

QuickAlerts Messages July 2013

QuickAlerts – July 1, 2013

Subject: EMS Downtime in Martinsburg, West Virginia and Memphis Tennessee

The Electronic Management System (EMS) located at Martinsburg, West Virginia and Memphis, Tennessee will be unavailable from Wednesday, July 03, 2013, at 11:00 p.m. Eastern Time through Saturday, July 06, 2013, at midnight. The shutdown is due to the Fourth of July holiday and the current budget situation; all IRS offices are closed on July 04, 2013 and July 05, 2013.

EMS (both Production and Test) will not be operational during this timeframe. Please refrain from accessing the EMS Production or Testing Systems to transmit tax returns, retrieve acknowledgements or submit any other service requests.

When services are resumed, all processing will occur and acknowledgement files will be available based on the established drain schedule.

We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you for your patience. The next tentatively scheduled power outage will take place on July 22, 2013. A Quick Alert will be issued with the actual timeframes for that outage.

QuickAlerts – July 1, 2013

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Scheduled Downtime – July 5, 2013

This is a reminder that due to the current budget situation, the IRS plans to be closed on July 5, July 22 and August 30. The MeF system (Production and ATS) will not be available from 10:00 p.m., Eastern of the prior day until 10:00 a.m., **Eastern** of the following day, on these dates. For example, when the closure falls on a Friday, the system will be unavailable from 10:00 p.m., Eastern on Thursday until 10:00 a.m., Eastern on Saturday.

MeF Production & ATS Downtime:

Shutdown is scheduled to begin on Thursday, July 4, 2013 at 10:00 p.m., Eastern and end at 10:00 a.m., Eastern on Saturday, July 6, 2013.

Important Note: States that 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 10:00 p.m., Eastern on July 4th. Anything not retrieved thru MeF by 10:00 p.m., Eastern cannot be accessed again until MeF reopens for Production on July 6th.

Deadlines on Thursday, July 4th, Eastern Time

Transmitters:

Transmitting Submissions (State & Federal)	8:00 p.m.
Retrieving Acknowledgements	10:00 p.m.

States:

Transmitting Acknowledgements	9:30 p.m.
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Start Up on Saturday, July 6th, Eastern Time

Transmitters & States	10:00 a.m.
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Please monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for any updates. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation.

QuickAlerts – July 3, 2013

Subject: Publication 5078, MeF Test Publication and Form 1041 State MOU

An Early Look of the new Publication 5078, *MeF Test Publication for Business Returns*, has been posted to the [MeF ATS Updates](#) page. This publication will replace MeF ATS Publications 4162, 4205, 4505, and 4594 when ATS opens November 4, 2013.

The following information for the 1041 MeF Program is available on the [Coming Soon to MeF Program](#) page:

- [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between IRS and States for the 1041 MeF Fed/State Program
- [List of States](#) and their planned participation in the 1041 MeF Program.

Please send comments to the [MeF Mailbox](#) and monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for any updates.

QuickAlerts – July 10, 2013

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Downtime - July 13 and 14, 2013

The Modernized e-File system will be unavailable from approximately 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., Eastern, on Saturday, July 13, 2013 for system maintenance.

The routine system maintenance window is still scheduled for Sunday, July 14, 2013 from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., Eastern.

Please refrain from accessing the MeF Production or Assurance Testing System to transmit business/individual tax returns, retrieve acknowledgements or submit any other service request. Please monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for any updates. A Technical QuickAlerts will be issued when the system is available. We apologize for any inconvenience.

QuickAlerts – July 13, 2013

Subject: Update Modernized e-File (MeF) Downtime - July 13, 2013

The maintenance build completed at 3:00 p.m., Eastern, on Saturday, July 13. The MeF Production System is now operational. All Service Requests are operational and production has resumed.

Thank you for your patience and support. Please monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for any updates.

QuickAlerts – July 15, 2013

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Scheduled Downtime – July 22, 2013

This is a reminder that due to the current budget situation, the IRS plans to be closed on July 22 and August 30. The MeF system (Production and ATS) will not be available from 10:00 p.m., Eastern of the prior day until 10:00 a.m., Eastern of the following day, on these dates. For example, when the closure falls on a Monday, the system will be unavailable from 10:00 p.m., Eastern on Sunday until 10:00 a.m., Eastern on Tuesday.

MeF Production & ATS Downtime:

Shutdown is scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 21, 2013 at 10:00 p.m., Eastern and end at 10:00 a.m., Eastern on Tuesday, July 23, 2013.

Important Note: States that 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 10:00 p.m., Eastern on July 21st. Anything not retrieved thru MeF by 10:00 p.m., Eastern cannot be accessed again until MeF reopens for Production on July 23rd.

Deadlines on Sunday, July 21st, Eastern Time

Transmitters:

Transmitting Submissions (State & Federal) 8:00 p.m.

Retrieving Acknowledgements 10:00 p.m.

States:

Transmitting Acknowledgements 9:30 p.m.

Start Up on Tuesday, July 23rd, Eastern Time

Transmitters and States 10:00 a.m.

Please monitor the [MeF Status Page](#) for any updates. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation.

QuickAlerts – July 15, 2013

Subject: EMS System Downtime in Memphis Tennessee

The Electronic Management System (EMS) Business Acceptance Testing System (BATS) located at Memphis, Tennessee will be unavailable on Tuesday, July 16, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

QuickAlerts – July 16, 2013

Subject: XML Standardized Schemas and Business Rules posted to IRS.gov

The XML Standardized Schemas and Business Rules for the BMF, Shared and Return Header have been posted on [IRS.gov](#). The Schemas for the 2290 and 720 will be posted at a later date. These schemas will not be implemented in the MeF ATS or Production environments.

We are continuing to make updates to the schemas for Tax Year 2013 changes. Updated versions will be posted as they become available. If you have any questions, please send them to the MeFMailbox@IRS.gov.

QuickAlerts – July 17, 2013

Subject: Modernized e-File (MeF) Scheduled Downtime Cancelled for July 22, 2013

The Internal Revenue Service has cancelled the agency-wide employee furlough day scheduled for Monday, July 22. As a result, MeF will be available and all operations will continue as normal. Please disregard the QuickAlerts titled, “Modernized e-File (MeF) Scheduled Downtime – July 22, 2013”, that was issued on July 15. Guidance will be provided regarding MeF operational status for August 30, 2013, as soon as possible.

QuickAlerts – July 19, 2013

Subject: Extended Maintenance Window For The Modernized e-File (MeF) System

The Modernized e-File (MeF) Sunday maintenance build window is being extended. The system will be unavailable on Saturday, July 27th, from 7:00 a.m. Eastern until 7:00 a.m. Eastern on Sunday, July 28th. The build will deploy critical production system updates. The extended window impacts the ATS and Production environments.

Thank you in advance for refraining from accessing the MeF system during this period.

QuickAlerts – July 26, 2013

Subject: Updated XML XPATH to XPATH Documents Posted to IRS.gov

In response to several requests, we have provided an updated XML XPATH to XPATH document for each XML Standardization Schema set. These new documents provide the additional level of detailed needed for Version 1.0 Schemas. These documents have been placed on the [MeF Status Page](#).

If you have any questions, please send them to the [MeF Mailbox](#).
