

Covering Email May 17, 2006

Instructions for Viewing

When extracting the zipped files, make sure to select the "Use Folder Names" option.

Content

There are two physical schemas and they are shown in the root directory:

- > PIPEFunctionalAcknowledgement.xsd contains the schema for the FA and FA response.
- > PIPEDocument.xsd contains the schema for all other PIP transactions.

Documentation has been created in HTML format using XMLSpy and is contained in the Documentation folder:

- > The FA schema is documented in FunctionalAcknowledgement.html
- > The non-FA PIP transactions schema is documented in PIPE.html

Overall guiding principles that the schema designers used and the resulting deviations from the documented IGs, with rationale, are contained in the file entitled IG_Feedback_Complete.xls in the Documentation\IG folder. Note that there have been some minor changes to the FA schema since the last release.

Examples of each individual transaction are included in the Examples folder.

Atomic XSD files for each transaction are included in the PIPDef folder. Note that these schemas cannot be used to validate by themselves. They are included in the main PIPEDocument.xsd schema.

Common type XSD files are included in the TypeDef folder.

Some remaining to do's include:

- 1) Distributors need to respond to me with the specific formats of their account number(s), pool id, and price point id so that the facets can be built into the appropriate schema definitions.
- 2) The working group needs to decide if the documentation is an adequate replacement for the Implementation Guides. Obviously, documentation that is self-contained within the actual schema makes maintenance much easier and less error prone and that would be our recommendation. As a footnote, we have looked for alternative documentation generators, however, most that we have tried present the documentation from a more technical viewpoint - such as XMLSpy. If others have found better tools that present the schemas in a more "IG"ish way, please let the group know.
- 3) Update the schemas with any IG changes that we haven't already captured. The EGD-proposed "WAVR exclusion indicator" may be the only element missing at this point.
- 4) Through this effort, the schema designers have made some recommendations for re-engineering some of the schemas for consideration by the working group. Their recommendations revolve around developing a consistent paradigm for response and update. As an example, we have the notion of "responses" which are specific to a given STR and we also

have "application advices" which are applicable to a variety of transactions. A consistent approach may be to either develop a unique response schema for each transaction, or to use AA in all cases unless there is additional information returned in the response (e.g. Enrol). They're great ideas, but my recommendation is that we defer discussion on potentially re-architecting the schemas until a future phase.

I apologize for the delay getting these out, but we wanted to get the latest possible IG changes into the schema set. Comments can be directed to me directly, copying Barb, for the next two weeks.

Happy reviewing!
Mark