

Background

Starting with Release 10.5 (start date 10/12/2021 for ATS and January 2022 for Production) MeF has implemented a new feature which allows the application to function in a limited capacity during system outages. The feature known as “MeF Resiliency” will allow only Send Submissions service and issue response until the system is back to normal operations. All other services such as Get Acknowledgments and State related services will not be available during Resiliency Mode (or Portal Mode). Once the system is back online, all services will be restored, and transmitters / states will be able to retrieve acknowledgements and perform their normal operations.

Question 1) – How does the resiliency change the duplicate message id, submission id and the current error conditions that come with those?

The handling of duplicate message and submission ID’s has changed for SendSubmissions. Duplicate submission ID’s across separate messages will result in “Duplicate acks” with rule T0000-014 instead of SOAP faults with that same code, while duplicate message ID’s will result in “Duplicate acks” with new rule T0000-113 covering each submission ID in the later-received message instead of SOAP faults with rule T0000-013.

- a) Normal mode (all systems operating) The receipt will go back prior to detection of the message ID duplicate, or the submission ID duplicate unless it results from the message including two entries with the same submission ID (which gets a SOAP fault and no receipt or ack). If the receipt was sent, an acknowledgement showing the duplicate will be created and later sent for each time a given submission ID has been the subject of a receipt after the first one received in the back end, which will get an ordinary acknowledgement.
- b) Resiliency mode (MeF backend down, portal operating) The behavior is the same as in A, except that the acknowledgements will take much longer to be generated and made available.

Question 2) In case of multiple acknowledgements for a given submission, how does MeF returns the acknowledgement list. Is the main acknowledgement always the first one on the list?

The main acknowledgement will not necessarily be first one on the list. We expect the client software to parse through the list of acknowledgements and NOT consider a duplicate acknowledgement to dispose of its submission ID and logging it while taking no further action is a reasonable response to such a duplicate acknowledgement (acks with error codes T0000-113 and T0000-014). Please note T0000-113 is a new rule that was defined specifically for rejecting submissions that are part of a duplicate message.

Question 3) Will states be able to issue multiple acknowledgements?

No, states will not be able to issue multiple acknowledgements. The concept of multiple acknowledgements is only for IRS generated acknowledgements.

Question 4) Do we have to modify our business logic to make use of Deposit ID and Receipt ID? Will you be requesting the Deposit ID or Receipt ID when debugging issues?

We recommend clients to persist the new fields on as they may be needed in case there is an issue.

Both fields are part of Send Submissions response. The Deposit ID is part of the SOAP body in the response, and the Receipt ID will be in each receipt in the attachment to the response (see SubmissionReceiptGrp in efileAttachments.xsd for the XML). Both are defined as 80-character alphanumeric fields.

Deposit ID is defined in WSDLs (MeFTransmitterService.xsd and MeFTransmitterServiceMTOM.xsd)

```
<!-- Deposit ID Type - maximum 80 character alphanumeric -->
<xsd:simpleType name="DepositIdType">
  <xsd:restriction base="xsd:string">
    <xsd:pattern value="[A-Za-z0-9]*" />
    <xsd:maxLength value="80"/>
  </xsd:restriction>
</xsd:simpleType>
```

Receipt ID is part of the eFileAttachments.xsd under SubmissionReceiptGrp

```
<!-- Receipt ID Type - no more than 80 alphanumeric characters -->
<xsd:simpleType name="ReceiptIdType">
  <xsd:restriction base="AlphaNumericType">
    <xsd:maxLength value="80"/>
  </xsd:restriction>
</xsd:simpleType>
```

Question 5) Will we still have regularly scheduled build windows / end of year cutover once the resiliency changes are in place.

MeF Resiliency could be considered during the regularly scheduled build windows. For the End of year shutdown resiliency will not be considered and system will be completely down since it is a major release upgrade of MeF.

Question 6) Is Receipt ID on GetAcks (family of services) same Receipt Id that is returned from Send Submissions?

Yes, it is the same receipt ID as in Send Submissions response. For Get Ack family of services, the Receipt ID is part of the acknowledgement. Please note that receipt id will only be returned with acknowledgements for Federal Submissions, it is not returned with any state acknowledgements (denied or made available).

Question 7) During "resiliency mode" what transmitters (or states) can expect with the MeF System

In case of resiliency in place, essentially **Login / Logout / Send Submissions** services will be available, all state-specific and all other transmitter-specific services will result in an error. The error code returned for all other services will be "SYSTEM1007500005 Backend MeF Systems are not available now."