Technical Specifications Guide For Reporting Agent Authorization For Magnetic Tape/Electronic Filers and Federal Tax Depositors



Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this publication is to provide instructions and technical specifications for the preparation and submission of Form 8655, Reporting Agent Authorization for Magnetic Tape/Electronic Filers, and Reporting Agent List of clients/taxpayers for magnetic tape/electronic filing. This publication includes the requirements for paper submission of Reporting Agent's Lists, file specifications, magnetic tape record sequence order, processing criteria, record layouts, and exhibits. This publication should be used in conjunction with Revenue Procedure 2003-69 (previously Revenue Procedure 96-17), 1996-1 C.B. 633 which provides requirements for completing and submitting Form 8655, Reporting Agent Authorization For Magnetic Tape/Electronic Filers. (Revenue Procedure 96-17 was reprinted in 1996 as Publication 1911 (1-96), Catalog Number 22484C.)

CHANGES

Section 01.13 has been updated to reflect the current mailing address for Magnetic Tape Delivery and Form 8655 Deliveries. Pages 21 thorough 33 now contain the most recent updates to the record layouts. Updates to exhibits 10, 11, and 12 were made. Revenue Procedures 96-17 was updated this year, any references to the Revenue Procedures 96-17 has been changed to Revenue Procedures 2003-69.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This publication is effective on the revision date printed on the cover leaf. All previous revisions are obsoleted.

Section 01. SUBMISSION OF REPORTING AGENT AUTHORIZATIONS (RAA)

SECTION 01.01

Reporting Agents who wish to file client/taxpayer employment tax returns on magnetic tape or electronically, or make electronic submission of federal tax deposits, must formally apply to the Internal Revenue Service for these privileges. Currently, the required information, including any deadlines for these applications, is contained within Rev. Proc. 96-18, 1996-1 C.B. 637 for magnetic tape 941/940 programs; Rev. Proc. 99-39, 1999-43 I.R.B. 532 for electronic filing; and Rev. Prov. 98-32, 1998-17 I.R.B 11 for Batch Filers and Bulk Filers. Contact the Internal Revenue Service at (800)TAX-FORM (800) 829-3676 or http://www.irs.gov for copies of the current revenue procedures.

Section 01.02

The applications governed by the referenced revenue procedures must be accompanied by the individual Reporting Agent Authorization (RAA), and a list of clients/taxpayers for whom magnetic tape or electronic returns will be filed and/or federal tax deposits will be made.

Section 01.03

The Reporting Agent's List must be accompanied by a copy of the Authorizations signed by the taxpayer or authorized representative (See Rev. Proc. 2003-69). A photocopy or fax is acceptable. New Authorizations must be made on Form 8655 (with a revision date of July 2000 or later) or it's equivalent.

A revised Authorization is not required to replace an Authorization made on a prior version of Form 8655, provided that the Authorization places no restriction on the medium for filing Form 941 and the Agent:

- Advises its client that its Forms 941 may be filed electronically, and provides the client with the option of rejecting electronic filing as the medium for filing its Forms 941. An Agent may use the most efficient and timely method of clearly providing this notification to a client. A client's rejection of electronic filing for its Forms 941 must be submitted in writing to the Agent; and
- 2) immediately removes any client from its electronic filing client base that rejects having its Forms 941 filed electronically.

Section 6.05 of Rev. Proc. 2003-69, 1996-1 C.B. 633, was modified to provide the same relief as set forth in section 5.04 of Rev. Proc. 99-39, 1999-43 I.R.B. 532 (regarding an Agent not having to replace a previously submitted Authorization under certain circumstances.)

Section 01.04

At present the Service can accept and process to the Reporting Agents File (RAF) Authorizations for electronic or magnetic tape submissions of Forms 941 and 940. On January 31, 1999 the Service began accepting and processing Authorizations for electronic or magnetic tape submissions for FTD payments for Form 940, 941, 943, 945, 720, 1042, 1120, 1041, CT-1, 990C, 990T and 990PF. Forms 8655 submitted prior to 1/31/99 authorizing electronic FTD payments for other than Form 941 or 940 employment tax payments should have been resubmitted in order for the Authorization to be processed to the RAF. The magnetic tape FTD program was terminated on 1/31/2000.

Section 01.05

There are two methods of submitting the Agent's List: magnetic tape or paper listings. If the Agent wishes, he/she may always file the Agent's List on magnetic tape, but if the number of client/taxpayers exceeds 100, then the Agent's List **must** be filed on magnetic tape.

Section 01.06

Agent's Lists submitted on magnetic tape must be submitted in accordance with the specifications in Sections 04 and 05 of this Publication.

