Alabama Motor Fuels Schema Updates
August 22th, 2012

Latest Updates to Schemas and Documentation:

With the latest Alabama Schema Set (dated August 22nd) there contains the following updates:

- Schema MFCarrierReport.xsd has been updated to allow the "Delivered to FEIN/SSN" from each of the schedules to be optional. It was discovered during testing that this information may not always be provided or available to the vendors upon filing, although the name and address are still required.

- Schema MFTOReport.xsd has also been updated to allow the "Carrier Name" and "Carrier FEIN" to be optional for Schedules 15A and 15B. However, this should only be utilized in the instance that the Transportation "Mode" is Book Adjustment ("BA") type. Although the XML may be valid if the Carrier Name/FEIN is not provided, there will still be business rule validation to check that the "Mode" is the proper type. Entries missing this element using any other "Mode" will be rejected (See updated MFET Error Codes).

- Schema MFDistributorReport.xsd and MFSupplierReport.xsd have been updated to allow "Carrier Name" and "Carrier FEIN/SSN" to be optional for all schedules. Like the Terminal Operator report mentioned above, this is only valid if the "Mode" is Book Adjustment ("BA") type. Missing entries that do not meet this criterion will be rejected (See updated MFET Error Codes).

Updates made to the Developer's Handbook (also dated August 22nd) include:

- Pages 21 through 41 have been updated to reflect the Schema changes (above).

- Pages 18 and 40 have been corrected to show the TotalDue element for Terminal Operator and Carrier Reports as Optional. These two reports are informational reports, so there should not be tax reported.

- Page 20 has been corrected, now showing "EndingInventory" as the correct element. "PhysicalEndingInventory" should only be used with the TerminalReportDetailType parent element (described on page 19).

- Section 7 has been updated with the latest MFET Error/Reject Codes.

Alabama Motor Fuels Schema Updates
August 13th, 2012

Previous Updates to Transmission Header (August 13th, 2012):

MFET Developer Handbook Pg. 6 – XML Parameters – Transmission Header

Element (XPath)	Definition	Possible Values [Default]	Required/Optional
Transmission /TransmissionHeader	Contains the following TransmissionHeader elements		Required
.../Jurisdiction	String value that must equal ALABAMA	["AL"]	Required
.../TransmissionId	Alphanumeric value (unique for you and your system) which can be used with the SubmissionListByTransmissionId operation to track your transmissions.	Alphanumeric Id	Required
.../Timestamp*	The time stamp at the time of transmission.	Format = ccyy-mm-ddThh:mm:ss-hh:mmZ*	Required
.../Transmitter	Requires choice of ETIN or EFIN element	Use defaults below if not provided	Required
.../Transmitter/ETIN	The ETIN of the transmitter	5 digits [00000]	Required
.../Transmitter/EFIN	The EFIN of the Originator/Transmitter	6 digits [000000]	Required
.../ProcessType	Enumerated value which indicates desired environment	"T" for Testing or "P" for Production	Required
.../AgentIdentifier**	Enumerated value which indicates the desired return type: Terminal Excise Tax Return (XMLTXT), Terminal Operator Report (XMLTOM/XMSTOM), and Transporter Report (XMLTRN)	"XMLTXT", "XMLTOM", "XMSTOM", "XMLTRN"	Required
/Transmission /MotorFuelsFiling	Contains MotorFuelsFiling elements, see return schemas for details	See Section 5 for contents	Required

*Note: The timestamp requires an offset from GMT (denoted as "Z"). Central Standard Time is 6 hours behind GMT so January 10, 2011 at 11:02 AM CST would be "2011-01-10T11:02:23-06:00"

