BACKGROUND

Payment data can be input into the ECS Production PC via three methods:

1. Type data into the ECS Production PC.
2. Upload Schedules into the ECS Production PC from a floppy disk created on the Offline PC (Satellite) System.
3. Download Schedules from a Mainframe System or PC onto a floppy disk and upload the Schedules onto the ECS Production PC.

This Technical Note provides information and formats for the third party method, which downloads schedules from an FPA's Mainframe System.

In short, this capability allows the FPA to take payment data from their mainframe system, massage the data into the formats shown on the attached pages and create a download file on floppy disk which can be uploaded onto the ECS Production PC for subsequent transmission to the ECS at the RFC. If there are any questions, please contact your servicing Financial Management Service Regional Financial Center ECS Host Coordinator.

SPECIAL NOTES ("*" denotes changes from the previous specification document dated 12/19/95, for Agencies that have previously generated 3rd party download files):

o   Record size is 440 bytes. The "TEST440.EXE" program, dated 4/20/1998, may be used on the download files to identify file format problems. The files must also be edited prior to uploading in the ECS PC. Improper data will cause the schedule to fail to upload.

o   ALL DATA MUST BE IN UPPERCASE.

o   Unless specified otherwise, alpha/numeric fields are to be left justified with trailing blanks. Numeric fields are right justified with leading zeros, zero pad.

o   Up to 100 schedules can be transmitted per day per PC (includes all schedule types). Maximum of 60 payments per schedule. No more than a total of 200 schedules may be on the system at any one time.

*   Schedule Number is defined as 14 positions, however the production system will only accept 10. Therefore, the schedule number field must be zero filled in the first four positions, zero pad and right justify.

*   The ACH Prenote Code field in the ACH ALC Control Record of the 12/19/95 specification document is no longer valid. If used, prenote schedules are now identified in the ACH Transmission Header Record, Payment Type field.

* A new, one position field was added in the 04 Payment Record, labeled Treasury Offset Program (TOP) Offset Eligibility code, for all Check, ACH, and SDPR payments. Mandatory field, values are "Y" or "N".

* A new, one position field was added in the 04 Payment Record, labeled 1099 Reporting Eligibility code for Vendor & Miscellaneous Check and ACH type payments. Mandatory field, see field description in the specification document for values.

* A new, three position field was added, labeled Addendum Format, for ACH payments in the 04 ACH Payment Record. Used to identify if the payment is "PPD" or "CCD". Refer to the chart titled *New Payment Types and Payment Application Definitions* for the applicable mandatory code, based on the type of payment.

* The list of valid Segment Identifiers for the Payment ID Line in the ACH 04 Payment Record have been restricted to the following: DED, TXP, RMR, DTM, REF, PER, TRN (new), N1 (new). Any other segments used will be rejected when uploading the file into the ECS PC. Refer to the *ACH Addendum Record Users Guide* (separate document) for further details in contructing the addendum record.

* The Payment Type and Payment Application fields replace the previous field "Trans. Type" in the 01 Transmission Header Record. The field values have also been redefined. Please see the attached chart titled *New Payment Types and Payment Application Definitions*, and the respective field descriptions in the specifications document, to determine the valid values for the respective type of payment to be generated.

* Payee/Vendor ID field has been renamed Payee ID/TIN. The field is restricted to 9 positions, alpha/numeric, for all check, ACH, and SDPR payments. Previously in the Check 04 Payment Record, the field length was X(16). One character minimum, except for ACH Salary and ACH Travel which require 9 numeric, such as the Payee SSN. The Payee ID/TIN is a new field for the SDPR 05 Payment Record.

* Additional codes were added to the list of valid codes for the first position of the field labeled "Summary Payment Codes" in the Summary Totals 04 Payment Records.

* BBK ABA Number field in the SDPR 05 Payment Record has been changed from X(9) blank fill if not used, to 9(9) zero fill if not used.

* Depositor Account Number field SDPR 05 Payment Record for Same Day Pay Request payments was expanded by 4 positions, from X(13) to X(17), positions 180-196. The BBK Remarks field now begins in position 197.

*   For Check and ACH Schedule Control Record, the Schedule Amount field has been increased by one position, from 9(12) to 9(13). The largest total schedule amount permitted remains only 12 positions, therefore the highest order digit will always be "0". However, this will result in the amount value being moved one position. Please note the new field length and column position for the Schedule Amount in the specification document.

