

QuickAlerts Messages January 2013

QuickAlerts – January 3, 2012

Subject: Electronic Management System (EMS) Memphis, TN unavailable

The Electronic Management System at the Enterprise Computing center located in Memphis, TN is currently experiencing problems. A QuickAlerts will be issued when the system is available. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

QuickAlerts – January 4, 2012

Subject: Frequently Asked Questions about Electronic Filing Identification Numbers (EFINs)

IRS has posted [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQs) to help Authorized IRS e-file Providers (Providers) understand the correct usage of Electronic Filing Identification Numbers (EFINs). Providers must ensure that they are using their correct EFIN. When a Provider is doing business with another Provider, you must check to see that the other Provider also has a valid EFIN.

QuickAlerts – January 4, 2012

Subject: 1040 Legacy e-file - Tax Year 2012 Publication 1346 Record Layout Nature of Changes # 1

Please be advised the Tax Year 2012 Publication 1346, Record Layout Nature of Changes # 1, has been uploaded to IRS.gov. You may access this information using the following link: [Tax Year 2012 Publication 1346](#)

QuickAlerts – January 4, 2012

Subject: Electronic Management System (EMS) at Memphis, Tennessee available

The Electronic Management System located in Memphis, Tennessee is now available. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

QuickAlerts – January 4, 2012

Subject: Modernized E-File (MeF) Delay for Some 2012 Business Returns

The IRS continues to review the details and impact of the new tax law signed this week, but a number of these provisions will require changing forms and updating our processing systems involving non-1040 business returns. As a result, electronic filing of many business returns will be delayed while we update forms, related instructions and corresponding systems. This delay is not expected to significantly impact business filers since most of these returns with reporting periods ending Dec. 31, 2012, are not due until March or April 2013, depending on the form.

The IRS **will not** accept these business tax returns for processing through MeF at this time*:

- All 2012 tax year business forms (other than Forms 2290 and 7004)
- Form 8849, Schedule 3 - Certain Fuel Mixtures and the Alternative Fuel Credit
- Form 990 series (Tax Exempt tax returns)

Beginning Jan. 7, 2013, the IRS **will accept** these forms for processing through MeF:

- Fiscal year returns with a year ending prior to 12/31/2012
- All 2011 tax year and 2012 fiscal year business returns, including Form 1120 series
- 2012 tax year Form 2290, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return
- 2012 tax year Form 7004, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File Certain Business Income Tax, Information and Other Returns

We will share additional information on when we can accept the remaining 2012 tax year business forms as soon as it becomes available. More information will also be available soon regarding 2012 individual 1040 tax returns impacted by this week's legislation.

* **Note:** Business tax returns not processable through MeF at this time will also not be processed if submitted on paper

QuickAlerts – January 7, 2012

Subject: Opening for Modernized e-File (MeF) Business Filing Participants - Transmitters, Software Developers, Practitioners and States

The Modernized e-File (MeF) System successfully opened this morning at 9:00 am, Eastern Standard Time (January 7, 2013) and is now operational for the following Business Tax Returns:

- Fiscal year returns with a year ending prior to 12/31/2012
- All 2011 tax year and 2012 fiscal year business returns, including Form 1120 series
- 2012 tax year Form 2290, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return
- 2012 tax year Form 7004, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File Certain Business Income Tax, Information and Other Returns
- Form 8868, Application for Extension of Time To File an Exempt Organization Return (omitted from previous listing)

We will share additional information when we can accept the remaining Tax Year 2012 Business forms as soon as it becomes available.

Note: Please use <https://la.www4.irs.gov/a2a/mef/> for ATS and Production returns. You should only use <https://la.alt.www4.irs.gov/a2a/mef/> for troubleshooting when advised by IRS to do so.

QuickAlerts – January 8, 2012

Subject: Electronic Management System (EMS) Memphis e-file B (PATS) is unavailable

The Electronic Management System, located at Memphis, TN will be unavailable for PATS internet transmissions on e-file B beginning today, Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 12:00 PM EST. until 1:00 PM EST for unscheduled maintenance.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

QuickAlerts – January 9, 2012

Subject: Authorized IRS *e-file* Providers must not submit electronic returns to the IRS prior to the receipt of all Forms W-2, W-2G, and 1099-R from the taxpayers

Authorized IRS *e-file* Providers must not submit electronic returns to the IRS prior to the receipt of all Forms W-2, W-2G, and 1099-R from the taxpayers.

If taxpayers are unable to secure and provide a correct Form W-2, W-2G, or 1099-R, Providers may submit the electronic return only after securing [Form 4852](#), *Substitute for Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement*, or *Form 1099-R, Insurance Contracts, Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs etc.* in accordance with the use of that form. This is the only time Providers should submit an electronic return with information from pay stubs or Leave and Earning Statements (LES).

Compliance Monitoring

The IRS monitors Authorized IRS *e-file* Providers for compliance with this and other IRS *e-file* rules and requirements. The IRS may conduct monitoring visits to ensure compliance with [Revenue Procedure 2007-40](#) and with IRS *e-file* rules and requirements included in IRS *e-file* publications.

