TIGERS MeF WEBINAR
APRIL 20, 2010

The purpose of this meeting was to complete the outstanding agenda items from the April 6, 2010 webinar.

AGENDA:

- Complete the discussion of Electronic Postmark – IRS wants to make it optional.

- Four FinancialTransaction issues:
    - Revise formatting of TaxTypeCode in Addenda
    - Require minimum $1 for ACH transactions
    - Make RequestedPaymentDate mandatory
    - IAT Data

- Complete the discussion of Temporary IDs
    - Submission Manifest – unlinked only
    - State Return Header

- StateSubmissionManifest – standard to require SubmissionType in manifest to equal ReturnType in ReturnHeader

- NAICS Codes upper limit extension to allow 6-digit NAICS.

- Recap and Action Items

Terry Garber, Chairperson, began the meeting with a review of the agenda and roll-call. Roll-call was taken in order to determine which states and industry representatives were on the call for voice-vote purposes on proposed schema changes.

The following states and industry were present at the webinar:

Mississippi	Louisiana	Illinois
West Virginia	Oregon	Illinois DES
Idaho	Utah	Minnesota
Connecticut	Michigan	Alabama
Pennsylvania	Iowa	Maryland
Iowa	Georgia	Wisconsin
New York State	Vermont	Nebraska
Ohio	Hawaii	South Carolina
Virginia	Kansas	

New York City

	KPMG	Bank of America

Intuit   H and R Block
RSI   Thompson

Electronic Postmark Clarification - continued
Xan Ostro of IRA updated us on the IRS' position regarding the
ElectronicPostmark element. The element is already optional in the
GetNewSubmissions WSDL but is mandatory in SendSubmissions. The IRS
has decided to make this element optional in both, especially because large
corporations who self-submit are not allowed to utilize a postmark date. He
reminded us, that the IRS does provide the received time stamp which is
mandated and can be used by states to determine the timeliness of the filing.

States requested that the IRS keep the ElectronicPostmark element as
mandatory, because of issues beyond IRS' control, such as IRS system
outages which might make IRS Received Date later than the electronic
postmark. Xan will try to work out a solution with the IRS to keep the
ElectronicPostmark mandatory and find a default value for the self-filers to
use.

Financial Transaction
TIGERS received several request for changes to the Financial Transaction
Schema which are addressed below:

Illinois requested that the TaxTypeCode in the Addenda Record be changed
in order to accept either three, four, or five digits, blank-filled to five
characters . The motion is made to allow a single digit followed by a blank in
the state TaxTypeCode; it currently allows either two digits or two blanks.
The voice vote resulted in no objections from the representatives; therefore,
the change was adopted and will be included in the upcoming TIGERS
schema release.

Iowa requested a change to ACHAmountType, used by the PaymentAmount
element, in order to require the element to be non-negative and not less
than $1.00 entries. It was noted that this request could cause problems for
states requiring pre-notes because pre-notes require a zero amount. In
addition, Wisconsin and Michigan raised concerns that no–remit returns
making up part of bulk payments can be less than $1 and that some states
also collect tax due even if it less the $1 from taxpayers. It was revealed by
Iowa that the major concern with the existing element is that it allows
negative amounts. After some discussion, it was suggested that to resolve a
negative amount entry would be to require a restriction of a minimum entry
of $0. A voice vote resulted in a few industry partners and some states
indicating that they had no preference, however, there were enough "yes"
votes to adopt the change to require a minimum entry of $0 in the
ACHAmount element. The adopted change will be included in the next
TIGERS schema release. It was noted that this change would affect all dollar
amounts within the FinancialTransaction schema, across multiple TIGERS

programs. [editor's note: because of this, it has been pointed out that this change should be ratified by other TIGERS projects such as FSET and SST.]

Kansas requested that RequestedPaymentDate element for direct debits be changed to mandatory rather than restricting the requirement via a business rule validation. Kansas made the request because the element is used as a contract between the state/taxpayer in order to debit the taxpayers bank account. A lengthy discussion took place because some representatives do not feel it is necessary to require a debit date especially within the business community, while other states believe it is good practice to require the taxpayer to determine a debit date as well as it helps when warehousing future payments such as estimated payments. A voice vote was taken to change the RequestedPaymentDate element to mandatory rather than optional. The vote resulted in a majority of the representatives voting "no preference" while only 8 representatives vote "yes" and 6 voted "no". It was suggested that since there was an overwhelming number of "no preference" votes that states seek advice from policy makers in order to determine if the requested change would benefit the state; therefore, this topic will be added to the next meeting agenda or be presented via email for a vote.

Temporary IDs
Terry Garber reviewed New York State's request to add a TempID to the TIGERS schema. She noted a vote passed at the April 6 meeting to add the change to the StateSubmissionManifest. New York State requested that the IRS also make the change to the IRS header. Xan stated that IRS cannot make the change, because they will not process a return without an FEIN. In addition, New York requested that the change be made to the state return header. New York also requested that the IRS allow for the change in the state ack. Xan must investigate this further for the ack, but agreed that if states accept the tempID, then the Ack must be able to handle it. Xan reminded the group that the state return must be transmitted as an "unlinked" submission since the federal return cannot be submitted with a temppID. It was shown that the ReturnHeaderState already includes a string StateEIN element that can be used for the tempID. States were reluctant to make the FEIN optional via a choice gate, since some states also require the FEIN. New York State agreed that they could use a default value such as zeros in the FEIN and use the StateEIN for the tempID, so no change is needed to ReturnHeaderState.

Submission Type
Greg Martinez requested a change to the TIGERS standard to require that SubmissionType and ReturnType be identical entries in the submission. Several states indicated that it would require major changes to their system if this request was made a TIGERS standard. Additionally, this cannot be enforced through the schema. After a short discussion, it was determined that this request is better as a best practice than a TIGERS standard.

NAICS Code

Several requests were made to raise the max value within the element to accommodate higher NACIS codes. IRS NAICS are currently limited to 813000, where states using all six digits of the NAICS code can go up to 813999. Xan stated that the IRS is considering changing their schema to allow for the maximum NACIS codes, which may go higher than 813999. Irmgard Hubbard of IRS confirmed this. It was noted that if the IRS makes the change it will not be necessary for TIGERS to create a unique element, but can continue to use the IRS efileType. Therefore, no change will be made until a determination is made by the IRS.

Due to time limitations, IAT will be an agenda topic for the next TIGERS meeting (webinar).