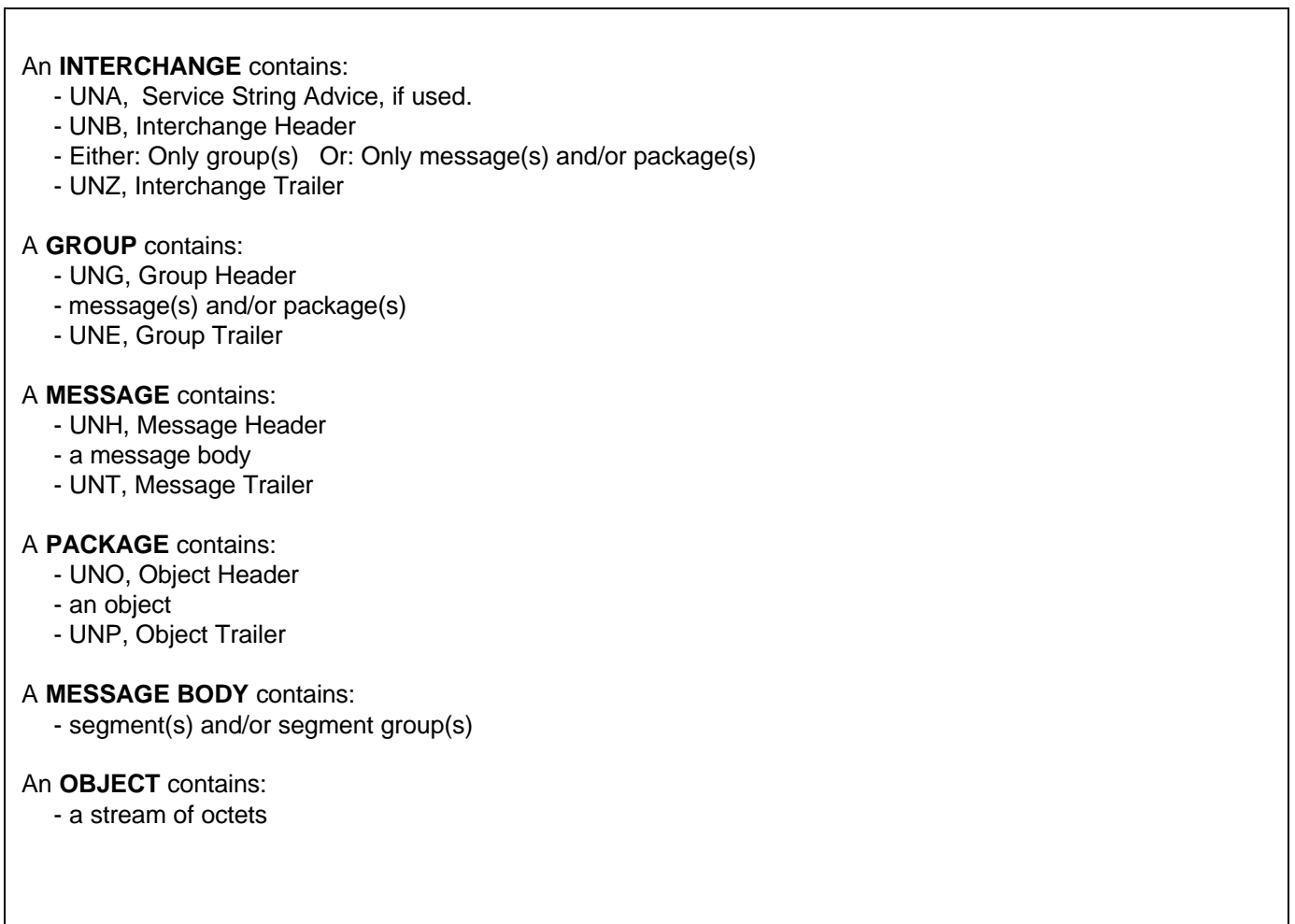