

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 processing instruction must begin with the name of the target.

Error description in schema standard: <http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xml-20040204/#NT-prolog>

Meaning of error: Parsing has found a "processing instruction", most likely a syntax which is supposed to start XML declaration but file is missing the name of the instruction.

Possible causes for this error:

- XML declaration is not valid. Example of valid declaration below.

Example

```
<? encoding="UTF-8"?>
```

Error message: *Fatal Error PITargetRequired : The processing instruction must begin with the name of the target.*

How to fix: Add the missing information to declaration

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
```