Section 01.07

Agent's Lists submitted on paper must be submitted in duplicate using the format indicated in Exhibit #2 or instructions in Rev. Proc. 98-32 for Batch Filers and Bulk Filers. Listings and Forms 8655 must be in numerical order by Employer Identification Number (EIN).

Section 01.08

The initial list of taxpayers sent with the application to file must be submitted by certain deadlines set forth in Rev. Proc. 96-18 and Rev. Proc. 99-39. This is because the Service requires time to validate the information on the Agent's List and the associated Authorizations, and to return a validated Agent's List, with a name control for each client/taxpayer listed, to the Agent. The validated Agent's List is the confirmation that the Authorizations have been accepted.

Section 01.09

The preparation of a paper listing (Exhibit #2) is reasonably self-explanatory. The following explains the format of the listing. Examples of entries are provided on the exhibit.

- 1. Name and Address of Agent self-explanatory.
- 2. The Agent's Employer Identification Number self-explanatory.
- 3. List Type Either Additions or Deletions. Separate paper lists must be prepared for additions and deletions.
- 4. Name of Agent's Contact Person.
- 5. Phone Number of Agent's Contact Person.
- 6. Client Account Number Optional for benefit of Agents.
- 7. Employer Identification Number of taxpayer.
- 8. Name Control Blank when submitted by Agent. Will be filled in when returned to the Agent by IRS.
- 9. Taxpayer Name and Address enter the sole proprietor/owner's name, this should match the name on IRS records.

Section 01.10

If in the course of business, the Agent wishes to add or delete client/taxpayers from his/her current authorized list, the format for both the magnetic tape/cartridge file and the paper list is the same as for the initial listing submission.

Section 01.11

Inventories of less than 25 adds or deletes (projected for the quarter) should not be sent on magnetic tape/cartridge. These small volumes can be sent on paper listings at any time during the quarter, when the Agent determines the overall quarterly volume will be less than 25. Inventories of more than 100, however, must be filed on magnetic tape.

Section 01.12

When the Agent determines that he/she will no longer be filing tax returns or making FTD submissions for a taxpayer, the Agent should notify the Service. This is done by submitting a delete tape/cartridge or delete list.

Section 01.13

On January 1, 2002 all RAF processing will be transitioned to the Ogden Accounts Management Center. The full addresses shown below should be used to ensure proper delivery for submissions of Reporting Agent Authorizations:

Magnetic Tape Delivery (Add and/or Delete Tapes):

Internal Revenue Service Accounts Management Center MS 6360 Tape Library 1973 North Rulon White Blvd. Ogden, UT 84201

Form 8655 Delivery:

Internal Revenue Service Accounts Management Center MS 6748 RAF Team 1973 North Rulon White Blvd. Ogden, UT 84201

Section 02. SUBMISSION OF REPORTING AGENTS AUTHORIZATIONS FOR ELECTRONIC FTD PAYMENTS

Section 02.01

On January 31, 1999 the Service began accepting and processing Authorizations for electronic or magnetic tape submissions for FTD payments for Forms 940, 941, 943, 945, 720, 1042, 1120, 1041, CT-1, 990C, 990T and 990PF. Any Forms 8655 submitted prior to 1/31/99 authorizing electronic FTDs for other than Form 941 or 940 employment tax payments, should have been resubmitted in order for the Authorization to be processed to the RAF. (The magnetic tape FTD program was terminated on 1/31/2000.)

Section 02.02

These Authorizations will be used to verify the authority given by the taxpayer to an Agent to make FTDs on the taxpayer's behalf.

Section 03. ADDITIONAL PUBLICATION INFORMATION

Section 03.01

Questions regarding this Publication or requests for additional copies of this publication should be addressed to the RAF Team at the address shown in Section 01-13. Requests for magnetic tape filing information may be addressed to the Service at any one of the service centers listed in Rev. Proc. 96-18. Requests for information concerning the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS) may be addressed to the address shown in Rev. Proc. 98-32. Information relating to the Form 941 E-File Program and 941 Online Filing may be addressed to the address shown in Rev. Proc. 99-39.

Section 04. CONVENTIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Section 04-01 Conventions

- (a) Agents who submit their initial or add and delete lists on magnetic tape must conform to Level 3 of the ANSI Standard X3.27-1978, (Magnetic Tape Labels and File Structure for Information Interchange). Magnetic Tape Cartridges must be of a type or comparable to BASF 3490 DL. Specifically, this calls for recognition of the following label types: VOL1, HDR1, HDR2, EOF1, EOF2, EOV1, and EOV2 (see exhibits 3 through 9 for specific label specifications). No internal user labels or non-labeled tapes will be accepted as these modifications could prevent successful processing of the tape.
- (b) Record Mark No restrictions apply to record marks.
- (c) Tape Mark The tape marks (defined in Section 04.02) will be automatically generated for an interchange tape. An example of tape mark placement is provided in Section 05.02 Magnetic Tape Specifications.

