Issue 7 | January 2020

Get Organized for 2020 with G-Invoicing Release 3.0!

Tired of looking through those overflowing file drawers for documentation on what an IPAC is for? Do you find yourself scratching your head on why funds were collected from your Agency Location Code (ALC)? Well get organized for 2020. In October 2019, G-Invoicing released 3.0 which completes the lifecycle



for IGT Buy/Sell transactions. No more needing to log into IPAC. As you negotiate your orders with Trading Partners, selecting freight on board (FOB) source will automatically generate the settlement transaction to IPAC based on the "Delivered/Performed" Performance transactions submitted by the Seller. As the Buyer, you can have a say in things by negotiating FOB destination on the Order. With this option, the settlement transaction will be automatically generated based on the "Received/Accepted" transaction submitted by the Super. If the Buyer doesn't respond within the "constructive receipt" days negotiated on the Order, then G-Invoicing will automatically generate a "Received/Accepted" Performance transaction kicking off settlement to IPAC. So clean out those file drawers and get ready to store things electronically!

Before a Performance transaction can be submitted, a GT&C must be approved by both Trading Partners and be "Open for Orders" as well as an Order being approved by both Trading Partners and in "Open" status. As you know by now, many Orders can be placed under a single GT&C as long as the terms and conditions apply to the Orders and represent IGT Buy/Sell transactions being conducted between the Buyer and Seller's noted on the GT&C. Within G-Invoicing, an Order is initiated by the Buyer and can be accepted or rejected by the Seller. The Seller is responsible for adding their data such as standard line of accounting information.

So to recap, funds settlement will occur upon completion of the Performance transaction. G-Invoicing will create settlement to IPAC for the agencies and you will no longer need to use the IPAC system to manually create settlement via the user interface or bulk files. Once fund settlement occurs, G-Invoicing will receive the remittance advice from the IPAC system and this will be available for agencies to download. Both the Requesting and Servicing Agency must agree upon the FOB Point at the Order header level. The selection of Source/Destination/Other will determine which Performance transaction will initiate fund settlement. So here's the process in a nutshell:

Freight On Board (FOB) Options:

- Source Fund settlement is initiated by the Servicing Agency's Performance transaction when Performance Type is "Delivered/Performed"
- Destination Fund settlement is initiated by the Requesting Agency's Performance transaction when Performance Type is "Received/Accepted" or after the constructive receipt days, previously agreed upon at the Order level, have expired
- Other Same as Destination

Our Agency Implementation Team (AIT) is actively supporting end-user training, account set-up, and Agency focus group discussions in support of onboarding activities to the G-Invoicing system. For additional information regarding the G-Invoicing Program please visit our website at:

https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/acctg/g_invoice/g_invoice_home.htm.

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And the Survey Says...

Results are in! Based on feedback regarding challenges noted by agencies in their G-Invoicing Implementation Plans, the G-Invoicing Program solicited further input from

the agencies who collectively make up over 90% of IGT Buy/Sell activity in GTAS and IPAC. Below is a summary of decisions Treasury has made as a result:

Mandate & "In-Flight" Orders

- Treasury is reevaluating the current June 30, 2021 implementation date based on the Agency feedback, as well as the recently approved, additional work that we plan to build into G-Invoicing.
- In-flight Orders are an area of major concern for agencies and Treasury will be having discussions with agencies and software providers to best determine how to migrate these Orders when the time comes.

Workflow & Seller Initiated Orders

- A majority of surveyed agencies felt strongly that workflow should be available for GT&Cs to support additional levels of approval and some customization. In some cases, agencies noted this as a significant roadblock in the G-Invoicing Agency Plans as well. Treasury will pursue the addition of workflow for agreements prior to the mandate.
- A majority of surveyed agencies had significant support for Seller-Initiated Orders. Treasury approved the addition of this functionality which will allow the Servicing Agency to initiate an Order. Design of this process will be vetted with the Intragovernmental Transaction Working Group (ITWG) and software providers in the coming months.

Low Dollar Purchases

• The G-Invoicing Program organized a group of agencies who noted low dollar purchases as a significant obstacle to implementing G-Invoicing. This group of stakeholders will determine if the current G-Invoicing requirements should be used for processing these types of transaction or if an alternate streamlined process should be developed in G-Invoicing. Recommendations from this effort will be vetted with the ITWG and software providers.

Deferred Payments (Exchange of accrual information)

• Treasury will be solidifying decisions in the next month regarding deferred payment functionality within G-Invoicing. Treasury is obtaining final feedback from Agencies and software providers. Ultimately, the goal is to provide agencies the functionality to exchange work performed but not billed to ensure accurate accrual accounting.

