

Fedwire® Funds Service Message Format Changes

Fedwire Application Interface Manual (FAIM) version 3.0.2
Effective November 19, 2011 (First Funds Transfer Business Day: November 21, 2011)

Frequently Asked Questions Testing & Certification Requirements

1. When will the Depository Institution Test (DIT) environment be available for customer/vendor testing?

The Federal Reserve Banks will make the DIT available for [Fedwire Application Interface Manual \(FAIM\) version 3.0.2](#) testing beginning **Monday, May 16, 2011**. Customers and vendors will be able to test any time during normal DIT operating hours. For information about the DIT operating hours and to schedule a test, see http://www.frb services.org/operations/fedwiretesting/fedwire_testing.html.

2. Which format versions will be available in the DIT?

A. FedLine Direct® Customers

For FedLine Direct customers only, the DIT will support two format versions from May 16, 2011 through November 18, 2011:¹

- **“02” (FAIM 1.1)** – This is the current format version in production today.
- **“30” (FAIM 3.0.2)** – This is the new format version that will be implemented in production on November 19, 2011.

The format version in the DIT for FedLine Direct customers will be controlled by a customer-level flag that will be defaulted to the current format version in production today (FAIM 1.1) and then will be changed to the new format version (FAIM 3.0.2) upon customer request when customers are ready to begin testing (see table below).

FedLine Direct customers will only be able to send messages in the DIT to other customers that are flagged as the same format version. To avoid rejects, you may wish to send to your own ABA or to a Federal Reserve Bank test ABA, which you can obtain by contacting your Wholesale Testing Unit. Please see the table below for more details.

Date	Default Format Version in DIT	Can I change my format version in the DIT?
May 16, 2011 through November 18, 2011	02 = FAIM 1.1	Yes, when you are ready to begin testing the new FAIM 3.0.2 format, contact your Wholesale Testing Unit to change to version “30”. Once you change to version “30,” your Wholesale Testing Unit can also change you back to “02” if you have a business need to test FAIM 1.1.
November 19, 2011	30 = FAIM 3.0.2	No, the DIT will no longer support version “02.”

¹The format version corresponds to the value required by senders in element 01 of field tag {1500} Sender Supplied Information. It is also the value appended by the Fedwire Funds Service in element 01 of field tag {1100} Message Disposition.

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B. FedLine Advantage® Customers

Beginning May 16, 2011, the only format version in the DIT for FedLine Advantage customers that use the FedPayments® Manager (FPM) Funds application will be the new format version (i.e., version “30” for FAIM 3.0.2).

FedPayments Manager Import/Export Users:

- Import users will need to ensure that “30” is included in element 01 of field tag {1500} Sender Supplied Information.
- Export users need to be aware that the Fedwire Funds Service will append format version “30” to element 01 of field tag {1100} Message Disposition on incoming messages that you may export to a backend application.

If you need to test with the current production format version (i.e., version “02” or FAIM 1.1), please call your designated Wholesale Testing Unit.

3. What type of testing will be required for FedLine Direct customers and vendors, and is certification required?

The Federal Reserve Banks will [require all FedLine Direct customers and vendors](#) to certify their ability to successfully complete the following steps in the DIT. You will need to coordinate steps 3 through 7 with your Wholesale Testing Unit.

1. Send a representative sample of messages that reflect your normal business activity. (Note: Field tag {1500} Sender Supplied Information must have element 01 Format Version = 30 for FAIM 3.0.2.) If you plan on sending the CTP message for remittance information, include those messages in your sample.
2. Send a CTP COVS message for cover payments (only required if you send the CTRCOV message for cover payments today).
3. Receive a CTR message that does not have a short (telegraphic) bank name in field tags {3100} Sender and {3400} Receiver.
4. Receive a CTP message for each Local Instrument Code (i.e., ANSI, COVS, GXML, IXML, NARR, PROP, RMTS, RRMT, S820, SWIF, and UEDI).
5. Receive a CTP message that contains field tag {3620} Payment Notification.
6. Receive a CTP message that contains field tag {5010} Originator Option F.
7. Receive a CTP message that has the maximum incoming message size. [\(See question 4 below.\)](#)
8. Originate the following inquiries and receive associated responses:
 - a. Endpoint (Lterm) Grand Totals
 - b. Detailed Summary of Transfer Messages
 - c. Error Code Description
 - d. Retrieval Request of a prior-day origination or advice message

The Federal Reserve Banks also [require Tier 1 FedLine Direct customers](#) to participate in **one** test in the production environment on a Saturday to certify their ability to successfully complete the steps above. Tier 1 customers are those that are required to participate in three of the four Federal Reserve contingency tests in 2011. If you are not sure whether or not you are a Tier 1 customer,

please contact your designated Wholesale Testing Unit. [Refer to question 9 below for more details.](#)

4. What is the maximum message size for the new FAIM 3.0.2 format?

- a. **13,341 Characters** – Outgoing message sent from a customer to the Fedwire Funds Service.
- b. **13,392 Characters** – Incoming advice for a successfully completed message sent from the Fedwire Funds Service to a customer (does not include tag {1500} Sender Supplied Information).
- c. **13,416 Characters** – Incoming reject notification for a message rejected by the Fedwire Funds Service. The reject notification is sent from the Fedwire Funds Service to a customer (includes tags {1130} Error & {1500} Sender Supplied Information).

5. Do FedLine Direct vendors need to complete DIT testing and certification before their customers begin testing?

Yes, FedLine Direct vendors should plan to complete their DIT testing and certification before deploying their software to their customers so that when customers begin testing they are testing with the certified version of the vendor software.