Section 04.02 Definitions

Element	Description
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
Blocked Records	Two or more records grouped together between interrecord gaps.
Blocking Factors	The number of records grouped together to form a block.
b	Denotes a blank position. (Except in creation date and purge date fields.)
EIN	Employer Identification Number.
File	A file consists of all tape records submitted by a Reporting Agent.
FTD	Federal Tax Deposit
RA	Reporting Agent
RAA	Reporting Agent Authorization (See Rev. Proc. 2003-69)
Record	A group of related fields of information, treated as a unit.

Record Mark Special character used either to limit the number of characters in data

transfer or to separate blocked records on tape.

Reel A spool of magnetic tape.

Reporting Agent See Rev. Proc. 2003-69

Reporting Agent List See Rev. Proc. 2003-69

Special Character Any character that is not a numeral, letter or blank.

Tape Mark Special character that is written on tape.

Taxpayer Person or organization liable for the payment of tax. The taxpayer will be

held responsible for the completeness, accuracy and timely submission

of the magnetic tape files.

Unblocked Records Single records written between interrecord gaps.

YYYYMM Year Year Year Month Month of ending month of the tax period in

digits. Example: first quarter 2002 returns = 200203, fourth quarter 2002

returns = 200212, calendar year 2002 returns = 200212.

YYYYDDD Year Year Year Year Day Day = Four digit year plus Julian Day.

Example: January 1st, 2002 = 2002001, January 31st, 2002 = 2002031.

Section 05. MAGNETIC TAPE SPECIFICATIONS

Section 05.01

A tape reel must have the following physical characteristics:

Type of tape 1/2" Mylar base, oxide coated

Recording density 6250 BPI preferred, 1600 BPI acceptable Parity Odd

Interrecord Gap .3" for 6250 BPI, .6" for 1600 BPI

Recording Mode ASCII

Track 9-track for reel tape, 36 for Magnetic Tape cartridge

Recording Format Agent will use a recording format of "F" (fixed length

records)

Magnetic Tape Cartridge Must be of a type comparable to BASF 3490 DL

Section 05.02

These specifications prescribe the required format and content of the records to be included in the file, but not the methods or equipment to be used in their preparations. An acceptable file will contain, for each Agent, the following:

VOL1
HDR1
HDR2
TAPE MARK
REPORTING AGENT RECORD
TAXPAYER RECORD - one for each Authorization submitted
END OF FILE TRAILER RECORD
TAPE MARK
EOF1
EOF2
TAPE MARK
TAPE MARK

Section 05.03

All records including headers and trailers, must be written at the same density.

Section 05.04

Affix an external label to each tape/cartridge with the following information:

- 1. Name of Agent,
- 2. Number of entries (added or deleted) on the file (even if more than one reel or cartridge comprises the file),
- 3. Type of file (Initial, Add or Delete),
- 4. Density (6250) BPI (if reel tape)
- 5. Channel (9) if reel tape, (36) if cartridge,
- 6. Parity (odd)
- 7. Sequence number of reel or cartridge and total number of reels/cartridges in file (for example: 1 of 3),
- 8. Write in large type: EXPEDITE REPORTING AGENT AUTHORIZATIONS.

Section 05.05 Record Length

The tape records prescribed in the specifications must be blocked at one record per block (400 tape character positions).

Section 05.06 Data

Only character data may be used. This means numeric fields cannot use overpunched signs and must be right justified with remaining unused positions zero filled. Special characters should be limited to "-", "&", "%" or "/" in the street address fields or ampersand, and hyphen, in the taxpayer name line of the Reporting Agent "RA" Record and Taxpayer "TP" Record. Otherwise, characters must be numeric or alphabetic. All numeric data should be in unsigned ASCII characters (no binary data).

Section 05.07 Reporting Agent Record

Identifies the Agent who prepares and transmits the reel tape or cartridge file and the Authorizations (see Exhibit 10). The Agent Record must precede the first Taxpayer Record reported on the first reel or cartridge of the file.

Section 05.08 Client/Taxpayer Records

- Taxpayer records contain information for each taxpayer reported by the reporting agent (see Exhibit 11). The number of Taxpayer Records appearing on one reel tape or cartridge file will depend on the number of taxpayers represented. All Taxpayer Records must be in ascending sequence order by EIN, on reel tape or cartridge and paper listings.
- 2. All records will be blocked individually with no other records in the block. Records should have a blocking factor for which blocks will not exceed 400 tape character positions. All records must be fixed length. Fields identified as indicators should always carry a value if the field is applicable. Other fields must be left justified and blank filled on right. Also, blank fill all non-significant fields.