Sanctions

The IRS may warn or sanction Providers that violate IRS *e-file* rules and requirements. Sanctions may be a written reprimand, suspension of one to two years or expulsion from participation from IRS *e-file* depending on the seriousness of the infraction. Providers may appeal sanctions through the Administrative Review Process. Additional information regarding sanctioning is available at IRS.gov in [Publication 3112](#), *IRS e-file Application and Participation..*

QuickAlerts – January 11, 2012

Subject: Due to late tax law changes, stockpiling rule doesn't apply

Due to late tax law changes, the 2013 filing season for processing individual income tax returns will begin on **January 30, 2013**.

Certain tax returns will not be accepted, either electronically or on paper, until later in the filing season. Details on affected forms are in [IRS News Release IR- 2013-2](#).

EROs and Online Providers may hold tax returns containing one or more of these forms until the IRS can accept them. EROs and Online Providers **must advise taxpayers** that the returns will not be e-filed until the IRS can accept the returns beginning January 30. Clearly explain to the taxpayer that this means the period for processing the return and/or checking the taxpayer's refund status cannot begin before January 31, 2013.

Therefore, the *e-file* stockpiling rule does not apply in this situation. For more details on stockpiling, see [Publication 1345](#) Authorized IRS *e-file* Providers *e-filing* Individual Income Tax Returns.

QuickAlerts – January 16, 2012

Subject: Modernized e-File Stylesheets Updated for Tax Year 2012

The Tax Year 2012 XML Stylesheets for Processing Year 2013 have been updated on IRS.gov. You can access the new files from the [Modernized e-File \(MeF\) Stylesheets](#) site on IRS.gov.

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

QuickAlerts – January 16, 2012

Subject: Extended Sunday Maintenance Build Window

The Modernized e-File (MeF) Sunday maintenance build will be extended. The system will not be available from **Sunday, January 20, 2013 at 1:00am, Eastern until Sunday, January 20, 2013 at approximately 11:00am, Eastern**. The extended build window is needed to implement system enhancements impacting the upcoming filing season.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF Production and ATS environments during this period.

QuickAlerts – January 18, 2012

Subject: Tax Year 2012 Publication 4162 and Modernized e-file (MeF) known issues

The following updates have been posted on IRS.gov. Tax Year 2012

- [Known e-file issues and solutions](#)
- [Publication 4162](#)

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

QuickAlerts – January 23, 2012

Subject: IRS Requests Comments on Acceptable e-signature Standards

IRS issued [Internal Revenue Bulletin 2013-4](#), Announcement No. 2013-8 seeking recommendations for acceptable e-signature standards.

E-signature standards will promote efficiency, reduce burden and improve identity proofing methods to confirm the identity of the signer. Announcement 2013-8 provides details on the request and proposed standards. Submit recommendations and comments electronically to esignature@irs.gov by March 1, 2013.

QuickAlerts – January 24, 2012

Subject: Form 1040 Family Business Rule Changes

The Tax Year 2012 Business Rule Change page has been posted on IRS.gov.

You can access the site at [Tax Year 2012 Schemas and Business Rules](#)

We will continue to keep this file updated as changes occur.

QuickAlerts – January 27, 2012

Subject: Extended Sunday Maintenance Build Window for the MeF Acceptance Testing System (ATS) and the Production System

The 1/27/13 Sunday build window has been extended until 11:00 am, Eastern in preparation of opening for the 1040 tax returns on 1/30/13. Please refrain from sending any service request during this time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF Production and ATS environments during this period.

QuickAlerts – January 27, 2012

Subject: Update on Extended Sunday Maintenance Build Window for the MeF Acceptance Testing System (ATS) and the Production System

The 1/27/13 Sunday build window has been extended again until 3:00 pm, Eastern in preparation of opening for the 1040 tax returns on 1/30/13. Please refrain from sending any service request during this time.

We apologize again for any inconvenience this may cause. Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF Production and ATS environments during this period.

Please monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for any updates, if we are able to bring the MeF Systems up before 3:00 pm, Eastern we will post a message on that page.

QuickAlerts – January 29, 2012

Subject: Tax Year 2012 Form 1065v2.1 Schema update

The following updates were posted on IRS.gov on December 17, 2012.

Tax Year 2012

- [Form 1065 Schema TY2012v2.1](#)

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

QuickAlerts – January 30, 2012

Subject: Opening for Modernized e-File (MeF) Individual Filing Participants - Transmitters, Software Developers, Practitioners and States

The Modernized e-File (MeF) System successfully opened this morning at 9:00 am, Eastern Standard Time (January 30, 2013) and is now operational for Individual Tax Returns and Extensions.

QuickAlerts – January 30, 2012

Subject: Tax Year 2012 Modernized e-file (MeF) known issues and solutions

The following updates have been posted on IRS.gov. Tax Year 2012:

- [Known e-file issues and solutions](#) on the 2012 Valid XML Schemas and Business Rules for 1120, 1120S, 1120-F, and 7004 Modernized e-File (MeF) web page.

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

QuickAlerts – January 31, 2012

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

The 2/3/13 Sunday build window has been extended from 1:00 am until 11:00 am, Eastern. The extended build window is needed to implement system enhancements impacting the filing season. Please refrain from sending any service request during this time.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF Production environment during this period.