



SWIFT Partners

SWIFTReady Accord Integration

Label criteria 2009

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Preface

Purpose of this document

This document explains the business criteria needed to obtain the SWIFTRReady Accord Integration 2009 label, aimed at Treasury Management Applications for financial institutions and corporates. The intended audience is Product Managers and Development Managers/Developers.

Please refer to the following set of documents for further info on the SWIFTRReady label programme:

Related documents

- [SWIFTRReady applications guide](#)

Explains the 'Why and How' on joining the SWIFT Partner Management framework and its related SWIFTRReady Accreditation programmes.

- [SWIFTRReady criteria portfolio](#)

Explains the 'What' in a generic yet detailed manner on the criteria of your SWIFTRReady Application.

- [SWIFTRReady technical validation guide](#)

Explains the 'How' in a detailed manner on how your application will be validated to become SWIFTRReady.

1 Accord™: high level introduction

Accord™ is SWIFT's central confirmation matching and netting utility. The service exists in two flavours:

- Accord for Treasury; processing confirmations for foreign exchange, money market, and interest-rate derivative transactions (MT 3xx).
- Accord for Securities; processing confirmations for equity and fixed income trading (MT 515).

Users of the Accord for Treasury service send confirmations to each other; these messages are automatically copied to Accord, and matched in real-time. Users of Accord for Securities submit their MT 515 directly to Accord.

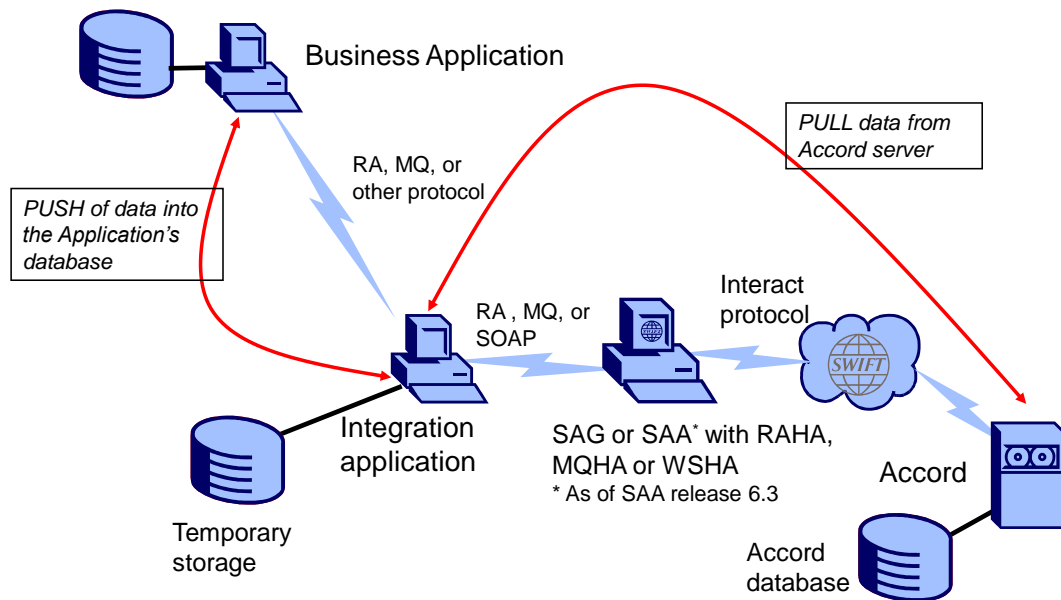
Access to the Accord functionality, including the database containing the matching results, is provided through an Accord **GUI** (Graphical user Interface) plug-in deployed on top of Alliance WebStation. (a SWIFT Interface Product)

Accord for Treasury comes also with an **API** (Application Programming Interface). An API is to be understood as a small programming language through which a software service or application allows other applications to interact with it. In the case of Accord, it is simply an XML-based dictionary and a grammar, indicating i) how to *refer* to the various data elements (e.g. trade date, amount bought, etc.) and ii) how to *formulate* a specific command, or query, and how to understand the answer.

Practically, the API allows users of Accord for Treasury to integrate their back-office systems (typically Treasury Management systems) with Accord, allowing these systems to retrieve matching results from Accord and achieve straight-through processing of matched trades.