Section 05.09 End of File Trailer Record

This record contains a count of all Taxpayer Records (see Exhibit 12). The Trailer Record must be the last record on the Agent's reel tape or cartridge file. It can be followed only by a tape mark.

Form 8655 with Instructions

Reporting Agent Authorization for Magnetic Tape/Electronic Filers

Marking Instructions for Tax Form 8655:

Use black or blue ink only.
 Please print legibly. Use one character per block.

 Use only capital letters. Keep all printing within the boxes.
 Do not make any stray marks on this form. MARKING EXAMPLE ıΑ 52471

Instructions

Please read the following instructions before filling out the information on the reverse side of this form.

Taxpaver's Information

- 1. Employer identification number (EIN). Enter taxpayer business nine-digit Employer Identification number without dashes.
- 2. Other ID. For Reporting Agent use only.
- 3. Taxpayer Phone Number. Provide taxpayer area code and phone number. (optional)
- "New" EIN. Check this box if taxpayer has recently applied for an EIN and has not yet received notice CP 575 (Verification of your EIN) from IRS.
- 5. Seasonal or Intermittent. Check this box if taxpayer business is seasonal or intermittent and there are quarters during the calendar year for which taxpayer will not pay wages.
- Taxpayer Legal Name Enter the Sole Proprietor/Owner's name. This must match the name on IRS records. Do not abbreviate or omit spaces. Do not use the word 'The' as the first word unless it is followed by only one other word. Include legal/formal suffixes with individual names (i.e. MD, PHD, CPA, Jr, Sr, III, etc.)
 - Valid characters are A-Z, 0-9, ampersand, hyphen, and only one blank space between each word. Any other punctuation, such as a comma, period, number sign, apostrophe, and multiple blanks is invalid
- 7. Doing Business As (DBA) Name. Enter the trade name (DBA) of the business if different from the taxpayer name. Follow the same instructions as shown for Item 6 above; however, DO NOT enter 'DBA' or 'TA' on this line; show name only. Use valid character information as defined in Item 6*

🔎 Note: Partnerships should enter the DBA name in Item 6. Enter the general partner's name or the first partner's name in Item 7. If a Corporation is a general partner, do not include the name in Item 7.

Address. Enter address of taxpayer. Use valid character information as defined in Item 6*.

Reporting Agent information

- 9. Reporting Agent name. Use valid character information as defined in Item 6*.
- 10. Reporting Agent ID Number.
- 11-12. Reporting Agent phone & fax.
- Reporting Agent address. Use valid character information as defined in Item 6*

Reporting Agent Authorization

- 14. Return Filing Method. Indicate tax return filing method, electronic, magnetic, or both. For Tax Form 941, enter the ending month of the quarter year (3/1999, 6/2000, etc.). For Tax Form 940, enter the Tax Year (2000, 2001, etc) this agent will begin the annual filing.
- 15. Filing Authorization. Form 8655 can be used to authorize Reporting Agents to file certain tax returns on paper for existing clients who have already authorized the filing of magnetic/electronic Forms 941 and/or Forms 940 by the Reporting Agent. For Forms 941PR, 941SS, and 941NMI, enter the ending month of the quarter and year (3/2000, 6/2000, 9/2000, 12/2000), the Reporting Agent will file this return for the first time. For Forms 940PR, 943, 943PR, 945, 1042 and CT-1, enter the Tax Year (2000, 2001, etc.) the agent will begin the annual filing.
- 16. Starting Period. Enter the first tax period that electronic Federal Tax Deposits (FTDs) or other federal payments will be made. For electronic FTDs, enter the first month and year (2/2000, 3/2000, etc.) the Reporting Agent will begin making any deposit for each authorized tax form.
- 17. Correspondence Authorization. If you wish to have your Reporting Agent receive correspondence, please check here.
- 18. State and Local Forms (Optional)-may be used if accepted by state and local government.

Authorization Agreement

19. Signature. The taxpayer must sign the form authorization agreement for the Reporting Agent to participate.

Where to File

All Forms 8655 should be mailed to:

Internal Revenue Service MS6748 RAF Team 1160 West 1200 South Ogden, UT 84201

Do not file the same Authorization twice. Forms 8655 submitted for magnetic tape or e-file may also authorize electronic payments. Forms 8655 submitted for electronic payments may also authorize future participation in e-file or magnetic tape programs. Be sure to retain a copy.

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. Our legal right to ask for information is 5 U.S.C. 301 and Internal Revenue Code Sections 6001, 6011, 6012, and regulations thereunder. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by Code section 6193. Routine uses of this information include disclosure to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to other federal agencies, as provided by law. We may also give it to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Commonwealths or possessions to administer their tax laws. We may give it to foreign governments pursuant to tax treaties. This form is provided for your convenience and its use is voluntary. If you choose to designate a reporting agent to act on your behalf, you must provide all requested information, including your EIN. The principal purpose of this disclosure is to secure proper identification of the taxpayer. If you do not provide all the requested information, the IRS may suspend processing of this form and may not authorize the reporting agent to act on your behalf. Providing false or fraudulent information may subject you to fines or penalties.

