

ISO 20022 FOR CORPORATES NEWSLETTER - 2025 #1

Cash Management

As a reminder, all financial institutions have committed to phasing out SWIFT MT messages by November 2025 and transitioning to ISO 20022 XML messages. This change aims to improve the fluidity and speed of payment execution, enhance the fight against money laundering and terrorism financing, and provide a universal standard for payment files.

We would like to bring to your attention the key implications of this migration, particularly with regards to the structuring of addresses in your payment instructions.

This newsletter provides a summary of the most common questions we've received from our clients, along with helpful answers and insight.

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE FOR CORPORATES TO MIGRATE TO ISO 20022 XML FORMATS?

The ISO 20022 migration is about the change of payment and reporting formats used by and between **banks** and **market infrastructures**.

No deadline for corporate migration

There is no specific deadline for corporates to migrate to ISO 20022 XML formats. After November 2026, corporates will be able to continue using the SWIFTNet FIN network and send payments in MT101 format.

➤ Key dates to note

■ Important deadline for financial institutions: November 2025

All financial institutions will phase out SWIFT MT category 1 and 2 messages and exchange only ISO 20022 XML messages for international payments.

One exception: The replacement of MT101 third-party banks with pain.001 Relay is delayed.

■ Important deadline applicable to SEPA and International payments for Corporates: November 2026

From that date, corporates will be responsible for providing counterparty addresses in their payment instructions in a structured or semi-structured format. The unstructured address format will no longer be supported and clients must ensure that they are using a compliant format to avoid any disruptions to their payment processing.

➤ Recommendation for Corporates

Although not mandatory, we strongly recommend that you migrate your international payments to the XML format (regardless of version) as soon as possible. Indeed, the XML format is the only one compatible with the requested ordering and beneficiary customer data structuration.



BNP PARIBAS

The bank
for a changing
world



WHEN SHOULD I PROVIDE ADDRESSES IN MY PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS?

➤ Address requirements for payments

The need for ordering and beneficiary customer addresses varies depending on the type of payment flow and the country in which the payment is made.

➤ Address requirements at a glance

The following table outlines when an address is required:

| Payment Type | DEBTOR ADDRESS | CREDITOR ADDRESS |
|--|--|--|
| Cross-border and EUR RTGS (Target2 / ERA E1) | MANDATORY if payment to non-EEA country* or in non-EEA currency** (Regulation EU 2023/1113). BNP Paribas provides it for all transactions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ MANDATORY if requested by local regulation (cfr. BNP Paribas' Currency Guide - payments towards Canada in all currencies)■ Recommended if payments to non-EEA country* or non-EEA currency**■ Optional in other cases |
| SCT and SCT Inst | MANDATORY if payment to SEPA non-EEA country*** (regulation EU 2023/1113) BNP Paribas provides it for all transactions | Optional |
| SDD | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ MANDATORY if collection from SEPA non-EEA country***■ Optional in other cases | Optional |

* EEA - European Economic Area: EU 27 countries, Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland

** EEA currencies different from EUR: BGN, CHF, CZK, DKK, HUF, ISK, NOK, PLN, RON, SEK

*** SEPA non-EEA countries: Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Switzerland, United Kingdom + other small territories belonging to some SEPA countries.

Provided by BNP Paribas

Provided by Client

➤ Debtor information in Credit Transfers

When the debtor's name and address are required in credit transfers, this information is retrieved by BNP Paribas from the bank's information system to ensure accuracy.

➤ Creditor information in Credit Transfers

For credit transfers outside the European Economic Area (EEA), it is strongly recommended to indicate the beneficiary's address. The client is responsible for structuring this information.

IN WHICH COUNTRY IS A BENEFICIARY ADDRESS REQUIRED?

The presence of addresses is mainly required in international payment transactions, where the risk of errors or non-compliance with regulations is higher.

The beneficiary's address is mandatory for certain destinations (e.g. Canada, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, ...) and recommended in other cases.

➤ Country-specific requirements for counterparty addresses

For a list of countries that require the address of the counterparty, please visit the BNP Paribas Cash Management website: [here](#). Please note that the list might extend to more countries.

➤ International payment guidelines

The [BNP Paribas online Currency Guide](#) contains the practical guidelines for the formatting of your international payment instructions in more than 130 currencies.



➤ SEPA Direct Debits (SDD)

The **debtor's address** is mandatory for all SDD transactions where the Creditor Bank or the Debtor Bank are located in a country outside the European Economic Area (EEA).

Example:

Jean-Pierre Dupont, resident in Brussels (BE), grants British Energy Ltd., a company in the United Kingdom, a SEPA Direct Debit mandate to collect monthly payments for electricity services from his bank account.

As the UK is a non-EEA country, the address of the debtor, JP Dupont, must be included in the SEPA Direct Debit (SDD) instruction.

WHICH OPTIONS DO I HAVE FOR FORMATTING ADDRESSES IN PAYMENT TRANSACTIONS?

