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Mandatory fields in SWIFT Net FileAct service	28/09/2007



TARGET2 - SINGLE SHARED PLATFORM Technical Note Mandatory fields in SWIFT Net FileAct service Version 1.0
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Introduction

The aim of this document is to provide information on the impacts on SSP with the introduction of SWIFT Standards 2007 for the FileAct service.

The SWIFT Net FileAct is the file transfer service provided by SWIFT, typically used to exchange batches of structured financial messages and large reports.

The use of the SWIFT Net FileAct service in the SSP is described in TARGET2 UDFS Book1 version 2.3 ch. 9.2.

Typical examples of the use of the SWIFT Net FileAct service in the SSP are:

- to transfer the TARGET2 directory via the Secure IP Network (SIPN)
- to assist in retrieving responses that exceed the maximum volume of InterAct messages
- to send ATransferInitiation requests by AS.

With the introduction of Standards 2007 on October 27th some fields that were optional up to that point will become mandatory for the correct functioning of the platform interface.

This change will take place regardless of the installation of release 6.0 of the interface software on the customer's part, and all SWIFTNet FileAct users must ensure that their interfaces or applications that generate these fields comply with the structured request types by no later than the Standards 2007 live date (2007 October 27th).

With every file it transfers, SWIFTNet FileAct also transfers a file transfer header that contains key data elements about the file transfer and the file itself. Two particularly important key header fields RequestType and Compression indicators are impacted by the changes.

1.1 Structured Request Type

The key header field Request Type enables the initiator of the file transfer to identify the type of data that the file contains.

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Currently, SWIFT already recommends that the user structures the Request Type header field in a specific manner (see the SWIFTNet Messaging Operations Guide), so that the file transfer header readily identifies the nature of the data being transferred. Today, however, this is simply a recommendation and SWIFT does not impose it.

As of the Standards 2007 live date, users must use the SWIFTNet FileAct Request Type header field, and must ensure that it complies with the existing standard structure that SWIFT prescribes. (the standard structure is detailed in SWIFTNet Messaging Operations Guide). SWIFT will reject SWIFTNet FileAct transfers that do not comply with this mandatory structure, and will not deliver them to the intended recipient.

All customers that initiate a SWIFTNet FileAct file transfer (irrespective of the SWIFTNet Link release they use) must check, and possibly reconfigure or update, interfaces and/or applications that :

- create the Request Type header field
- use this field for internal processing (for example, internal routing at reception)

to ensure that they create this field in a format consistent with the mandatory structure.

The list of the request types used by the SSP are listed in the UDFS book 4.

1.2 File Compression indication

The key header fields is the FileInfo field, enables the initiator of the file transfer to indicate whether the file being transferred is compressed (and if so, to indicate the compression algorithm that the sender has used).

Currently SWIFT already recommends that for every file transfer customers use a keyword in this field to indicate whether or not the file was compressed and to identify the compression algorithm, however this is simply a recommendation and SWIFT does not impose it.

As of the Standards 2007 live date, customers must, for every file transfer, explicitly indicate whether they have used (or not used) compression, by entering the appropriate keyword in the SWIFTNet FileAct FileInfo header field.

This indicator should be the first keyword in the FileInfo field. Consequently the field contents must always start with:

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SwCompression=

The SWIFTNet Messaging Operations Guide document describes which keywords customers can use in the FileInfo field.