**Note: All terminals owned by the Terminal Operator must have their own report which can be filed using the same submission. This is the only report that allows the submission of multiple reports of the same type. A bulk submission of Terminal Operator Monthly Reports should be submitted using the AgentIdentifier "XMSTOM" where as a Terminal Operator Monthly Report filing for one terminal only should submit their file using the AgentIdentifier "XMLTOM" or "XMSTOM"
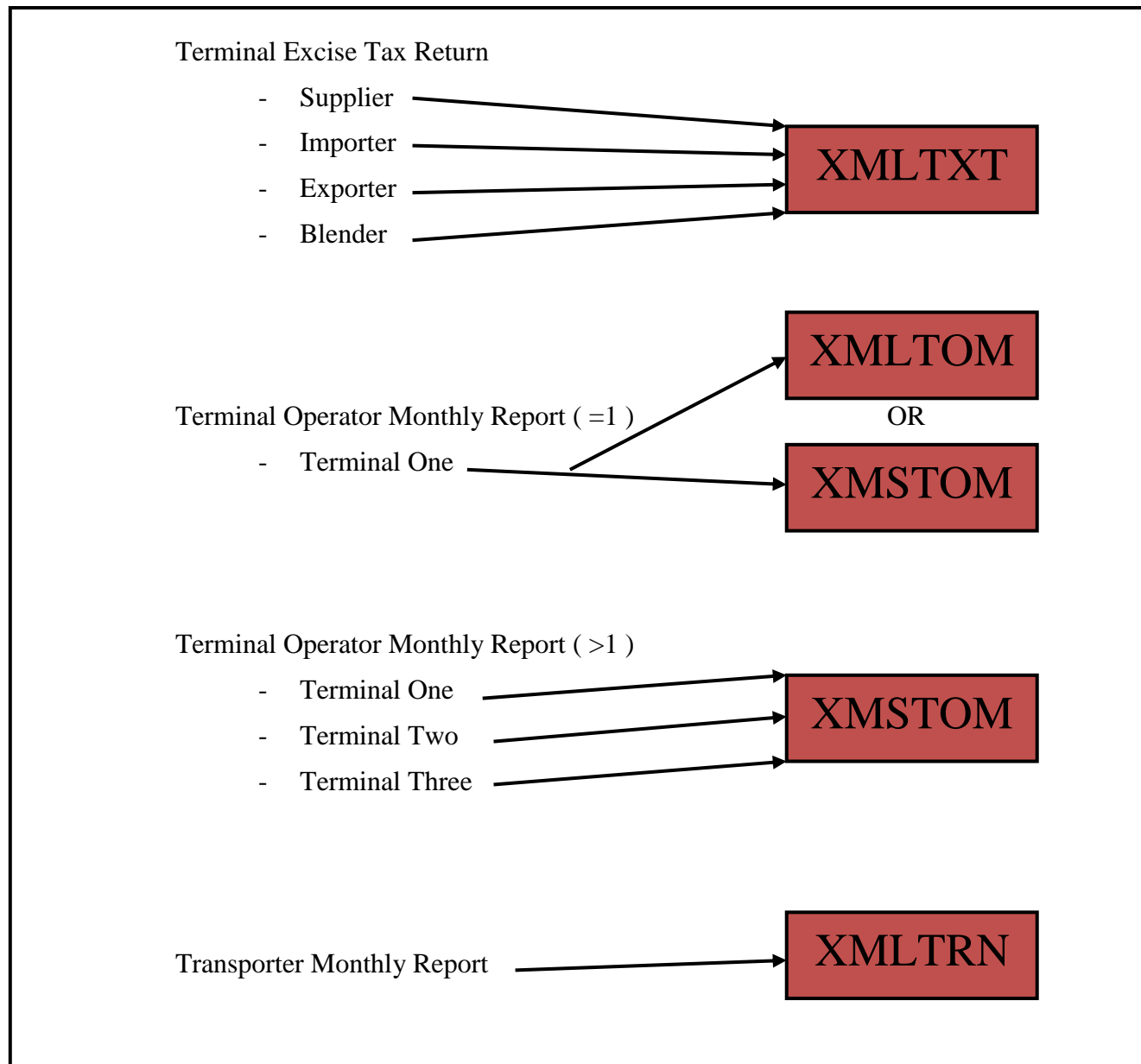
Above is an updated screenshot of the Developer's Handbook which has also been updated on the Alabama MFET website located mft@revenue.alabama.gov. The AgentIdentifier element is a key element in that it specifies exactly what type of report is being submitted. For Alabama, there are three types of reports to file: Terminal Excise Tax Report, Terminal Operator Monthly Report, and Transporter Report. Terminal Operator Monthly is unique in that it can be filed once for each terminal owned by the licensed Terminal Operator. The following page shows a diagram on how this will work.