You are not required to provide information requested on this form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. The time needed to provide this information will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is six minutes. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of this time estimate or suggestions for reducing this burden, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Internal Revenue Service, Tax Forms Committee, Western Area Distribution Center, Rancho Cordova, CA 95743-0001. Please do not send the form to this

(over)

Form 8655 Reporting Agent Authorization for Magnetic Tape/Electronic Filers OMB 1545-1058

Taxpayer's Information			
1. Employer Identification Number (EIN)	2. Other ID	3. Taxpayer Phone Number (optional):	4. Check here if EIN
		/ -	is "new" EIN
6. Taxpayer Legal Name:		Area Gode	5. Check here if Seasonal or
			Intermittent Filer
7. Doing Business As (DBA) Name:			
8. Address (as on file with the Internal Revenue Servi	DB):		
City:		State: Zip Code:	
Reporting Agent Information			
9. Reperting Agent Name:			
10. Reporting Agent ID Number:	11. Reporting Agent Phone Number:	12. Reporting Agent Fax Number:	
	/		
13. Reporting Agent Address:	Area Cade	Area Code	
City:		State: Zip Gode:	
Reporting Agent Authorizatio	n		
14. For each federal electronic form to be filed, indicat		16. Electronic Federal Tax Deposits and other R	ederal Payments:
or both. Also enter the beginning period as indicat is being submitted only to authorize electronic pay			
Form Filing Method	Beginning Period		orm Starting Period
	etic Tape		041
941 Electronic Magn	etic Tape		T-1
			90T
15. Reporting Agent is authorized to file the following			90PF
Form Number Beginning Period Form 940PR	Form Number <u>Beginning Period</u> Form 941SS	1042	ther
Form 941PR	Form CT-1	1120	
Form 943	Form 941NMI	 Check here if the reporting agent is aut 	
Form 945	Form 1042	correspondence, deposit requirements respect to the authorizations given in h	
Form 943PR		18. State and Local Forms	
Authorization Agreement			
19. Please read the following Authorization Agreement:			
I understand that this authorization does not absolv above is authorized to sign and file federal employm (FTDs) and other Federal Tax Payments for the abov in effect until the tappayer or designee notifies	int tax returns transmitted electronically, submitted on e taxpayer. This authorization applies to the above fed the IRS that this authorization is terminated or lesignee; and/or relating to payments to be made b	that all tax returns are filed and all taxes are paid on time nargnetic tape (or in special circumstances, submitted on eral employment tax returns and/or payments beginning w revoked. I authorize the IRS to disclose otherwise or y the agent (including deposit requirements.) I certify the	paper) and/ormake federaftex deposits with the tax period indicated and remains confidential tax information relating to at I have the authority to authorize the
Signature (required)	Title (if applicable)	Da	te (required)
Form 8655 (Rev. 12-2001) Catalog Number 10241T			Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

REI	PORTING AGENT'S LIST	DATE OF	LIST
Agent's Name			
Street Address			
City, State, ZIP			
Agent Employer Id	lentification Number		
List Type (Addition	ns or Deletions)		
Name of Agent Co	ontact Person		
Phone Number of	Agent Contact Person		
Client Account Number (optional)		Name Control (IRS Supplied)	
10035	*12-00000XX		Taxpayer One 1 First St Firsttown, NY 10001
10037	*32-0000XXX		Taxpayer Two 2 Second St Secondtown, NY 20002
12345	*52-000XXXX		Taxpayer Three 3 Third St Thirdtown, NY 30003

- * Asterisk is a reminder that Employer Identification Numbers must be listed in ascending sequence order.
- NOTE: The examples show the required information, however, agents may elect to include more.

VOL1 LABEL

Tape Position		Acceptable Values	
1 - 4	*	"VOL1"	
5 - 10		6 digit reel number (000001)	
11 - 79	*	Blanks	
80	*	"3" (indicates current level of ANSI standard)	

^{*} Asterisk indicates positions (fields) that are generally system generated (Vendors may differ somewhat.) The Agent should make entries in all other fields.