Authoritative Source

• G-Invoicing will undergo a SSAE 18 Audit and pursue being the authoritative source for intragovernmental agreements in alignment with the mandate date.

In the upcoming months, Treasury will be providing updates on these additional changes and enhancements through the ITWG. Finally, Treasury would like to thank agencies for all of their efforts in submitting plans and challenges associated with G-Invoicing. While additional changes require more flexibility and further change management, Treasury has heard the needs of agencies, values that feedback, and is acting upon it.



"A few additions for the new year - Update on FIDS changes"

The G-Invoicing Technical Expert Working Group was established to negotiate the interagency assisted acquisition alignment and updates to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) memorandum, Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 17.5, and Treasury Federal Intragovernmental Data Standards (FIDS). OMB facilitated these discussions over a 9-month period with procurement technical experts and Treasury technical experts. Thirty-two data elements from the OMB memorandum were reviewed. Gaps were identified during this review between the OMB policy and the G-Invoicing FIDS.

To resolve these identified gaps, recommended solutions were discussed that would improve the alignment of these policies. G-Invoicing has agreed to update the FIDS to include Requesting Agency Funding Agency Code and Requesting Agency Funding Office Code. G-Invoicing has also agreed to update a few definitions to existing data elements that would better align G-Invoicing with OMB guidance. OMB guidance and the FAR will be updated to reference the G-Invoicing FIDS.

The other change to data standards is related to G-Invoicing's new Organizational Model, which is being rolled out throughout 2020. In response to Agency feedback, Treasury will implement a new data access (aka, permissions) model based on the organizational structure of each Agency, as defined by each Agency. These organizational "groups" will be assigned to users and documents to control data access, replacing the existing controls by Agency location code (ALC), business unit, cost center and department ID. Data elements for organizational Groups were proposed at the January ITWG meeting. New application program interfaces (APIs) will be developed to provide organizational data to Agency systems so that each IGT Buy/Sell order may be assigned to a Group. This change will allow for more efficient administering of access to users and documents, especially in cases of broad interagency agreements.

20/20 Vision – A Clear View of Your Software Providers Implementation Plans Is Now Available

Happy New Year and welcome to 2020, a year where the G-Invoicing Program will continue partnering with your Agency to ensure clear focus is placed on your implementation efforts to transition your IGT Buy/Sell activity into the new G-Invoicing Solution. 2019 was a very busy year, filled with System Releases,



Policy publications, and a wealth of information submitted to us via Agency G-Invoicing Implementation Plans which have caused our Program Team to begin developing solutions to address the challenges our stakeholders are facing. This flurry of activity has likely added a bit of fuzziness to your vision of the G-Invoicing Program, especially in the realm of how your software provider is planning to upgrade their offerings to meet your requirements. Realizing this, our Program Team has committed in 2020, to restoring your vision to "20/20", when it comes to better understanding the status of your software provider's efforts.

As we have continued to push forward with the development of G-Invoicing, we have worked diligently to ensure our approach remains transparent to the software provider's representatives. In 2020, we will be placing increased importance on both continuing our efforts with the software providers, and also in providing more visibility into these activities with the collective IGT Buy/Sell stakeholder community.



20/20 Vision – A Clear View of Your Software Providers Implementation Plans Is Now Available" continued

Our Program Team engages with the Software Provider Community and their Federal Program Stakeholders through a variety of avenues. These include:

- Financial Management Standards Committee (FMSC) ERP Vendor Specific Working Groups There are three FMSC Sub-Groups aligned to CGI, Oracle and SAP. Each of these initiatives is designed to allow Vendor customers to align their voices in conveying requirements and challenges relating to the respective systems.
- ERP Vendor Sponsored Working Groups We fully support the various User Group forums which are chaired by each of the ERP Providers. Our Program Team often plays a role in presenting information at these regularly scheduled events and supporting any discussions relating to the G-Invoicing initiative.
- Executive Level Touchpoints with Software Providers In response to challenges communicated by Agencies through their G-Invoicing Implementation Plans, Treasury Executive Leadership has increased their level of direct engagement with the software providers to ensure prioritization is being placed on providing timely, cost efficient enhancements in support of the G-Invoicing Implementation Mandate.

The results of these efforts have led to the establishment of open communication channels relating to each software provider offering, and stronger partnerships at both the working and Executive levels.