(Updates continued…)

MFET Developer Handbook – XML Parameters – Agent Identifiers

Terminal Excise Tax Return
- Supplier
- Importer
- Exporter
- Blender

→ XMLTXT

Terminal Operator Monthly Report (=1)
- Terminal One

→ XMLTOM

OR

XMSTOM

Terminal Operator Monthly Report (>1)
- Terminal One
- Terminal Two
- Terminal Three

→ XMSTOM

Transporter Monthly Report → XMLTRN

Previous Updates to Submission Restrictions (July 11th, 2012):

Up until now, ADOR has made it explicitly clear in the Software Certification Guide the manner in which report types can be submitted to the web service module. Below is an excerpt from *Section 4* of this document listing the reports that can be filed:

"*1. B&L:MFT-SR*   *Supplier Monthly Report*
 2. B&L:MFT-IMR   *Importer Monthly Report*
 3. B&L:MFT-EXPR   *Exporter Monthly Report*
 4. B&L:MFT-BLDR   *Blender Monthly Report*
 5. B&L:MFT-TOM   *Terminal Operator Monthly Report*
 6. B&L:MFT-TRN   *Transporter Monthly Report*

… The first four reports are collectively called B&L:MFT-TXT and are submitted at the same time (all of which are due at the same time each period. B&L:MFT-TOM and B&L:MFT-TRN are both submitted individually… Among the first four reports, the Supplier Monthly Report can only be submitted by itself; however the Importer, Exporter, and Blender Monthly Reports can be submitted together in a single transmission. The Terminal Operator and/or Transporter Reports must each be transmitted separately from these (if applicable)."

Therefore, if a submission were to come in that included both a Supplier Report and a Distributor Report, the ADOR MFET Schema Set would have rejected the submission. However, this is no longer the case for certain taxpayers (Suppliers/Permissive Suppliers) who must file Importer and/or Exporter activities that were not part of the Supplier return due to the fact they are "below the rack" exchanges. For cross-checking purposes this data is still required to be filed, which will also require ADOR to accept Supplier plus Distributor submissions in these rare cases.

With that being said, not all Suppliers and Permissive Suppliers will automatically have this ability to file Importer/Exporter details. This will have to be designated by the state to determine if the entity (taxpayer) is qualified to report "below the rack" exchanges. If they are not and the taxpayer attempts to file a Supplier and a Distributor report, the XML Validation will continue to reject it.

If you are a taxpayer who should file schedule details that are below tax at the rack, please notify the Alabama Department of Revenue at mft@revenue.alabama.gov.

(Updates continued…)

Previous Developer Handbook Corrections (July 11th, 2012):

- MF Distributor Schedule Code (Appendix – page 67)

  A few emails have been sent in regards to the schedules laid out in the Developer's Handbook Appendix. The descriptions did not seem to match up with the rest of the report's development guide. "11A" and "11B" have been reworded to avoid this confusion. "11A" used to be labeled as "Diversions into state" which was poorly worded and should have read "Diversions *from Alabama* into *an outside* state." "11B" was similar changed to read "Diversions *into Alabama* from *an outside* state." See below for revised table (also found in the latest Developer's Handbook):

Distributor Schedule Code	Schedule Description
"11A"	Diversions from Alabama into an outside state
"11B"	Diversions into Alabama from an outside state
"1A"	Gallons received, Alabama tax paid
"1C"	Gallons received tax-paid with a payment voucher
"3B"	Gallons imported from bulk storage in another state
"7A"	Gallons exported, destination state tax-paid
"7B"	Gallons sold for export, originating state tax-paid

- Blender Report Description and Notes (Section 5 – page 39)

  Another comment made by several vendors has been about reporting the Blender details. Within the sample xml files posted on the MFET website, there was a mistake made by reporting the fuel type product of Aviation Gasoline "125" under the Undyed Diesel blendstocks. This was not a realistic scenario. In an effort to correct this, the sample XML files will be updated to change "125" to "160." Also, the section of the handbook has been updated with the following additional comment:

  "The FTA Uniform Reports and Schedules does not currently support a Blender Report which is why the whole gallon values must be reported using this repeating DistributorReportDetails element. Please note that only two repetitions are available for this; one for the Gasoline blendstocks and the other for the Undyed Diesel blendstocks (although this is not made explicit in enumerations). The Gasoline category incorporates product code "065" as well as all other "gasoline" fuel types as laid out in the list of product codes. Similarly, Undyed Diesel incorporates "160" and other "Undyed" fuel types. If more than one gasoline or more than one undyed diesel product is being reported, please use only one product code for the combined gallons that fall under either the gasoline or undyed categories."