HDR1 LABEL

Tape Position		Acceptable Values
1 - 4	*	"HDR1"
5 - 21		This is the file identifier. It is incumbent upon the Reporting Agent to supply this information. Entries must be left justified with blanks in remaining positions. Valid entry is "RAF5001".
22 - 27		6 digit reel number
28 - 31	*	"0001"
32 - 35	*	"0001"
36 - 39		Specifies the current stage in bracket version in the succession of one file generation by the next. Generally will be 0001.
40 - 41		"01"
42 - 47		Creation Date. This date should be generated by the operating system and have the date the tape was created. The format is "bYYDDD" (Julian Date). The "b" equates to the first two positions of the year (blank equals "19", zero equals "20", one equals "21", etc.)
48 - 53		Purge Date. This date should be generated by the operating system and have the date the tape will be purged. The format is "bYYDDD" (Julian Date). For Service use, specify the purge date as one year after the creation date. The "b" equates to the first two positions of the year (blank equals "19", zero equals "20", one equals "21", etc.)
54	*	blank
55 - 60	*	zeros ("000000")
61 - 80	*	blanks

^{*} Asterisk indicates positions (fields) that are generally system generated (Vendors may differ somewhat.) The Agent should make entries in all other fields.

HDR2 LABEL

Tape Position		Acceptable Values
1 - 4	*	"HDR2"
5		"F" (indicator for fixed length records)
6 - 10	*	"00400" All records will be 00400 in length.
11 - 15	*	"00400" All records will be 00400 in length.
16 - 50	*	Blanks
51 - 52	*	Specify the buffer offset before the first record in the block. This should be "00".
53 - 80	*	Blanks

^{*} Asterisk indicates positions (fields) that are generally system generated (Vendors may differ somewhat.) The Agent should make entries in all other fields.

EOF1 LABEL

Tape Position		Acceptable Values
1 - 4	*	"EOF1"
5 - 21		This is the file identifier. It is incumbent upon the Reporting Agent to supply this information. Entries must be left justified and blank filled. Valid entry is "RAF5001".
22 - 27		6 digit reel number
28 - 31	*	"0001"
32 - 35	*	"0001"
36 - 39		Specifies the current stage in bracket version in the succession of one file generation by the next. Generally will be 0001.
40 - 41		"01"
42 - 47		Creation Date. This date should be generated by the operating system and have the date the tape was created. The format is "bYYDDD" (Julian Date). The "b" equates to the first two positions of the year (blank equals "19", zero equals "20", one equals "21", etc.)
48 - 53		Purge Date. This date should be generated by the operating system and have the date the tape will be purged. The format is "bYYDDD" (Julian Date). For Service use, specify the purge date as one year after the creation date. The "b" equates to the first two positions of the year (blank equals "19", zero equals "20", one equals "21", etc.)
54	*	blank
55 - 60	*	The number of blocks on the tape reel
61 - 80	*	blanks

^{*} Asterisk indicates positions (fields) that are generally system generated (Vendors may differ somewhat.) The Agent should make entries in all other fields.

EOF2 LABEL

Tape Position		Acceptable Values
1 - 4	*	"EOF2"
5		"F" (indicator for fixed length records)
6 - 10	*	"00400" All records will be 00400 in length.
11 - 15	*	"00400" All records will be 00400 in length.
16 - 50	*	Blanks
51 - 52	*	Specify the buffer offset before the first record in the block. This should be "00".
53 - 80	*	Blanks

^{*} Asterisk indicates positions (fields) that are generally system generated (Vendors may differ somewhat.) The Agent should make entries in all other fields.

EOV1 LABEL

Tape Position		Acceptable Values
1 - 4	*	"EOV1"
5 - 21		This is the file identifier. It is incumbent upon the Reporting Agent to supply this information. Entries must be left justified and blank filled. Valid entry is "RAF5001".
22 - 27		6 digit reel number
28 - 31	*	"0001"
32 - 35	*	"0001"
36 - 39		Specifies the current stage in bracket version in the succession of one file generation by the next. Generally will be 0001.
40 - 41		"01"
42 - 47		Creation Date. This date should be generated by the operating system and have the date the tape was created. The format is "bYYDDD" (Julian Date). The "b" equates to the first two positions of the year (blank equals "19", zero equals "20", one equals "21", etc.)
48 - 53		Purge Date. This date should be generated by the operating system and have the date the tape will be purged. The format is "bYYDDD" (Julian Date). For Service use, specify the purge date as one year after the creation date. The "b" equates to the first two positions of the year (blank equals "19", zero equals "20", one equals "21", etc.)
54	*	blank
55 - 60	*	The number of blocks on the tape reel
61 - 80	*	blanks

^{*} Asterisk indicates positions (fields) that are generally system generated (Vendors may differ somewhat.) The Agent should make entries in all other fields.

EOV2 LABEL

Tape Position		Acceptable Values
1 - 4	*	"EOV2"
5		"F" (indicator for fixed length records)
6 - 10	*	"00400" All records will be 00400 in length.
11 - 15	*	"00400" All records will be 00400 in length.
16 - 50	*	Blanks
51 - 52	*	Specify the buffer offset before the first record in the block. This should be "00".
53 - 80	*	Blanks

^{*} Asterisk indicates positions (fields) that are generally system generated (Vendors may differ somewhat.) The Agent should make entries in all other fields.

