

RATIONALE FOR CONTENT AND EDITORIAL REVISIONS

This version of SAE J2008 retains the family of practices developed by members of the Society of Automotive Engineers and The Maintenance Council of the American Trucking Associations to partition and provide easy access to service information for highway vehicles and related equipment.

Growing industry needs, particularly for service information about medium- and heavy-duty trucks, as well as for major components, drove changes from the previous Draft Technical Report version of J2008. Global business needs require service information that can be expressed in various languages, and using current vector graphics standards.

This version benefits from a successful Data Interchange Test, wherein industry manufacturers volunteered to interchange samples of their service information, compliant with this version, for evaluation by an independent knowledgeable recipient.

J2008 retains the core SGML-based interchange methodology for service information. Information organization continues to use a relational Data Model in lieu of a specific document model. The SGML definition set forth within this version of J2008 clearly provides a number of hierarchical path representations of the Data Model. In addition, J2008 retains models for common text constructs such as tables, paragraphs, lists, and procedures that are found within typical service information.

Specific changes incorporated into this version of SAE J2008 include:

1. Changes to resolve feedback from document users.
2. Trucking industry practices represented in the TMC T2008 data model integrated into Section 5 (Data Model).
3. Manufacturer and Marketing Division IDs changed in Section 5 to use the TMC / ATA VMRS Code Key 34 to encompass car, truck, and component manufacturers.
4. Coordinated updates to Section 6 (Document Type Definition):
 - Remedied oversights in the original DTD design
 - Organized the DTD as a set of modules
 - Harmonized with changes to the Data Model
 - Simplified linear descriptions of the paths that traverse Data Model tables
 - Improved the process for future updates to previously-interchanged data
 - Improved data packaging
 - Improved management of Service Information Elements (SIEs)
5. Specific ISO standards specified in Sections 5 and 6 to define applicable languages, character sets, and where practicable, markets.
6. Information examples added to Sections 5 and 6, many sourced from the Data Interchange Test.
7. CGM Intelligent Graphics Exchange methodology specified in Section 8 (Vector Graphics).