You have the following options for formatting addresses in payment transactions:

- Structured address – **recommended**: use a structured format, which includes separate fields for each element of the address, with a minimum of two mandatory structured fields: **ISO country code** and **town name**.
- Unstructured address – **accepted until November 2026**: use a free-text format, which allows you to enter the address in a single field. Even in the unstructured option, the presence of "Country" <Ctry> is required in the structured element for international payments.
- Semi-structured or hybrid address – **recommended**: combination of structured ISO 20022 address elements with a minimum of **ISO country code** and **town name** and up to 2 lines of 70 characters of unstructured 'AdrLine'. This option is allowed as of 22nd of November 2025 for international payments and as of 5th of October 2025 for SEPA payments.

In the hybrid address, structured elements must not be repeated in the AdrLine element(s), as illustrated here:

| CORRECT STRUCTURED ADDRESS | CORRECT HYBRID ADDRESS | WRONG HYBRID ADDRESS |
|--|---|---|
| <pre><Nm>ALAIN DUPONT</Nm> <PstlAdr> <StrtNm>Rue de France</StrtNm> <BldgNb>23</BldgNb> <PstCd>1000</PstCd> <TwnNm>Brussels</TwnNm> <Ctry>BE</Ctry> </PstlAdr></pre> | <pre><Nm>ALAIN DUPONT</Nm> <PstlAdr> <PstCd>1000</PstCd> <TwnNm>Brussels</TwnNm> <Ctry>BE</Ctry> <AdrLine>Rue de France 23</AdrLine> </PstlAdr></pre> | <pre><Nm>ALAIN DUPONT</Nm> <PstlAdr> <StrtNm>Rue de France 23</StrtNm> <PstCd>1000</PstCd> <TwnNm>Brussels</TwnNm> <Ctry>BE</Ctry> <AdrLine>Rue de France 23</AdrLine> </PstlAdr></pre> |

Below is an example of the three different formatting variants for the same address:

| POSTAL ADDRESS - PAIN VERSION 2019 | UNSTRUCTURED OPTION | STRUCTURED OPTION | SEMI-STRUCTURED OPTION |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| Department | <Dept> | | |
| Sub Department | <SubDept> | | |
| Street Name | <StrtNm> | <StrtNm>GROTE MARKT</StrtNm> | |
| Building Number | <BldgNb> | <BldgNb>1</BldgNb> | |
| Building Name | <BldgNm> | <BldgNm>CITY HALL</BldgNm> | |
| Floor | <Flr> | | |
| Post Box | <PstBx> | | |
| Room | <Room> | | |
| Post Code | <PstCd> | <PstCd>1000</PstCd> | <PstCd>1000</PstCd> |
| Town Name | <TwnNm> | <TwnNm>BRUSSELS</TwnNm> | <TwnNm>BRUSSELS</TwnNm> |
| Town Location Name | <TwnLctnNm> | | |
| District Name | <DstrctNm> | | |
| Country Sub Division | <CtrySubDvsn> | | |
| Country | <Ctry> | <Ctry>BE</Ctry> | <Ctry>BE</Ctry> |
| Address Line 1 | <AdrLine> | <AdrLine>CITY HALL GROTE MARKT 1</AdrLine> | <AdrLine>CITY HALL GROTE MARKT 1</AdrLine> |
| Address Line 2 | <AdrLine> | <AdrLine>1000 BRUSSELS</AdrLine> | |



ARE THERE SPECIFIC ADDRESS REQUIREMENTS PER COUNTRY?

A minimum of two fields is required for address formatting in all countries:

1. Town Name: The name of the town or city where the beneficiary is located.
2. Country Name: The name of the country where the beneficiary is located.

These fields must be presented in a structured format to ensure accurate processing and prevent errors.

In addition, some countries may require specific formatting or additional information, such as postal codes or province names. It's essential to check the address requirements for each country to ensure compliance and avoid any potential issues with payment processing.

You can find country-specific address requirements on the swift.com website: [PMPG Country Guidance](#)

WHICH VERSION OF THE PAIN.001 SHOULD I USE?

The pain.001 is recommended regardless of its version. The most recent version of the ISO formats dates back to 2019: pain.001.001.09.

Companies can use earlier versions of the pain.001 format (.02 or .03) as long as they are suitable for structuring addresses in hybrid form.

The contributions of the 2019 version

This version allows for the addition of new fields that support enhanced data:

- **Postal address:** The tags BuildingName, Floor, PostBox, Room, TownLocationName, and District
- Identification of legal entities by the **Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)**: facilitating and increasing reliability of AML-CFT controls / Sanctions
- Dedicated field for **UETR**, the Unique End-to-End Transaction Reference that identifies the payment throughout its lifecycle, from initiation to settlement.
- **Proxy element** to cater for an alias/proxy identifier
- **Structured Remittance Information:** the new version includes a new element named Line Details. This permits full granularity of each payment (e.g. invoice)

You can rely on your dedicated Cash Management Officer and the BNP Paribas team of experts to guide you through this critical technical transition phase. Our team is committed to ensuring a seamless transition and is available to address any questions or concerns you may have.

BNP Paribas, your trusted partner for all your foreign payments and collections.

More info:
Contact your Cash Management Officer

 [linkedin.com/company/bnpp-cash-management](https://www.linkedin.com/company/bnpp-cash-management)
www.cashmanagement.bnpparibas.com