ISO 20022 FOR CORPORATES

NEWSLETTER - 2026 #2

Cash Management

ISO 20022: Transposition of addresses to ISO 20022 format

To enhance payment data quality and structuring, Payment Market Infrastructures (e.g., TARGET2, CHAPS, EURO1, STEP2) and Correspondent Banking networks are transitioning to the ISO 20022 standard. This migration enables structured address formatting in payment messages, thereby improving the accuracy of compliance monitoring tools.

The industry-wide adoption aims to achieve three key outcomes:

- Higher data quality
- Increased automation
- Strengthened regulatory compliance in financial crime prevention.

Transposition of addresses to ISO 20022 structured format generates a lot of questions. This newsletter is a digest of the most Frequently Asked Questions.

Prior to digging into detailed explanations, kindly take note of the updated BNP Paribas implementation timelines for the ISO 20022 Structured Address Requirements:

- Third-party banks: The deadline for submitting structured address data for third-party bank debtors has been extended to 15 November 2026 (previously 1 July).
- Connexis Manual Entry: The submission deadline is now 1 September 2026 (previously 9 May). From this date, Connexis users must manually input any missing creditor town names.

New deadlines overview

CLIENT CHANNEL	DEBTOR AGENT	PARTY ADDRESS	MARKET DEADLINE	BNPP DEADLINE	CLIENT ACTION	CLIENT ACTION NATURE
All global channels	Third Party Bank	Debtor	15 November 2026	15 November 2026	YES	Add debtor's structured address
		Creditor			YES	Structure the address if present
Connexis Manual Entry	BNP Paribas	Debtor	15 November 2026	15 November 2026	NO	Add town name minimum Country code requested by Connexis
		Creditor		1 September 2026	YES	Add town name minimum Country code requested by Connexis
Connexis File Import	BNP Paribas	Debtor	15 November 2026		NO	
		Creditor		15 November 2026	YES	Add town name minimum Country code requested by Connexis
H2H channels (SWIFTNet, FTPS, SFTP, EBICS)	BNP Paribas	Debtor	15 November 2026	15 November 2026	YES for SDD	Add debtor's structured address if collection to/from SEPA non-EEA country
		Creditor		15 November 2026	YES	Structure address if present

ISO 20022 structured addresses – What is changing?

Effective 15 November 2026, SWIFT and market infrastructures will reject payments featuring unstructured postal address formats. To prevent processing delays and reduce operational burdens, BNP Paribas will no longer process transactions with fully unstructured counterparty addresses or non-compliant messages.

Which address formats will be accepted as of 15 November 2026?

This key change that affects all corporate clients means that for international and urgent payments, only structured or hybrid address data will be accepted in payment instructions.
The ISO 20022 XML `pain` format is the sole standard that fully supports the structured representation of address data. It includes structured XML fields for address components, such as street name, building number, floor, postal code, town name, and country.

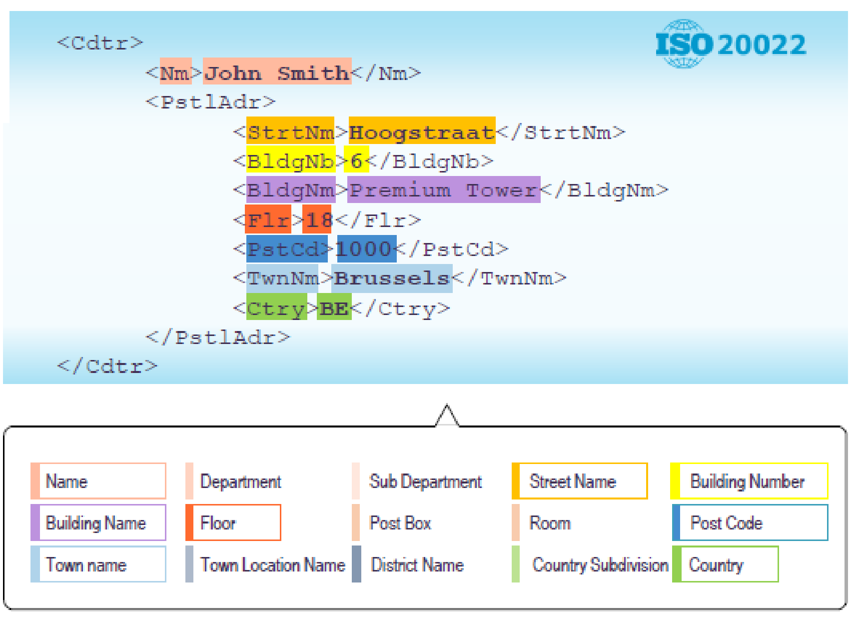
Both fully structured and semi-structured addresses must include the mandatory fields Country and Town Name at minimum. However, these two elements are not sufficient to provide quality data.