In January, we introduced a new section to the G-Invoicing Website for sharing updates regarding software provider efforts to enhance their solutions for G-Invoicing. <u>https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/g-invoice/resources.html#timelines</u>. The information is provided by each provider and will be updated on at least a quarterly basis. References to each provider's websites are noted along with points of contact should you need to touch base with them directly for additional information. Resources who can help to get you involved with the FMSC Subgroups are also provided.

We hope this new feature to our Program website will provide users with clearer vision regarding the status and plans of their software provider's activity. We'll continue to look for more ways to improve the overall transparency of our efforts. Thank you for your continued support of the G-Invoicing Program.

Keeping Tabs on Your Trading Partners



The time has come for you and your trading partners to keep tabs on each other's plans and progress towards G-Invoicing implementation. Yes! Be that nosy partner! Staying up to date on your partners' progress is key to your own success in transitioning your IGT Buy/Sell activity to G-Invoicing. You can't be successful without your trading partners and they can't be successful without you. Like you, your trading partners are required to submit plans quarterly to Fiscal Service per TFM Chapter 4700 Appendix 6 and TFM Bulletin 2020-07. The G-Invoicing Program has collected these plans and placed them on OMB Max for transparent viewing and reference to all Trading Partners. They can be found here: https://community.max.gov/x/szd0ZQ. However, that's a lot of data to review so there are two key tools available to help you stay in synch.



Keeping Tabs on Your Trading Partners continued

The first is the G-Invoicing Implementation Plan Dashboard. We have leveraged the skills of the Fiscal Service Data Transparency Team in developing this dashboard which aggregates Attachment A submissions into a visual and sortable format. This Dashboard is also posted on the OMB MAX site. To view the dashboard, Users will need Tableau reader (https://www.tableau.com/products/reader) installed on their computers. Once Tableau Reader is installed viewers will find governmentwide G-Invoicing Implementation timelines, and can drill into individual Agency and Agency implementation entities for more specific Attachment A details. Also included are critical implementation planning details such as Federal Program Agency planned FM/ERP upgrades and projections for implementing GT&Cs/Orders/Performance/ Settlement. Bottom line, Federal Program Agencies planning their G-Invoicing implementation will find almost everything needed for keeping tabs on your trading partner's implementation approach. Currently the dashboard shows larger Federal Program Agencies, however; the Program is working to add all significant entities.

While plans and data are valuable assets, nothing can replace our second recommended tool for ensuring close alignment with your trading partners. That tool is your own voice. Maintaining open lines of communication with Trading Partners is vital, and the G-Invoicing Program not only recommends it, we work diligently to ensure we promote and enable it through the numerous collaborative forums we support. G-Invoicing requires both Trading Partners to be active in G-Invoicing to successfully broker transactions. You can start a GT&C on your own and wait for your Trading Partner to catch up to you. If you are having trouble finding who is responsible for G-Invoicing implementation at your Agency or at your Trading Partner's Agency, we encourage you to leverage existing business partner relationships aligned to your current, day-to-day IGT Buy/Sell activity to ensure open lines of communication exist. The implementation status of each ALC can be found on the Trading Partner Directory on the OMB Max site above. The G-Invoicing Program is actively working to develop a comprehensive listing of IGT Buy/Sell trading partner points of contact and we'll be leveraging our OMB Max site to house this data.

Bottom line is that Federal Program Agencies can't be successful without keeping tabs on their partners, so visit OMB MAX today and ensure to maintain open lines of communication!



Select from the menu below: G-Invoicing Trading Partner Directory Agency Implementation Plans Agency Implementation Plans Dashboard Tool Dashboard Tool User Guide This is the data available on the OMB Max Site!

https://community.max.gov/ x/szd0ZQ





G-Invoicing Website provides Easy Navigation For Locating Important Documents

https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/acctg/g_invoice/g_invoice_home.htm

- Creating and Approving a GT&C in G-Invoicing Videos
- Creating and Approving an Order in G-Invoicing Videos
- Servicing Agency Performance in G-Invoicing Videos
- Data Standards
- System Mapping & Validation Rules
- Intragovernmental Transactions Working Group (ITWG)
- Frequently Asked Questions
- G-Invoicing User Guides
- Agency Implementation Template
- Implementation Timelines for Enterprise Resource Planning & Software Providers
- Interagency Agreement (IAA) Forms
- Trading Partner Directory
- Training Opportunities
- Treasury Financial Manual

Key Dates

Training Offered: Office Hours, User Training, Webinars: Watch <u>Training link</u> for registration ITWG Meeting: Tentatively held the 2nd Tuesday of each month March 31, 2020: 2nd Quarter Agency Implementation Plan Updates Due August 10-12 2020: GFMC Conference

Contact Information

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