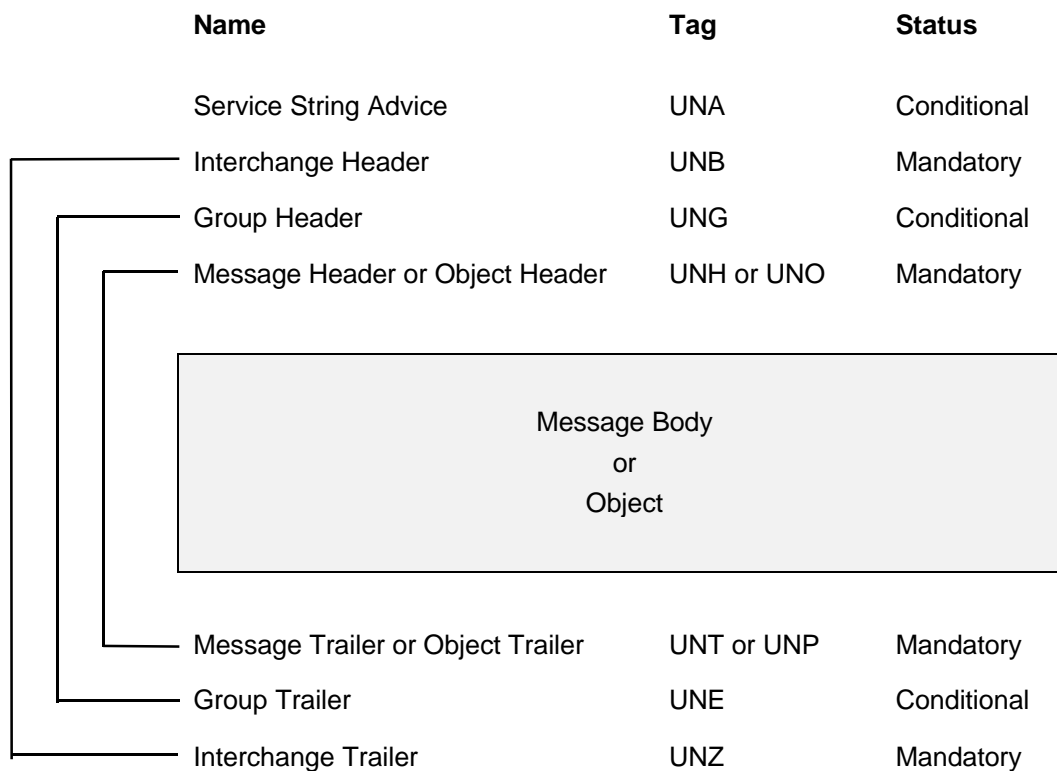 - a stream of octets