- Preferred format option – Fully structured addresses

For effective payment party identification, a critical aspect of anti-money laundering (AML) compliance, prioritize structured address formatting wherever feasible.

Beyond the required **Town Name** and **Country**, we recommend including the Postal Code (where available) and additional structured address details—such as Street Name and Building Number—in their respective XML fields to avoid potential future payment rejections.

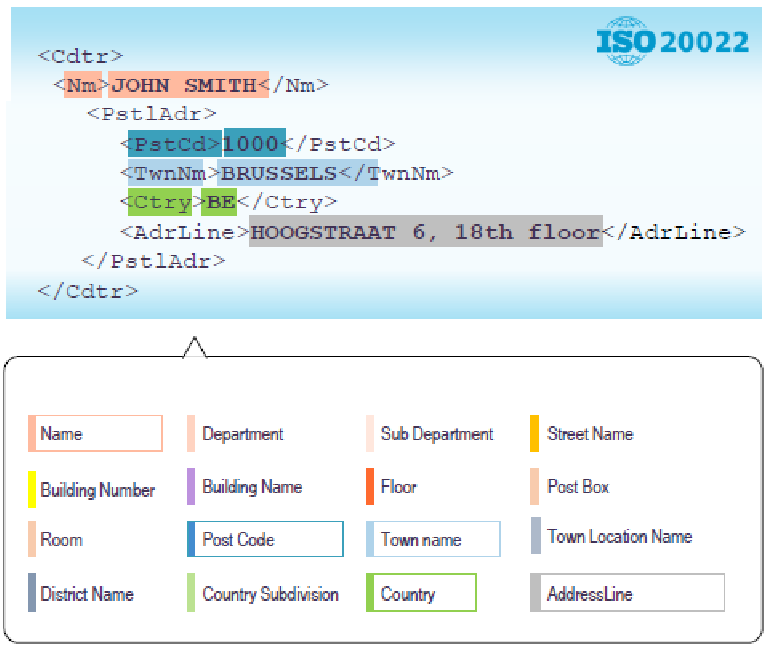
Fully **Structured** postal address



- Second format option – Semi-structured addresses

The hybrid variation is a compromise between data quality, necessary to facilitate sanctions and embargo checks, and ease of implementation for all stakeholders in the transition to ISO 20022.
Data elements 'Country' and 'Town Name' are mandatory, and, if available, we recommend to provide also the 'Postal Code'. All other address attributes may be provided in structured XML elements or unstructured address lines (maximum 2 lines of 70 characters).
To be compliant with the SWIFT guidelines, the structured address information provided in the respective structured elements must not be repeated in the Address Line elements.

Example



What will happen to your payment if :

➢ *Structured address elements (e.g., street name, city, or postal code) are repeated in the free-format Address Line fields?*

The following risks apply:
- Beneficiary bank validation: The receiving institution may flag the transaction for manual review, as this violates SWIFT's structured data guidelines.
- Operational impact: Delays in processing, potential rejection, or additional charges may occur.

➢ *The country is provided but the town name is missing?*

The payment will be rejected unless you add the town name.
- In Connexis, the country code is mandatory, so the town name must be added at minimum. For optimal processing, provide the full address.
- Values like *not provided* or *unknown* should be avoided, as payments containing such terms have been rejected by beneficiary banks.

➢ *The building number is included in the Street Name field?*

- This practice does not comply with ISO 20022 standards, though BNP Paribas and SWIFT currently do not enforce validation, as the field remains text-based.
- The beneficiary bank may flag the transaction for investigation, potentially resulting in extra charges.

Which actions should you take?

We recommend prioritizing the following actions to ensure a smooth transition.

