



**204 (TRANSPORTATION) MOTOR  
CARRIER LOAD TENDER**

**BEST PRACTICES  
AND  
COMMON ERRORS**

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Many of you know why it is important to understand the 204 (Motor Carrier Load Tender). As a recap, the 204 tells you:

- Your SCAC for the load
- The BOL and PO(s)
- If the 204 is a original, change or cancellation
- Date the carrier must respond to the 204 by
- Ship not before date and ship no later than date
- Deliver not before date and deliver no later than date
- *Ship From* location and *Ship To* location

## **BEST PRACTICES**

- ***Use Lowe's 204 specs-*** 204 specs and business examples are located on [www.loweslink.com](http://www.loweslink.com) under the EDI tab > Lowes EDI Specifications and Business Examples > Transportation Carrier > 204 Motor Carrier Load Tender > Implementation Guide or Business Examples.
- ***204 only for a collect PO-*** Lowes will only send an EDI 204 for a collect PO.
- ***A cross dock 204-*** will contain the L5, G61 and L11 loop. The L11-02 will contain the ultimate consignee.
- ***New store loads may contain a P in front of the store number in the 204-*** please do not include the P in front of the store number on the 214 and 210 coming back for this load.
- ***We do not send mileage in the EDI 204-*** mileage is calculated by the Ship From and Ship To zip codes.
- ***A pool shipment 204-*** will show the Ship To location as another carrier.
- ***Send a 990 for each 204-*** it is important that you send an EDI 990 (response to a load tender) for each 204 that you receive within 2 hours from the time dated on the 204.
- ***We treat EDI 204 as "fast batch"*** - meaning we process them every 15 minutes. We would like carriers to pull this data as often as possible.
- ***As a backup when EDI is down-*** you can get access to JDA website (Networks Carrier) to receive and send information. Lowes prefers all EDI data, but you can use JDA website as a backup if needed. If you don't have access to JDA website, you can contact your Lowes carrier relations representative for instructions on how to get setup. A list of Lowes carrier relations representatives are located on [www.loweslink.com](http://www.loweslink.com) under Partner Information > Transportation Information > Lowes Load Planning Map
- ***Contact your Load Planner-*** if you have questions regarding the contents of the load. A map of the Lowes Load Planners is located on [www.loweslink.com](http://www.loweslink.com) under Partner Information > Transportation Information > Lowes Load Planning Map.

Note: The software we use to create our 204's is JDA. Currently, if a load is canceled in our system, JDA does not retain any detail information on that load. Therefore, the cancel 204 does not contain that detailed information either. Some if this information is mandatory on the 204.

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