Figure 1b — Associated data within a batch EDI interchange (Legend)

5.1.1 Structures for batch EDI

An interchange shall contain only:

- Messages, or
- Packages, or
- Messages and Packages, or
- Groups containing messages, or
- Groups containing packages, or
- Groups containing messages and packages.

The service string advice (if used) and the header and trailer service segments shall appear in a batch EDI interchange in the order shown below:

Name	Tag	Status
Service String Advice	UNA	Conditional
Interchange Header	UNB	Mandatory
Group Header	UNG	Conditional
Message Header or Object Header	UNH or UNO	Mandatory
Message Body or Object		
Message Trailer or Object Trailer	UNT or UNP	Mandatory
Group Trailer	UNE	Conditional
Interchange Trailer	UNZ	Mandatory

In the diagram above, the lines to the left show the pairing of header and trailer segments. For simplicity, an interchange containing only one group and one message/package is shown.

For the specification of the service string advice see ISO 9735-1:1998, annex B.

For the specification of the header and trailer segments see ISO 9735-1, annex C.

NOTE — Segments for use in UN/EDIFACT messages are defined in the United Nations Trade Data Interchange Directory (UNTDID).

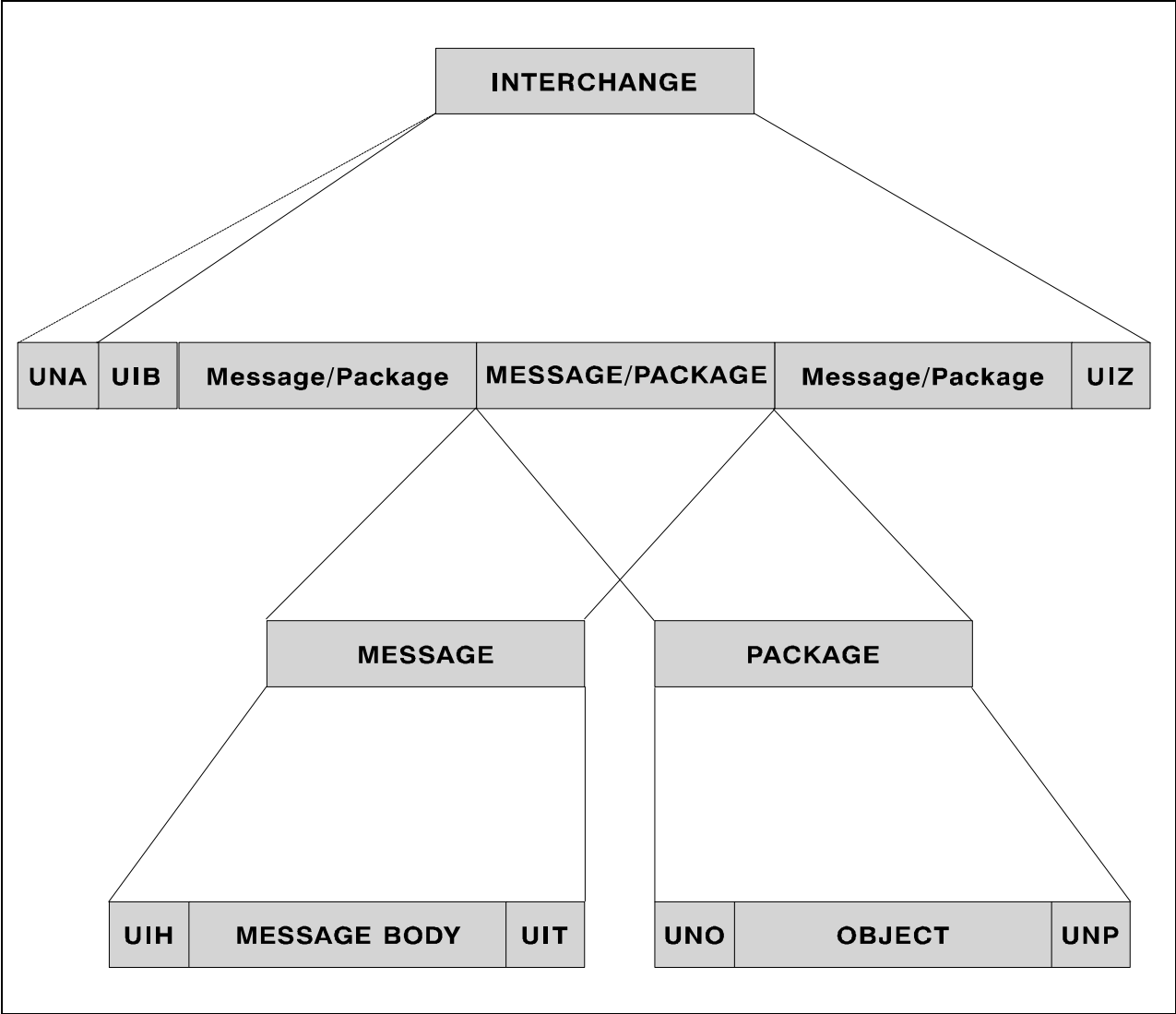**5.2   Associated data within an interactive EDI interchange**

Figure 2a — Associated data within an interactive EDI interchange (Schematic)

An **INTERCHANGE** contains:
- UNA, Service String Advice, if used in the Initiator interchange
- UIB,   Interactive Interchange Header
- message(s)/package(s)
- UIZ,   Interactive Interchange Trailer

A **MESSAGE** contains:
- UIH,   Interactive Message Header
- a message body
- UIT,   Interactive Message Trailer

A **PACKAGE** contains:
- UNO, Object Header
- an object
- UNP, Object Trailer

A **MESSAGE BODY** contains:
- segment(s) and/or segment group(s)