2 Integrating Accord for Treasury in the back-office.

- In the drawing on the next page, the “integration application” can be developed and deployed as a separate application, or as additional functionality of the Business Application (Back Office or Treasury Management System).
- The connectivity protocol between the Business Application and the Integration Application can be freely chosen, and can be of a pull or (as usual) push nature.
- The interface box supporting the interaction with the Accord server can be an Alliance Gateway (SAG) with a suitable host adaptor (that supports the protocol chosen to establish the dialog between this interface box, and the integration application: MQHA for WebSphere MQ, RAHA for Remote API, and WSHA for SOAP). As of release 6.3 of Alliance Access (SAA), that interface (again equipped with the right host adapter) can also be used. Users of a non-SWIFT branded interface, have to check with their provider to see if that interface can support the real-time interact protocol with Accord, or can use in any case an Alliance Gateway.
- The communication between the interface (SAG, or SAA, or other) and Accord is based on a polling mechanism that uses so-called “dynamic” queries. This ensures that the data corresponding to this query is permanently updated.
- In short, the Integration Application, via a SAG or SAA, *pulls* data from the Accord server, stores it in memory or in a temporary database, and then makes that data available to the Business Application in either a *push* or *pull* mode.

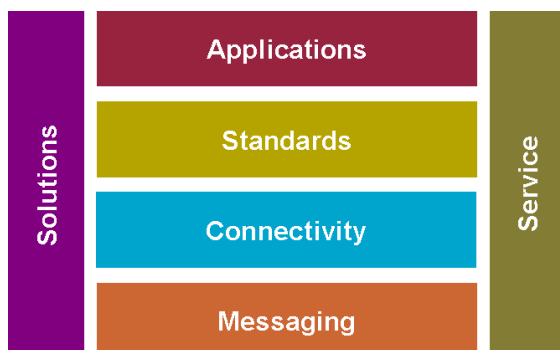


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3 The SWIFTReady Accord Integration label

- The SWIFTReady Accord Integration label is available to business applications that are capable of requesting and receiving matching information from *Accord for Treasury* and processing this information in a meaningful way, typically supporting automated information flows and straight through processing (STP).
- The label is therefore an indication of both the ability of the application to process Accord data and the commitment of the application vendor to support the integration with Accord.
- Whether the integration is deployed separately from the Business Application, or as an integrated additional functionality thereof, in both cases, *the label will be awarded only to the business application* (=Back-office or Treasury Management System), not to the integration module itself, nor to the application vendor, nor to any third party, should the development of the integration be outsourced to another software house.
- However, all communications from SWIFT related to the label will make reference to any additional software required to realise the integration as well as the connection method to the Alliance Gateway of Access.
- The label requires that there be at least one live customer; hence there is no requirement for technical validation nor functional validation at SWIFT. SWIFT will validate that the system meets the label criteria by means of customer validation only.

4 SWIFTReady Accord Integration criteria 2009



4.1 New criteria for 2009

No change compared to 2008 criteria.

4.2 Installed Customer Base

- SWIFT requires having at least one live customer as one of the criteria for the 2009 label. By 'customer' we mean a financial institution or any other entity using the system to request/receive matching results from Accord transported over InterAct.
- SWIFT will contact the customer to verify that the system is installed, live and working as specified and to verify the technical setup with respect to Alliance Gateway.

4.3 Messaging

The integration provided requires support for Real-Time InterAct and its associated features.

4.4 Connectivity

The integration application must be able to connect to Alliance Gateway or Access using either the MQHA (MQ Series Host Adapter), RAHA (Remote API Host Adapter), or WSHA (Web Services Host Adapter).

4.5 Level of integration

Various levels of integration can exist between a Business Application and Accord.

As a *minimum*, the integration should support status updates into the database of the Business Application.

Either to literally reflect the matching status obtained by Accord, or to reflect an internal status, based on the Accord status, any user statuses, and any semi-static data and workflow rules that are specific to the Business application or a concrete customer. (e.g. tagging an item as eligible for settlement w/o further human intervention).

It is absolutely crucial in either case that the integration handles any *updates* to the initially obtained matching status in Accord: as transactions are cancelled or changed, the related

cancellation or change confirmations can change the status of a confirmation from matched back to un-matched or mis-matched.

In terms of Accord API usage, this minimum integration level translates itself into the usage of the following two functions:

- FCT_GET_SELECTED or FCT_GET_SEL_SUBS, FCT_END_SUBS
- FCT_GET_SEL_DYN

Optionally, an integration application may be capable of extracting transaction *details* (over and above the matching status), and/or to take actions on the database item in question. This level of integration translates itself into the usage of following two API functions: implement the following functions:

- FCT_GET_DETAIL
- FCT_ACTION

4.6 Documentation and Training

- For Vendors planning to work on Accord integration, a specific *Accord Developer's Toolkit* (DTK) is provided. This toolkit contains full documentation on the Accord API, and access to an instance of Accord, deployed on SWIFT's Integration Testbed, and to customer support. This toolkit is provided at a yearly fee of 4,000 EUR.
- To ensure optimal usage of the Accord API, and the stability and efficiency of the resulting integration application, vendors planning to use the Accord API, are required to attend a [one day training](#) on that subject.
- To order the DTK, obtain information on the training, or for references to third party software providers that can deliver an Accord integration module for their business application, vendors can contact partner.management@swift.com.

End of document