REPORTING AGENT RECORD

General Information

The Reporting Agent Record identifies the Agent who is submitting the file of client/taxpayers. This record must precede the first Taxpayer Record reported on the first reel of the tape file.

Tape Position	Element Name	Definition of Entry
1-2	Record Type	Enter "RA" to indicate Reporting Agent header record.
3-4	RA-ID Number	Enter the two digit number assigned by IRS. If none assigned, enter blanks. (FTD RAs only).
5-13	RA-EIN	Enter nine numeric characters of reporting agent's EIN. Do not include hyphen.
14-48	RA-Name	Enter first name line of Reporting Agent. Valid characters are A-Z, 0-9, ampersand, hyphen and one blank between each word. The comma, period, number sign, apostrophe and multiple blanks are invalid characters. Left justify and blank fill.
49-83	RA-Second Name Line	Enter second name line of Reporting Agent, if desired (for Doing Business As (DBA) or Trading as (TA)). Valid characters are A-Z, 0-9, ampersand, hyphen and one blank. Left justify and blank fill.
84-118	RA Street Address	Enter street address of Reporting Agent. sign "%" and one blank between each word. Invalid characters are the number sign, period, apostrophe and multiple blanks. Left justify and blank fill.
119-138	RA City	Enter City of Reporting Agent. Valid characters are A-Z, 0-9, hyphen and one blank. Left justify and blank fill.

REPORTING AGENT RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Definition of Entry
139-140	RA State Code	Enter State Code of Reporting Agent.
141-149	RA Zip Code	Enter zip code of Reporting Agent.
150-159	RA Phone Number	Enter ten numerics.
160-195	RA Contact Point	Name of Reporting Agent's primary contact.
196-400	Reserved	Enter blanks.