› Master data revision

To ensure full compliance and operational efficiency, apply structured formatting to all addresses in your counterparty databases wherever feasible. At minimum, verify that each entry includes the mandatory fields: country and town name.

As the counterparty overview does not indicate whether an address is used for SEPA, domestic, or international transactions, it is recommended to standardize all entries—excluding domestic flows in most jurisdictions where structured formatting is not required. This proactive approach minimizes risk and ensures consistency across payment types.

Connexis Cash users are advised to update their list of counterparties with the town name and country. Please consult the [user guide] for the correct procedure when adapting beneficiaries.

Note the following requirements for counterparty management:
- New counterparty creation and modifications must include structured address data.
- From September onward, it will be impossible to submit the payment instruction in Connexis Manual Entry if the town name is not input

› Payment instruction creation

Update all payment instructions—including future-dated transactions, standing orders, and recurring instructions in Connexis—to align with semi-structured or fully structured postal address formats. Ensure full compliance by the deadline **of 15 November 2026** (payment value date).
Where compliance with this requirement cannot be guaranteed, refrain from initiating sensitive payments around this date.

For which parties should you provide an address?

Note that all addresses must be structured or hybrid, except for domestic transactions in most countries. This applies to the debtor, the beneficiary, any ultimate debtor or ultimate beneficiary, as well as the beneficiary bank or correspondent bank if no BIC is available.

› Debtor information in Credit Transfers

❑ Debited account is held within the BNP Paribas Group:

For credit transfers where the debtor's name and address are mandatory, BNP Paribas will automatically retrieve the information from its master data to create the interbank payment instruction.
Avoid populating the PstlAdr field if you cannot include the two mandatory elements Ctry and TownName. Only the name is sufficient.

❑ Debited account is held within a third-party bank:

If BNP Paribas is your **forwarding bank*,** please ensure payment instructions **include also the debtor's structured or semi-structured address** by 15 November to avoid SWIFT rejection. From that date, your instructions will be forwarded to the third-party bank in a XML pain.001 Relay message via SWIFT where the address must be compliant to avoid rejection.

**Forwarding bank means that you issue payment instructions to debit third-party bank accounts registered in your BNP Paribas connectivity solution.*

- **Creditor information in Credit Transfers**
  As the payment originator, you are responsible for providing accurate creditor data, including the name and a correctly formatted address where possible and in accordance with country-specific requirements mentioned below.

  BNP Paribas recommends providing the creditor's full address, as an increasing number of jurisdictions now require this information for transaction processing.

- **Ultimate debtor/ultimate creditor**
  The Debtor is responsible for the provision of high-quality (structured) information of the Ultimate Parties (Ultimate Debtor & Ultimate Creditor).
  For RTGS payments, Ultimate Debtor requirements are strictly enforced, mandating both the name and complete address (unlike standard credit transfers where only the name may be required).

- **Agents (banks)**
  To identify agents (Debtor Bank/ Creditor Bank/ Intermediary Bank), a Bank Identifier Code (BIC) is preferred and sufficient. If the BIC is absent, then the name and correctly formatted bank structured/hybrid postal address (with town name and country code at the minimum) are mandatory.

What will happen to your payment if :

➢ *the BIC and country are provided, but the town name element is not populated?*

The flow will be rejected as it does not comply with the ISO20022 standard: the Town Name must be added.

Payment methods in scope

The obligation to provide addresses differs in function of the payment type and the concerned party (debtor, creditor). The following table summarizes the requirements:

Payment Type	Debtor Address for BNP Paribas Debtor Accounts	Creditor Address	Creditor's Bank Address
Cross-border payments	BNP Paribas provides it for all transactions	To be provided at least for [list of countries]	To be provided if BIC is absent
- SEPA Credit Transfer - SEPA Credit Transfer Instant		Optional	
Urgent domestic Urgent international HVP	BNP Paribas provides it for all transactions	To be provided in: Australia RTGS Hong Kong RTGS Japan FXYCS Malaysia RTGS Optional in all other countries	
Intracompany transfers / Treasury payments		To be provided for applicable underlying payment type 1 and 3	
Domestic low value payments		CH/SE/DK/NO/RO if address is provided, must be structured or semi-structured	
Salary payments		Optional if SEPA payment. If provided, must be structured/hybrid	

Payment type	Creditor address	Debtor address	Debt Bank Address
SEPA direct debit***	Optional	Mandatory if collection to/ from SEPA non-EEA country	Not applicable, BIC only

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

Are there specific address requirements per country ?