To view the updated Developer's Handbook and Software Certification Guide, please visit our website at http://www.revenue.alabama.gov/MFET/ and view the updated links. Thank you!

Previous Update to the latest Schema Set (June 29th, 2012):

With the feedback we have been getting from the MFET website, ADOR has made a slight alteration to the latest schema set and has created an updated version of the Developer's Handbook that should aid in answering some of the questions that have come up. Only two of the schemas have been altered (MFDistributorReportType.xsd and MFCarrierReportType.xsd) but it is recommended that the entire set be downloaded again.

The change is to now allow certain entities to use an SSN if they are not a taxpayer set up with an FEIN. Before, FEIN was the only choice they could use on the Alabama Schemas. Not all instances have been changed to give the SSN/FEIN option, but the schedules for the Importer, Exporter, and Carrier Reports have. To see exactly which elements were affected, take a look at the newest Developer's Handbook. Please refer to this handbook for guidance when developing your programs, and feel free to contact us at mft@revenue.alabama.gov for any questions or additional inquiries you may have. Thanks!
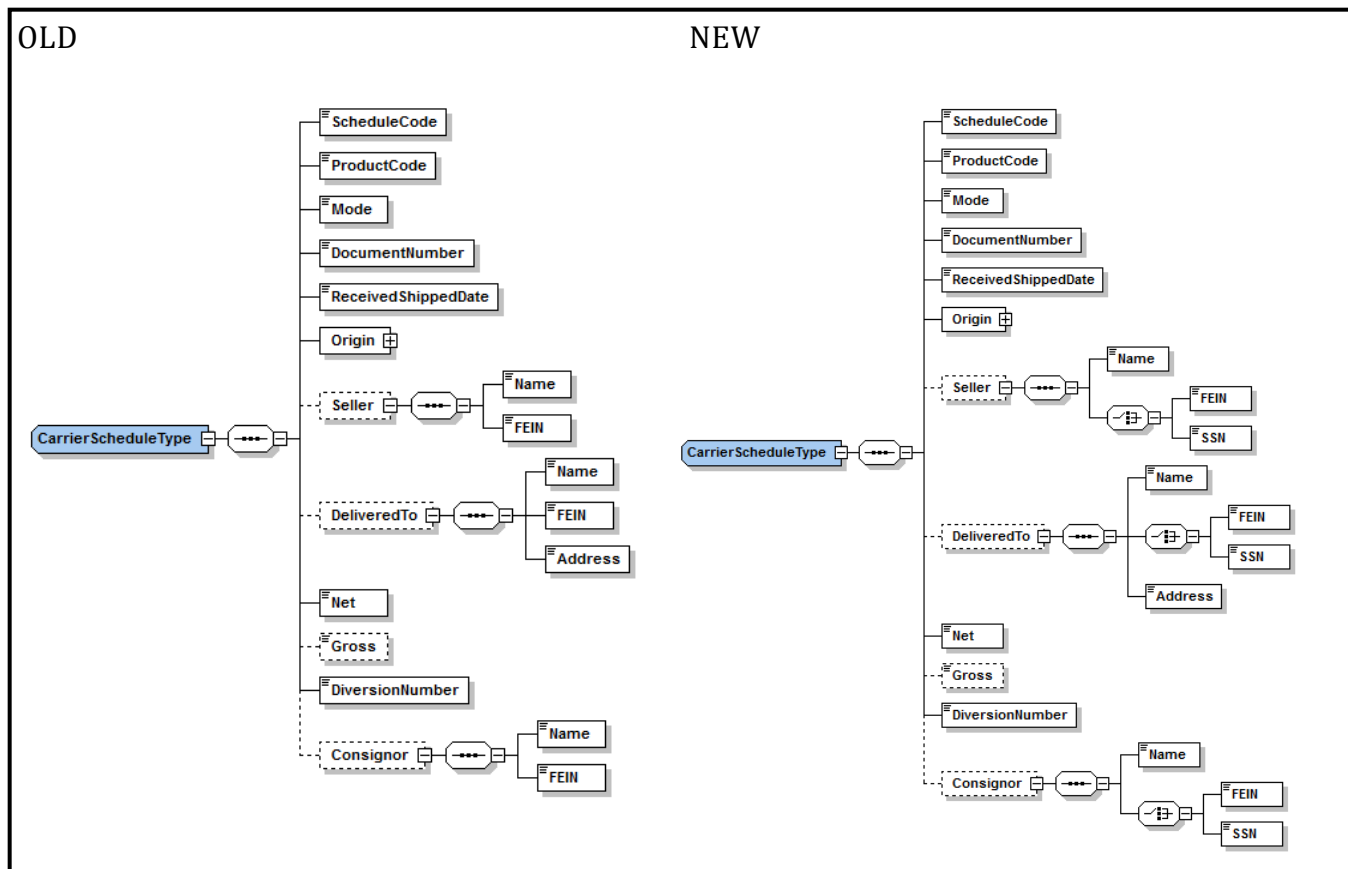
Alabama Motor Fuels Schema Updates
May 25th, 2012