TAXPAYER RECORD

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
1-2	Taxpayer Record Type	Enter "TP" to indicate a taxpayer record.
3-11	Taxpayer EIN	Enter 9 numerics of taxpayer EIN. Do not enter hyphens. Must be in ascending sequence order.
12-46	Taxpayer Name	Enter name of taxpayer. Valid characters are A-Z, 0-9, ampersand, hyphen and one blank between each word. The comma, period, number sign, apostrophe and multiple blanks are invalid characters. Left justify and blank fill.
47-50	Taxpayer Name Control	Enter Name Control of taxpayer as provided by IRS. <u>Use only on delete submissions</u> .
51-85	Taxpayer Street Address	Enter address of taxpayer. Valid characters are A-Z, 0-9, ampersand, hyphen, slash "/", percent "%", and one blank between each word. Invalid characters are the number sign, period, apostrophe and multiple blanks. (<i>Foriegn Address:</i>) Enter street address, including province and mailing code. (For Example:) 20 Champs Elysee 75307 Paris. Left justify and blank fill.
86-105	Taxpayer City	Enter city of taxpayer. Valid characters are A-Z, 0-9, hyphen and one blank. (<i>Foreign Address:</i>) Enter name of country. Left justify and blank fill.
106-107	Taxpayer State Code	Enter State Code of taxpayer. (Foreign Address:) Enter "."
108-116	Taxpayer Zip Code	Enter zip code of taxpayer. (<i>Foreign Address</i> :) Blank fill.
117-126	Client Account Number	Enter Client account number if desired. Left justify and blank fill. Field may be left blank if desired.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
127	Notice Indicator	Enter "N" if authorized to receive a copy of taxpayers notices. If not, blank fill.
128	940 Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA submitted for filing Form 940 on magnetic tape or electronic filing. Enter blank if not.
129-134	940-Tax Period	Enter six digit numeric YYYY12 tax period for Form 940. Use beginning YYYY12 if RAA being submitted. Use YYYY12 of last return to be filed by RA if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 940 indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
135	940 Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 940 indicator is blank.
136	941 Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA submitted for filing Form 941 on magnetic tape or electronic filing Enter blank if not.
137-142	941-Tax Period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 03, 06, 09, or 12) tax period for Form 941. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA is being submitted. Use YYYMM of last return to be filed by RA if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941 indicator is blank.
143	941 Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941 indicator is blank.
144	940 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 940. Leave blank if it does not cover FTDs for Form 940.
145-150	940 FTD Tax Period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 940. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 940 FTD indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
151	940 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 940 FTD indicator is blank.
152	941 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for form 941. Leave blank if it does not cover FTDs for form 941.
153-158	941 FTD Tax Period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 941(MM must be 01-12). Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941 FTD indicator is blank.
159	941 FTD Action Code	"A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941 FTD indicator is blank.
160	943 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 943. Blank if it does not cover FTDs for Form 943.
161-166	943 FTD Tax Period	Enter the six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for Form 943 (MM must be 01-12). Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA is being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 943 FTD indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
167	943 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn Leave blank if 943 FTD indicator is blank.
168	945 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 945. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 945.
169-174	945 FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 945. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 945 FTD indicator is blank.
175	945 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 945 FTD indicator is blank.
176	720 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 720. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 720.
177-182	720 FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 720. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 720 FTD indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
183	720 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 720 FTD indicator is blank.
184	1042 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 1042. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 1042.
185-190	1042 FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 1042. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1042 FTD indicator is blank.
191	1042 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1042 FTD indicator is blank.
192	1120 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 1120. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 1120.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
193-198	1120 FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 1120. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1120 FTD indicator is blank.
199	1120 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1120 FTD indicator is blank.
200	1041 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 1041. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 1041.
201-206	1041 FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 1041. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1041 FTD indicator is blank.
207	1041 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1041 FTD indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
208	CT-1 FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form CT- 1. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form CT1.
209-214	CT-1 FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form CT-1. Use beginning YYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if CT-1 FTD indicator is blank.
215	CT-1 FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if CT-1 FTD indicator is blank.
216	990C FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 990C. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 990C.
217-222	990C FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 990C. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 990C FTD indicator is blank.
223	990C FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 990C FTD indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
224	990T FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 990T. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 990T.
225-230	990T FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 990T. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 990T FTD indicator is blank.
231	990T FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 990T FTD indicator is blank.
232	990PF FTD Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for FTD for Form 990PF. Blank if it does not cover FTD's for Form 990PF.
233-238	990PF FTD Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 01-12) tax period for FTD for Form 990PF. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 990PF FTD indicator is blank.
239	990PF FTD Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 990PF FTD indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
240	940PR Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 940PR. Enter blank if not.
241-246	940PR Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYY12 tax for Form 940PR. Use beginning YYYY12 if RAA being submitted. Use YYYY12 of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 940PR indicator is blank.
247	940PR Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 940PR indicator is blank.
248	941PR Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 941PR. Enter blank if not.
249-254	941PR Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 03, 06, 09 or 12) tax period for Form 941PR. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941PR indicator is blank.
255	941PR Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941PR indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
256	943 Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 943. Enter blank if not.
257-262	943 Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYY12 tax period for Form 943. Use beginning YYYY12 if RAA being submitted. Use YYYY12 of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 943 indicator is blank.
263	943 Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 943 indicator is blank.
264	945 Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 945. Enter blank if not.
265-270	945 Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYY12 tax period for Form 945. Use beginning YYYY12 if RAA being submitted. Use YYYY12 of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 945 indicator is blank.
271	945 Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 945 indicator is blank.
272	943PR Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 943PR. Enter blank if not.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
273-278	943PR Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYY12 tax period for Form 943PR. Use beginning YYYY12 if RAA being submitted. Use YYYY12 of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 943PR indicator is blank.
279	943PR Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 943PR indicator is blank.
280	941SS Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 941SS. Enter blank if not.
281-286	941SS Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 03, 06, 09, or 12) tax period for Form 941SS. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941SS indicator is blank.
287	941SS Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941SS indicator is blank.
288	CT-1 Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form CT-1. Enter blank if not.
289-294	CT-1 Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYY12 tax period for Form CT-1. Use beginning YYYY12 if RAA being submitted. Use YYYY12 of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if CT-1 indicator is blank.

TAXPAYER RECORD (Con't)

General Information

Tape Position	Element Name	Description of Entry
295	CT-1 Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if CT-1 indicator is blank.
296	941NMI Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 941NMI. Enter blank if not.
297-302	941NMI Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYYMM (MM must be 03, 06, 09, or 12) tax period for Form 941NMI. Use beginning YYYYMM if RAA being submitted. Use YYYYMM of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941NMI indicator is blank.
303	941NMI Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 941NMI indicator is blank.
304	1042 Indicator	Enter "Y" if RAA is for Form 1042. Enter blank if not.
305-310	1042 Tax period	Enter six digit numeric YYYY12 tax period for Form 1042. Use beginning YYYY12 if RAA being submitted. Use YYYY12 of last return to be filed if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1042 indicator is blank.
311	1042 Action Code	Enter "A" if RAA is being submitted. Enter "D" if RAA is being withdrawn. Leave blank if 1042 indicator is blank.
312-400	Reserved for future use	Enter blanks.

END OF FILE TRAILER RECORD

General Information

The End of File Trailer Record. This record type must be the last record on the Agent's tape file. It can be followed only by a tape mark.

Tape Position	Element Name	Definition of Entry
1	Record Type	Enter "E."
2-7	# of TP Records	Enter the sum of TP Records you are reporting on the file. Zero fill on left. Use numeric characters without a sign representation.
8-400	Reserved	Enter blanks.