

QuickAlerts Messages December 2013

QuickAlerts – December 3, 2013

Subject: Extended Maintenance Window for Modernized e-File (MeF) Assurance Testing System (ATS) and Production Environments

The Modernized e-File (MeF) Sunday maintenance build is being extended. The system will be unavailable starting at 7:00 a.m., Eastern on Saturday, December 7, 2013 until 7:00 a.m., Eastern on Sunday, December 8, 2013.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by this extended downtime. Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the ATS and Production systems during this period.

QuickAlerts – December 4, 2013

Subject: Electronic Management System (EMS) Downtime

The Electronic Management System, located at Martinsburg, West Virginia and Memphis, Tennessee will be unavailable from 9:00 a.m. December 5, 2013 through 9:00 a.m. December 6, 2013 Eastern Time.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused and thank you for your cooperation.

QuickAlerts – December 6, 2013

Subject: MeF ATS System Unavailable

The Modernized e-File Assurance Testing Systems (ATS) System is experiencing an issue. The IRS is working to resolve the problem as a top priority. Please refrain from sending any service requests to ATS until further notice.

Please monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for updates. The IRS will issue a Technical QuickAlerts when the ATS environment is operational.

We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation.

QuickAlerts – December 6, 2013

Subject: Modernized e-File ATS System is Operational

Modernized e-File (MeF) ATS was successfully brought back online at 12:30 p.m., Eastern on December 6, 2013 and is now operational for all service requests.

We thank you for your patience and we apologize for any inconvenience caused.

QuickAlerts – December 10, 2013

Subject: Tax Year 2013 Modernized e-file (MeF)- Corporate and Partnership Family Updates

The following updates have been posted on IRS.gov in the Production tables

- [2013 Valid XML Schemas and Business Rules for 1120, 1120S, 1120-F, and 7004 Modernized e-File \(MeF\)](#)
 - 1120/1120F/1120S XML Schemas and Business Rules 2013v3.1
 - Form and Attachment listing
 - Known e-file issues and solutions
- [TY 2013 Valid XML Schemas and Business Rules for Form 1065/1065-B Modernized e-file \(MeF\)](#)
 - 1065/1065B XML Schemas and Business Rules 2013v4.1
 - Form and Attachment listing
 - Known e-file issues and solutions
- [Modernized e-File \(MeF\) Stylesheets](#)

Questions or comments may be directed to the e-help Desk at 1-866-255-0654.

QuickAlerts – December 12, 2013

Subject: Verify you are transmitting returns for Authorized IRS e-file Providers

This is a reminder that Software Developers and Transmitters must ensure they are transmitting for Authorized IRS e-file Providers only. To determine you are performing e-file activities for other Authorized IRS e-file Providers only, you may request:

- a copy of an acceptance letter issued within the last year, or
- a copy of the summary page of their IRS e-file Application. The summary page will show the entity, Principals, Responsible Officials, the EFIN and if the EFIN is active.

You may also confirm EROs status by searching the [ERO Locator](#) on IRS.gov for EROs who chose to be listed there.

If you need additional assistance confirming a firm is an Authorized IRS e-file Provider, contact the IRS by calling e-help, toll free at (866) 255 0654. The IRS can advise whether the firm is an Authorized IRS e-file Provider, if they choose to be listed as a Provider.

QuickAlerts – December 13, 2013

Subject: Extended Maintenance Window for Modernized e-File (MeF) Assurance Testing System (ATS) and Production Environments

The Modernized e-File (MeF) Sunday maintenance build is being extended. The system will be unavailable starting at 7:00 a.m., Eastern on Saturday, December 21, 2013 until 7:00 a.m., Eastern on Sunday, December 22, 2013.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by this extended downtime. Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the ATS and Production systems during this period.

QuickAlerts – December 13, 2013

Subject: Shutdown for Business Modernized e-File (MeF)

To ensure that all BMF tax returns e-filed through the Modernized e-File (MeF) system are processed timely, the following MeF Production shutdown/cut over and acknowledgment retrieval schedule has been established. It is imperative that everyone adhere to the schedule shown below.

Business MeF Production Shutdown/Cut Over Schedule

Shutdown is scheduled to begin on Thursday, December 26, 2013 in order to prepare the system for the upcoming 2014 Filing Season. A QuickAlerts will be issued once the BMF start up date for the 2014 Filing Season has been finalized.

Important Note: States who schedule retrieval of their state submissions may have to change their schedule in order to retrieve submissions in time to validate returns and submit acknowledgements by 11:30 a.m., Eastern on December 26th. Anything not retrieved thru MeF by 11:59 a.m. on December 26th cannot be accessed again until MeF reopens for Production in January 2014.

Shutdown Deadlines on Thursday, December 26, 2013 Eastern Time

Transmitters:

Transmitting Submissions (State & Federal) 10:00 a.m.

Retrieving Acknowledgements 11:59 a.m.

States:

Transmitting Acknowledgements 11:30 a.m.

MeF Assurance Testing System (ATS) Schedule

ATS will remain open throughout this production shutdown/cut over period (12/26/2013 - 01/2014). Please monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for any updates.

We apologize for any inconveniences and thank you for your cooperation.

QuickAlerts – December 23, 2013

Subject: 2014 Filing Season for Modernized e-File (MeF) Individual and Business Returns

The Internal Revenue Service has announced plans to open the 2014 filing season on January 13, 2014 for Business Tax Returns and January 31, 2014 for Individual Tax Returns. For additional information on the 2014 Filing Season for business returns and individual returns, please access the press releases at the following links below.

[2014 Tax Season to Open January 13 for Business Returns](#)

[2014 Tax Season to Open Jan. 31 for Individual Returns](#)

Please continue to monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for updates.

QuickAlerts – December 23, 2013

Subject: IRS Issuing Penalty Notices to Tax Preparers for Missing Forms 8867

Tax preparers who do not send Form [8867](#) with EITC returns are subject to a \$500 penalty per return. IRS sent warning [Letter 4989](#) to preparers who did not comply for tax year 2011, and, starting this month, IRS will be sending nearly 800 of those preparers notices of proposed penalties for continued failure to attach the form for tax year 2012 returns. Get details on [EITC Due Diligence](#) at www.EITC.irs.gov.

QuickAlerts – December 24, 2013

Subject: Scheduled Modernized e-File (MeF) Assurance Testing System (ATS) Maintenance Build

The Modernized e-File (MeF) ATS environment will be down from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Eastern on Thursday, December 26, 2013. Please refrain from sending any service requests during this time.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.