6. What type of testing will be required for FedLine Advantage customers, and will certification be required?

FedLine Advantage customers that use the FedPayments Manager Funds application **have the option** to test in the DIT or to participate in a test in the production environment on a Saturday. However, the Federal Reserve Banks **strongly encourage** FedLine Advantage customers that use the FedPayment Manager's **import and/or export functionality** to test in the DIT. FedLine Advantage customers will not be required to certify successful completion of any testing, however.

FedLine Advantage customers that use templates should recreate those templates in the DIT after May 16, 2011, to validate that all templates comply with FAIM 3.0.2 edit rules. Customers will not be able to use (or even open) noncomplying templates in the production environment on or after November 19, 2011. At a minimum, customers should print their templates before the November 19, 2011, production implementation date in case they need to reenter the templates in the production environment.

FedLine Advantage customers may also wish to test in the DIT to familiarize themselves with the look and feel of the new screens and edits in the FedPayments Manager Funds application.

7. What type of testing will be required for FedLine Direct customers that use a third-party service provider (i.e., a vendor or another depository institution) to send or receive their Fedwire Funds Service transactions?

For those FedLine Direct customers that use a third-party service provider (i.e., a vendor or another depository institution) to send or receive their Fedwire Funds Service transactions, please be advised that your service provider may, at its discretion, require you to test independently with the Federal Reserve Banks or may complete testing on your behalf. You should consult with your service provider for specific testing requirements and to ensure that your service provider has made the necessary changes to allow you to send and receive the new FAIM 3.0.2 message format.

8. How long do customers have to complete DIT testing and any required certification?

Although the DIT will be available for customer testing until the November 19, 2011, production implementation date, the Federal Reserve Banks **strongly encourage** all customers to complete DIT testing and certification (if certification is required) by **Friday, October 14, 2011**. Completing testing and certification by that date will give you and your vendors, if you use any, additional time to address any issues you encountered during testing before the November 19, 2011, production implementation date.

9. Will customers be required to test the FAIM 3.0.2 format in the production environment?

The Federal Reserve Banks will **require Tier 1 FedLine Direct customers** to participate in at least **one** Saturday FAIM 3.0.2 production test as noted in the table below to certify their ability to successfully complete the testing steps outlined in question 3 above. Tier 1 customers are those that are required to participate in **three** of the four Federal Reserve contingency tests in 2011. If you are not sure whether or not you are a Tier 1 customer, please contact your designated Wholesale Testing Unit.

Saturday FAIM 3.0.2 production testing for **other FedLine Direct and FedLine Advantage customers** will be **optional** and may be limited on a particular date depending on the number of customers signed up for testing that day, but the Federal Reserve Banks will ensure that you are able to participate in at least one of the FAIM 3.0.2 Saturday production tests.

Saturday FAIM 3.0.2 Production Test Dates	Sign up for test by (2 weeks in advance)	Cycle Date for Test
September 24, 2011	Friday, September 9, 2011	September 22, 2011
October 1, 2011	Friday, September 16, 2011	September 30, 2011
October 15, 2011	Friday, September 30, 2011	October 12, 2011
November 12, 2011	Friday, October 28, 2011	November 15, 2011

As noted in the above table, customers should plan to sign up for Saturday production testing at least **two weeks** in advance of the test date. The dates for these tests are posted on the Federal Reserve Bank Services website at:

http://www.frb services.org/operations/fedwiretesting/2011_saturday_schedule.html.

The focus of the testing on these Saturdays will be for FAIM 3.0.2 testing, but if you have a business need to test the FAIM 1.1 version on those Saturdays, please contact your designated Wholesale Testing Unit.

10. What type of testing certification documents will customers and vendors need to complete?

A. DIT Certification

All FedLine Direct customers and vendors will be **required** to email the **FAIM 3.0.2 Certification Form** to their designated Wholesale Testing Unit after they have successfully completed the test script. Your Wholesale Testing Unit will email the certification form to you when you schedule a test.

B. Saturday Production Certification

All Tier 1 FedLine Direct customers will be **required** to email the **FAIM 3.0.2 Certification Form** to their designated Wholesale Testing Unit after they have successfully completed the test script. Your Wholesale Testing Unit will email the certification form to you when you schedule a test. This form is this same as the form you will need to complete for the DIT certification.

11. Will testing in the production environment be supported on the November 19, 2011, production implementation date?

The Federal Reserve Banks will **strongly encourage but not require** all FedLine Direct customers and vendors to test in the production environment on the November 19, 2011, production implementation date. The Federal Reserve Banks will publish the time when the production environment will be available for testing on the Federal Reserve Bank Services website at: http://www.frbervices.org/operations/fedwiretesting/2011_saturday_schedule.html.

FedLine Direct customers and vendors will **only** be permitted to test from their primary site on November 19, 2011. The Federal Reserve Banks will support contingency site testing, upon request, on one of the FAIM 3.0.2 Saturday production test dates specified in question 9 above.

12. Whom can I contact to sign up for testing or if I have questions about testing?

Customers can sign up for DIT and Saturday production testing by completing the **Fedwire Application Test Request Form** at: <http://www.frbervices.org/app/capture/survey.do?id=124>.

If you have any questions about testing, please call your designated Wholesale Testing Unit:

Wholesale Testing Unit	For customers in the following Districts
New York 1-877-569-2488	Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco
Richmond 1-800-526-2032	Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Richmond, and St. Louis