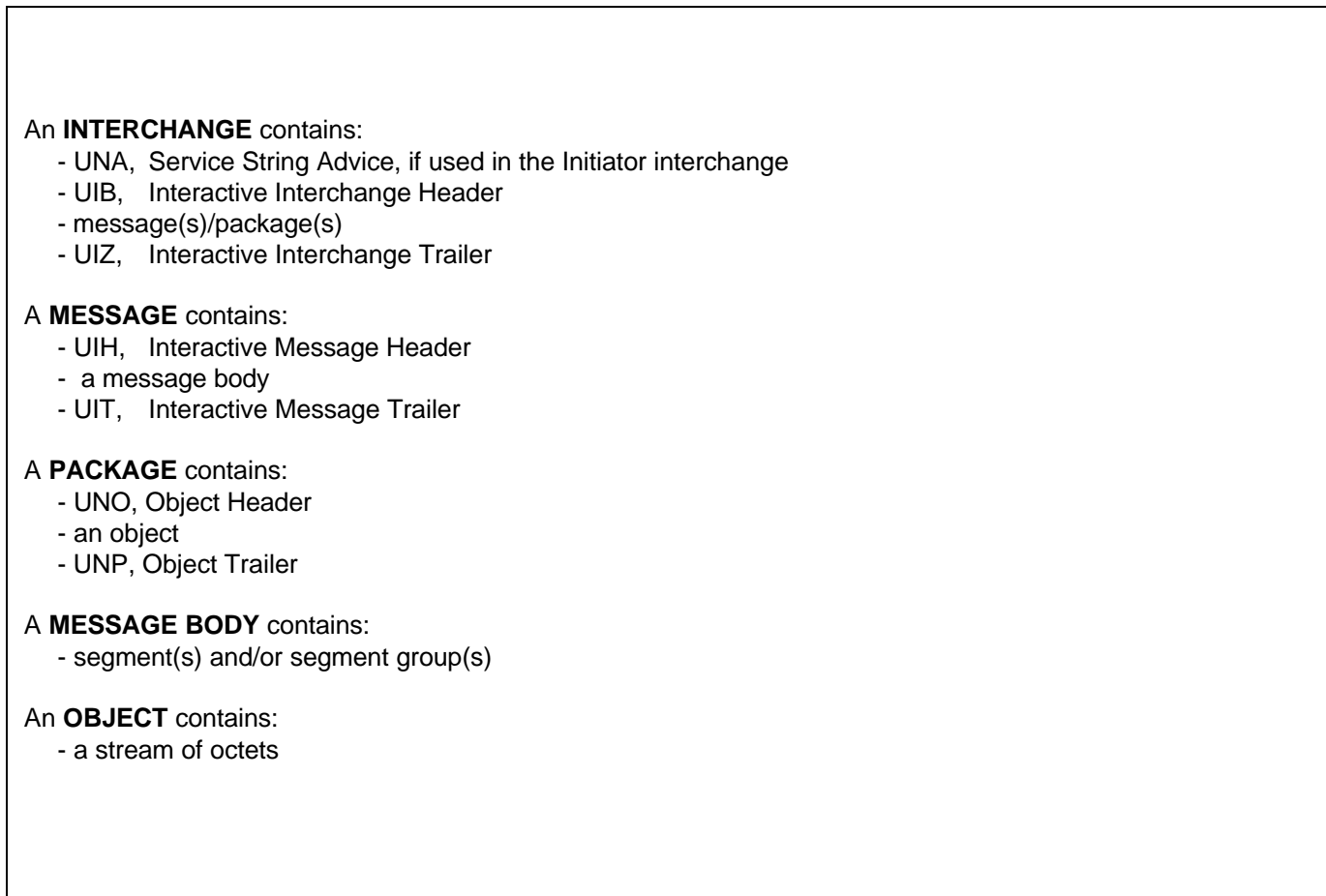An **OBJECT** contains:
- a stream of octets

Figure 2b — Associated data within an interactive EDI interchange (Legend)

5.2.1 Structures for interactive EDI

An interactive interchange shall contain only:

- Messages, or
- Packages, or
- Messages and Packages.

The service string advice (if used) and the header and trailer service segments shall appear in an interactive EDI interchange in the order shown below:

Name	Tag	Status
Service String Advice	UNA	Conditional
Interactive Interchange Header	UIB	Mandatory
Interactive Message Header or Object Header	UIH or UNO	Mandatory
Message Body or Object		
Interactive Message Trailer or Object Trailer	UIT or UNP	Mandatory
Interactive Interchange Trailer	UIZ	Mandatory

In the diagram above, the lines to the left show the pairing of header and trailer segments. For simplicity, an interchange containing only one message/package is shown.

For the specification of the service string advice see ISO 9735-1:1998, annex B.

For the specification of the interactive interchange; interactive message; and object; header and trailer segments, see ISO 9735-1, annex C.

NOTE — Segments for use in UN/EDIFACT messages are defined in the United Nations Trade Data Interchange Directory (UNTDID).

5.3 Package content

A package shall comprise an object header segment (UNO), an object, and an object trailer segment (UNP).

The character repertoire of an object is not governed by the character repertoire identified in the interchange header.

Data presented as an object shall not be governed by the syntax rules (e.g.. should any service characters appear in the object, they shall not be preceded by the syntax release character).

5.4 Object referencing

To convey objects within the interchange structure, there is a requirement to provide adequate referencing capabilities properly to relate the object(s) and the associated message(s).

Reference to the object following the UNO segment shall be made by specifying its object identification number in S020 of the UNO segment.

Note: For UN/EDIFACT messages an RFF segment shall be used to identify the object identification number attributable to one object. The object identification number assigned should be unique for a sufficient time to avoid any confusion. There may be many RFF segment occurrences used to identify all applicable objects.