

The Depository Trust Company
IMPORTANT
Preliminary Message Layout Release

B#: 0765-06
DATE: December 29, 2006
TO: All Participants
CATEGORY: Reorganization
FROM: Lorraine Morrison
ATTENTION: Operations, Reorganization & Dividend Managers
SUBJECT: Corporate Actions Reengineering
Preliminary Message Layout Release

New Message Formats Available for Corporation Actions

DTCC is currently undertaking a major initiative to 'reengineer' how it delivers and processes corporate actions. The goal is to create an integrated, common platform based on industry standards for corporate actions through the complete asset servicing lifecycle: announcements, entitlements, instructions, payments and processing status.

This effort will improve our service to the industry by offering increased flexibility and increased functionality. The project will replace aging legacy systems that are increasingly difficult and expensive to maintain, and will also replace all of the existing publication files with new message types, in ISO 15022 format and XML format.

After more than a year of groundwork, DTCC is pleased to announce the availability of the first version (v1.0) of the new corporate action message layouts. These new layouts will affect all existing DTCC customers, both DTC participants for DTC-eligible events, as well as customers of the GCA Validation Service (GCA VS) that receive validated, or 'scrubbed,' non-DTC eligible event information.

Firms that have not already adopted the ISO 15022 standard, or firms that do not support XML, will need to re-program and re-map for new ISO 15022 and XML file formats.

DTCC is releasing these formats to give customers early insight into the new structure, format and layout of the corporate action messages, as well as to give a sense of the magnitude of ensuing changes that must be planned for.

Key Changes

The key changes and how they will impact customers are summarized below.

Key Change	Description
Creation of a Unique Event ID	Each event will include a unique reference number that will be maintained throughout the entire lifecycle of the event
Elimination of 'Function Codes'	A new set of corporate action event types will be used throughout DTCC, common across DTC 'announcements', 'processing' and GCA VS. All DTC 'Function Codes' and GCA VS event types will be eliminated
New announcement 'structure'	All events will be presented as a single announcement. Each event may have multiple options, and each option may have multiple payouts. This new structure will hold regardless of the number of options, payouts, or DTC services that apply.
Elimination of 'Contra-CUSIPs'	Currently, DTC segregates positions for participants that have submitted elective instructions by using a 'contra-CUSIP' number, or by using a predetermined reorganization account (RRG). The new announcement structure will eliminate the need for contra-CUSIPs, and RRG accounts will be used exclusively

DTCC recognizes that the above represents a major change and is allowing sufficient time for customers to plan and implement the necessary modifications to their IT systems.

Accordingly, DTCC is providing an early release, v1.0, of the draft ISO 15022 and XML file layouts to allow customers to comment and provide feedback. Participants must note that v1.0 material is marked as **'Draft'** and should be considered as such. To facilitate understanding, DTCC is hosting a series of Internet-based 'Webinars' on the new files layouts throughout January and February 2007. The Webinar schedule is given below.

DTCC has also established a 'comment period' from early January through to the end of February 2007, to allow the industry to comment on the new message layouts. Based upon the customer feedback, changes to the formats are expected, and DTCC will release the final layouts, reference guides and migration plans in June, 2007.

Supporting Documentation

A summary document will be made available in early January to aid participants in their understanding of the new structure and provide a business view of the new structure. The summary document will present

many of the new concepts that will be introduced by DTCC, provide a high level overview of the changes, and describe the impact the layouts will have on your organization.

Participants are *cautioned to note* that the emphasis of the draft summary document will be on the ‘announcements’ function of the corporate action transaction lifecycle. The entitlements, instructions, payments and processing functions will only be cursorily touched upon, and will be expanded in a future release of this document. The aim here is to have the file format and accompanying documents stimulate dialogue between your business and technical analysts as well as between you and DTCC.

Throughout January 2007, the following documentation will be made available at the Corporate Actions Re-engineering website <http://www.dtcc.com/reengineering/index.html>

DTCC Corporate Actions - Message Layout Summary

Provides a business view of the new message structure and content. While including a summary of changes impacting all existing corporate action files, this document focuses on changes to the Announcements and Entitlements processes.

DTCC Corporate Actions – Data Reference Guide for Event Types

Lists all new corporate action event types and maps them back to the legacy DTC ‘Function Codes’ and GCA VS event types.

DTCC Corporate Actions - Data Reference Guide for Fields

Lists all of the published data fields, including field name; data type, valid-values if data type is ‘list’ or ‘flag’, level, ISO 15022 sequence / qualifier and XML tag.

DTCC Corporate Actions - ISO 15022 File Definitions

Contains detailed layouts of the ISO 15022 file version, including a list of Sequences; Tags; Format Options and Qualifiers.

DTCC Corporate Actions – XML File Definition

This document contains detailed layouts of the XML file version

‘Webinar’ Schedule

To provide additional user support, a series of ‘Webinars’ are scheduled for every Wednesday at 1 p.m. EST, as detailed below.

Month	Day	Meeting Type	Time (EST)
January	10	Webinar	1:00 PM
January	17	Webinar	1:00 PM
January	24	Webinar	1:00 PM
January	31	Webinar	1:00 PM
February	7	Webinar	1:00 PM
February	14	Webinar	1:00 PM
February	21	Webinar	1:00 PM
February	28	Webinar	1:00 PM

The sessions will provide an overview of the new message layouts, serve as a question and answer forum, and help solicit customer suggestions.

To attend one of the sessions, simply log onto the following URL with the meeting ID:

URL:

<https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/btconferencinginc/join?id=7KCH8M&role=attend&pw=MtJ%3E4%278%7Cm>

Meeting ID: 7KCH8M
US toll-free number: (888) 481-3032
Code: 33717643

Customer Inquiries

Specific customer inquiries can be directed to the reengineering mailbox reengineeringmailbox@dtcc.com. All questions will be answered within 24 hours.

Alternatively, you may direct your questions and comments to Lorraine Morrison at +1 (212) 855-5310.