Address formatting requires **at least** two mandatory fields for all countries:

1) Town – The creditor's location (town or city name).
2) Country – The creditor's country of residence (valid ISO 2-letter format).

Both fields must be provided in a structured format to ensure correct processing and avoid rejection. Placeholder values such as *not provided* or *unknown* in the Town Name field will not cause BNP Paribas to reject the payment. However, their use may lead to processing delays, incur additional investigation costs, or result in rejection by the beneficiary bank.

Certain countries may impose additional formatting rules or require extra details, such as postal codes or province names. Always verify the address requirements for the destination country to ensure compliance and prevent processing delays.

Alongside the Currency Guide, you can find country-specific address requirements on the swift.com website: PMPG Country Guidance

You must consider that if a counterparty address is present, then it must be structured or hybrid as of 15 November, whether the address is mandatory or optional.

This applies to all channels and all addresses, not just in the countries requiring an address.

The FATF/GAFI require that the originator and beneficiary's addresses be included in payment messages from 2030. Although it is not yet a legal obligation everywhere, it is advised to include the beneficiary's address in all your payments (except for domestic flows in most countries) to be future proof.

How will I be notified of a payment rejection due to incorrect address details?

You will receive notification of any payment rejection caused by an invalid address (debtor, creditor, ultimate debtor, or ultimate creditor) regardless of the channel used:

- **SWIFTNet and host-to-host channels**: Rejected transactions will be listed in the Payment Status Report (PSR), with details available in the 'Additional Information' field.
- **Connexis Cash**: Rejections will be visible directly in Connexis, specifying the invalid address type (e.g., debtor, creditor, ultimate debtor/creditor).

Which ISO 20022 message types does BNP Paribas support?

BNP Paribas supports the following ISO 20022 message types for payments:

- **Customer Credit Transfer Initiation (pain.001):** Versions v3 and v9 (support for v2 will be discontinued by end-2027)
- **Customer Payment Status Report (pain.002):** Versions v3 and v10
- **Customer Direct Debit Initiation (pain.008):** Versions v2 and v8

Technical specifications, documentation, and self-testing tools are available via MyStandards.

What is tested in MyStandards?

If postal address is present, MyStandards will check for the presence of the minimum mandatory fields to be ISO 20022 compliant, but not necessarily the content.

Will BNP Paribas reject incoming payments if address data is inconsistent?

Beneficiary address consistency is not impacting the smooth processing of incoming payments received by BNP Paribas.

Are the local formats affected by the ISO 20022 address rules?

The following import formats will be phased out **in Connexis Cash** and the **Direct Connectivity channels** by November 2026 due to their inability to process structured or semi-structured addresses. Users currently relying on these local formats are advised to transition to XML pain.001 without delay:

- CH DTA
- DE DTAZV
- IT CBI-BONI PE and BONI PC
- CZ CFA
- AT Edifact Paymul
- NL BTL91
- SAP IDOC
- PL Multicash PLA

The CFONB320 format lacks support for fully structured address fields.
While temporary use remains possible under strict, predefined conditions, a rapid migration to the pain.001 standard is strongly recommended.

Can I continue to use FIN and MT101?

As a corporate, SWIFT still supports FIN and MT101 messages. However, we recommend transitioning to the ISO 20022-based pain.001 format via FINplus, SWIFT's store-and-forward processing service, which ensures secure and reliable message exchange.

For continued use of the MT101, please make sure you strictly apply the guidelines outlined in our Newsletter_ISO20022_EN_202602_Addresses.pdf.

Gentle reminder regarding CHAPS payments

Since May 2025, The Bank of England requests the CHAPS direct participants the inclusion of **Purpose Codes for property transactions**.

While this field remains optional for clients, we advise including the purpose code in your property payments. In Connexis Cash (for UK contracts), you have the option to choose the requisite purpose code from the entire list of 100+ code published by Bank of England, including the 6 property payment codes. The obligation to provide purpose codes is planned to be extended to all channels and all payment types by November 2027.

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.

More info:
Contact your Cash Management Officer

linkedin.com/company/bnpp-cash-management
https://www.cashmanagement.bnpparibas.com/