

Please note! This page describes the *nature of the error* using a hypothetical example and not the erroneous data of the input test file. You should however be able to apply this information to your error case.

General description of the error:

The format of the error message: The entity name must immediately follow the '&' in the entity reference.

Error description in schema standard: <http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xml-20..04/#NT-content>

Possible causes for this error:

- There is illegal character '&' inside a field and is interpreted as entity
- XML entities are used incorrectly, e.g. a space is given after character & and amp;
 - ? & = &
 - < = <
 - > = >

Example

```
<Nm>Virgay & Co</Nm>
```

Error message: *Fatal Error NameRequiredInReference : The entity name must immediately follow the '&' in the entity reference.*

Meaning of error: Character & is interpreted to start an entity reference but instead a space is given after it

How to fix: Element can be fixed by replacing & with a correct entity reference, &

```
<Nm>Virgay &amp; Co</Nm>
```