

July 30, 2009 Special Webinar --- V 2.1 Package Vote

Terry began the meeting explaining that as a result of our webinar discussion on July 22, 2009, it was necessary to hold another webinar in order to vote on the standards and how states can customize the Financial Transaction schema. In addition, the goal of this meeting is to get final vote to go with V 2.1 package. The vote requires a quorum, therefore, it was requested that all TIGERS participants - both states and industry - be present at this meeting.

Roll call was taken by the secretary and noted that the following states and industry were present on the call:

Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, New Mexico, Nebraska, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Georgia, Oregon, Wisconsin, Kansas, Virginia, Utah, PA, Maryland, Michigan, New York City, Montana, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, Colorado, North Dakota, Minnesota, West Virginia, Tennessee, Delaware, Vermont, Missouri, Ohio, and Louisiana,

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Terry further explained that V 2.1 is not backward compatible; only to be used for Tax Year 2009 and forward.

Before the review of previously agreed upon TIGERS items, Terry provided an update of the following IRS issues:

- 1040 MeF go live date is 2/15/2010 not January 2010.
- 1040 MeF date does not affect business 1120/1065.
- 1040 MeF date doesn't affect EMS start date, it is still January 12, 2010.
- 1040 MeF start date does affect the volume management plan. There will still be a plan up to 4/15.
- Legacy will phase out 2014, but need IRS input on this date.
- MeF full will be available for Tax season 2012.

TIGERS Header review

- Document attribute group added for signature document. Unanimous vote to approve this addition since it was optional, but useful across all MeF programs.
- State EIN Extension and Reporting Agent: vote NOT to add them to the core Header or to State Business extension. Programs that need those elements (such as FSET) could add them to the unique tax type Header extensions.

IRS Forms Folder

Terry reviewed that during the July 22 meeting we agreed to add the IRS Forms Folder to TIGERS package as described in the MeF standards. This folder only includes w-2 and 1099R, with prefix IRS because they are the TIGERS point in time copy of the IRS schemas. If the state needed additional information that the IRS does not capture such as local taxes withheld, the state would replace the IRS prefix with the state abbreviation. At this time, if states need other forms such as the w-2G and 1099INT, which are not yet published by IRS, they will have to build their own, or wait for TIGERS to provide in a later release. It was noted that these are for use if the state needs its own copy of the federal form as part of the state return, rather than a copy of the federal filing. Versions created by the states would be in the XXindividual folder and include 'their own' copies there.

Financial Transactions:

Terry noted that FT will have to change at a later date to accommodate the new IAT requirements, but for the purpose of the vote on V2.1, the current structure will not include IAT

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The simpler approach for customizing FT was reviewed. In order to make the simpler approach work, the main FinancialTransactionType complex type was put back in-line in the FT schema. A state cannot change the FT in the Common TIGERS folder. To make any changes to FT, states copy the FT schema in the Common Folder to the State's common folder and makes the necessary changes. Permitted changes include deleting any of the four mainline elements (StatePayment, RefundDirectDeposit, ACHCreditInfo, and EstimatedPayments), and reducing the number of occurrences of any of the elements. The state then deletes FT.xsd from the TIGERS common. By deleting the FT in the TIGERS common folder, it signals the Developers that the state is restricting some type(s) of financial transactions.

If a state does not accept electronic payments, the state deletes the FT schema in the TIGERS folder and deletes the FinancialTransaction element from ReturnXX.

A vote to accept the new FT was taken and resulted in the following:

Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, New Mexico, Nebraska, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Oregon, Wisconsin, Kansas, Virginia, Utah, PA, Maryland, Michigan, New York City, Montana, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, Colorado, North Dakota, Minnesota, West Virginia, Tennessee, Delaware, Vermont, Missouri, Ohio, and Louisiana agreed to the FT with a "yes" vote.

Georgia did not respond

Intuit, H and R Block and Petz Enterprises agreed to the FT with a "yes" vote.

Terry reviewed the structure of the zip package because a question was raised on the folder naming of other state returns. There were two theories on naming the other states returns; one was to include the other state's abbreviation to the folder name while the other a more generic approach such as other state, other state 1, other state 2 and so on.

A vote was taken after much discussion about the naming convention. Overwhelmingly, the states and industry agreed to the generic naming approach. The only state not responding was Georgia.

Before the final vote on V2.1 package was taken, one state requested information on placing "Shared Secrets" in the Header. It was pointed out that since each state determines their own "secrets" which in turn makes it unique to the state, that the element(s) for "Shared Secrets" belong in the state form schema.

A vote was taken to accept the V2.1 for state business and individual vote. The vote results are below

Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, New Mexico, Nebraska, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Oregon, Wisconsin, Kansas, Virginia, Utah, PA, Maryland, Michigan, New York City, Montana, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, Colorado, North Dakota, Minnesota, West Virginia, Tennessee, Delaware, Vermont, Missouri, Ohio, and Louisiana agreed to V2.1 packages with a "yes" vote.

Georgia did not respond

Intuit, H and R Block and Petz Enterprises agreed to the V2.1 package with a "yes" vote.

A webinar will be scheduled shortly after the FTA Tech conference on IAT issue.