Previous Update (May 25th, 2012):

As mentioned in the Motor Fuel Excise Tax (MFET) Developer's Handbook located on the Alabama Department of Revenue website http://www.revenue.alabama.gov/MFET/, the State has agreed to conform to the MFET XML Standards as put out and published by both teams from FTA and TIGERS (section 1 of the handbook, *General Information*). Alabama's own MFET XML Schemas were submitted to FTA/TIGERS for final approval in April of 2012.

Among the findings during the review process as well as the new release of TIGERS' own *MFETV2.0* Schema Set, a number of changes were applied to the Alabama Schema Set to maintain this compliance.

Below is a list of items that have been updated on the ADOR website to reflect FTA/TIGERS' feedback for final approval as well as additional changes made due to the introduction of *MFETV2.0*. Any questions or additional inquiries can be made via the email address mft@revenue.alabama.gov.

Schema Changes:

1. New *ExtendedCommon* folder to house additional schemas as well as the contents of what was previously named the *AL* folder.

2. Naming changes for Report Schemas:

Before		Now
MFCarrierReportType.xsd	→	MFCarrierReport.xsd
MFDistributorReportType.xsd	→	MFDistributorReport.xsd
MFSupplierReportType.xsd	→	MFSupplierReport.xsd
MFTOReportType.xsd	→	MFTOReport.xsd
MotorFuelsEnumerationFile.xsd	→	MotorFuelsEnumerations.xsd

3. FinancialTransaction.xsd was changed from having a sequence to a choice gate, since the previous version would allow a filer to have both a payment and a refund. This has been altered now so that they can only have one or the other.

4. The structure for all four report schemas now includes an extension of MFReportType that was not present before. The same information is required as before and should not be affected by this change.

(Updates continued…)

5. *MFETV2.0* now supports Position Holder Inventory information within the MFTOReport.xsd schema. This addition is detailed in the Developer's Handbook and allows for taxpayer information to be filed that was not allowed in the prior version.

6. A Submission ID is now required within the Schema Set located just before the Motor Fuel Header begins. Alabama does not have a need for this, but as it is mandatory to include this for conformity each submission should contain a Submission ID of "ALMFET". This has also been added and discussed in the Developer's Handbook.

7. Although the Report Schedule elements have not changed, FTA/TIGERS require that these remain in a particular order. These elements have been rearranged to meet these standards. Below are a few screenshots of the rearrangement of these schedule elements.

MFCarrierReport.xsd　　**Old**　　　　　　**New**

CarrierScheduleType

Old:
- ScheduleCode
- ProductCode
- Mode
- DocumentNumber
- ReceivedShippedDate
- Origin
- Consignor
- Seller
- DeliveredTo
- Net
- Gross
- DiversionNumber

New:
- ScheduleCode
- ProductCode
- Mode
- DocumentNumber
- ReceivedShippedDate
- Origin
- Seller
- DeliveredTo
- Net
- Gross
- DiversionNumber
- Consignor

MFTOReport.xsd　　**Old**　　　　　　**New**

TerminalOperatorScheduleType

Old:
- ScheduleCode
- ProductCode
- Mode
- DocumentNumber
- ReceivedShippedDate
- Destination
- PositionHolder
- Carrier
- Net
- Gross
- DiversionNumber

New:
- ScheduleCode
- ProductCode
- Mode
- DocumentNumber
- ReceivedShippedDate
- Destination
- Carrier
- Net
- Gross
- PositionHolder