*   For Check and ACH 09 Schedule Control Record, each Appropriated Amount field has been expanded by one position, from 9(12) to 9(13). The largest appropriated amount permitted remains only 12 positions, therefore the highest order digit will always be "0". However, this expansion will result in the amount value being shifted one position. Please note the new field length and column position for each Appropriated Amount field in the specification document.

*   As a result of the Schedule Amount field being expanded by one position, the Record Code field will shift by one position in the 09 Check and ACH Schedule Control Record.

*   As a result of Schedule Amount field and each Appropriated Amount field being increased by one position, the column position for the Account Symbol associated with each Appropriated Amount will also change in the 09 Check and ACH Schedule Control Record. This field length remains the same.

*   Field items not required for 3rd party file creation are noted with a "(BLANK FILL FOR 3rd PARTY FORMAT.)" in the Description column.

o   Data must be edited according to specifications on the formats. All data not in the proper form will be rejected by the ECS FPA PC.

o   Floppy filenames must be of the form NNN-MMDD, where NNN is a sequence number 000 to 999, MM is the month 01 to 12, and DD is the day 01 to 31.

o   Each schedule must be a separate file with no more than 60 payments per schedule.

o   No more than 100 schedules can be on a single floppy diskette.

o   There cannot be any null characters or carriage return/line feeds anywhere in the schedule.

o   The total bytes per schedule must be a multiple of 440.

o   The payment amount for Check is limited to $9,999,999.99 by edits on the system although the field is 9(10).

o   The payment amount for Salary and Travel ACH is limited to $999,999.99 by edits on the system although the field is 9(10).

o   On 01 Transmission Header Record item DOS Filename will not require a file extension for third party upload. Blank file extension is acceptable and preferred.

o   Reference Payment Number; Payment Number remains the same for each record that makes up a payment on a schedule. For example: For type 2 enclosure code payments, two additional records are required. The set of three payment records would all have the same Payment Number for that payment.

New Payment Types and Payment Application Definition:

Type of Payment	Position 1 (Type)	Position 2 (Application)	
ACH Vendor	A	V	CCD
ACH Salary	A	S	PPD
ACH Travel	A	T	PPD
ACH Miscellaneous	A	M	CCD
ACH Tax	A	X	PPD
ACH OPM Benefit	A	O	PPD
ACH RRB Benefit	A	R	PPD
ACH SSA Benefit	A	B	PPD
ACH SSI Benefit	A	D	PPD
ACH VA Benefit	A	C	PPD
ACH Prenote Vendor	P	V	CCD
ACH Prenote Salary	P	S	PPD
ACH Prenote Travel	P	T	PPD
ACH Prenote Miscellaneous	P	M	CCD
ACH Prenote Tax	P	X	PPD
ACH Prenote OPM Benefit	P	O	PPD
ACH Prenote RRB Benefit	P	R	PPD
ACH Prenote SSA Benefit	P	B	PPD
ACH Prenote SSI Benefit	P	D	PPD
ACH Prenote VA Benefit	P	C	PPD
Check Vendor	C	V	N/A
Check Miscellaneous	C	M	N/A
Check Tax	C	X	N/A
Check OPM Benefit	C	O	N/A

Type of Payment	Position 1 (Type)	Position 2 (Application)	
Check RRB Benefit	C	R	N/A
Check SSA Benefit	C	B	N/A
Check SSI Benefit	C	D	N/A
Check VA Benefit	C	C	N/A
SDPR	D	blank	N/A
Summary	M	blank	N/A
Summary Prenote	Y	blank	N/A
Manual Check Vendor	N	V	N/A
Manual Check Miscellaneous	N	M	N/A
Manual Check Tax	N	X	N/A

This will be a new two position field to designate the payment type and payment application for a schedule. It will be on the 01 Record, and replaces the field currently designated as Transmission Type. The Values are as follows:

Position 1 (Payment Type):

ACH	A
ACH Prenote	P
Check	C
SDPR	D
Summary	M
Summary Prenote	Y
Manual Check	N

Position 2 (Payment Application):

Vendor	V
Salary	S
Travel	T
Miscellaneous	M
Tax	X
SSA Benefit	B
SSI Benefit	D
OPM Benefit	O
RRB Benefit	R
VA Benefit	C
Not Used	blank