Messaging

SWIFT messaging services

Secure, reliable and cost-effective messaging

SWIFTNet is SWIFT’s advanced Internet protocol-based messaging platform. It offers four complementary messaging services that provide the security, reliability and availability our customers expect.

Financial services organisations worldwide face increasingly complex and diverse messaging requirements. These include connecting to market infrastructures, communicating with commercial correspondents and servicing clients.

SWIFTNet provides a single window that caters for all these messaging needs with its four complementary messaging services: FIN, InterAct, FileAct and Browse.

Benefits

- Single window environment
- Straight-through processing
- Security and reliability
- Cost-effective pricing
**Benefits of SWIFTNet messaging services**

**Single window environment: one standard platform for all your messaging needs**

The same connectivity infrastructure can be reused for any combination of the SWIFTNet messaging services across a wide range of business areas and geographies. This translates into significant cost savings by eliminating the duplication of functions, resources and effort that arise from operating multiple links.

**Straight-through processing: reduce risk and cost**

- The SWIFTNet messaging services support straight-through processing (STP) through messaging standards and technical interoperability.
- SWIFTNet supports central message validation for SWIFT’s extended range of MT standards and for our newer range of XML-based MX standards (SWIFTStandards XML).
- SWIFTNet Link combines with your interface device, whether it is SWIFTAlliance or a third-party vendor product, to integrate smoothly with your inhouse applications and ensure technical interoperability among all SWIFTNet solutions.

**Security and reliability**

- The SWIFTNet messaging services run on SWIFT’s secure Internet protocol network (SIPN), a protected, private network offering the highest availability rates in the industry.
- SWIFTNet offers encryption, authentication control, integrity control and non-repudiation.
- Single points of failure are eliminated at all levels: systems, facilities, network.
A complete set of messaging services

The SWIFTNet messaging services enable financial institutions worldwide to securely and reliably exchange financial messages and files and to browse securely via online portals.

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- **FIN**
  FIN enables the exchange of messages formatted with the traditional SWIFT MT standards. These standards cover a wide range of business areas and are widely used and accepted by the financial community. FIN works in store-and-forward mode and offers extensive value-added functionality, such as message copy, broadcasts, and online retrieval of previously-exchanged messages.

- **InterAct**
  InterAct enables the exchange of messages formatted with the new XML-based SWIFT MX standards. SWIFTNet offers increased flexibility in the way of working: in addition to store-and-forward messaging, it also supports real-time messaging, and real-time query-and-response. InterAct is the service to use in the business areas for which the use of the new XML-based MX standards is more advantageous.

Both FIN and InterAct enable the exchange of messages on a message-per-message basis, and support the exchange of messages using proprietary formats in the context of market infrastructures.

- **File transfer with FileAct**
  FileAct enables the transfer of files in a secure and reliable manner. It is most efficient when used to transfer large batches of messages, such as bulk payment files, very large reports, or operational data.

- **Browsing with Browse, InterAct and FileAct**
  SWIFTNet users can browse securely on financial web sites available on SWIFTNet using standard Internet technologies and protocols such as HTTP-S and HTML. This is enabled by Browse, complemented with InterAct and FileAct for your business and security sensitive exchanges.
FIN
— SWIFTNet PKI security
— Closed User Group control
— Message validation
— Non-repudiation

FIN is SWIFT’s core messaging service. It enables financial institutions to exchange individual structured financial messages securely and reliably. FIN is used by over 8,000 financial institutions and their corporate customers worldwide to exchange 15 million messages per day across a wide range of business areas within the banking and securities industries.

FIN works in store-and-forward mode, which makes it easy to exchange messages with a large number of correspondents, many of whom may not be online at the time of transmission. Store-and-forward removes the uncertainty and inconvenience of worrying about whether or not your correspondents are online at the time you send the message. Your message is delivered as soon as the recipient is ready to receive it. FIN provides an ideal way to send individual instructions, confirmations and reports to large numbers of correspondents, regardless of their geographical locations or time zones.

Standard FIN features
FIN includes the following key standard features:
— SWIFTNet PKI security
FIN offers authentication and integrity control based on the SWIFTNet PKI infrastructure.

— Closed user group control
Each FIN message is controlled for compliance with the predefined message exchange and closed user group rules that determine which users can send what type of messages to which other users. Non-compliant messages are not delivered.

— Message validation
FIN supports central message validation of a wide range of SWIFT MT standards, which are used across a broad range of business areas within the financial industry.

— Non-repudiation
In case of dispute, SWIFT is able to confirm that a message exchange did take place as claimed.

— Relationship Management
Users can control the FIN traffic they receive from others using SWIFT’s Relationship Management Application (RMA).

Optional FIN features
These can significantly improve your operational control over your business:
— User-selectable priority
Messages can be flagged as ‘urgent’ to allow for appropriate processing by your correspondents.

— Delivery notification
This provides confirmation that your correspondent received your message.

— Non-delivery warning
This informs you that a message remains undelivered after a certain period of time.

— Online retrievals
Users can retrieve SWIFTNet FIN messages they have exchanged in the previous 124 days.

— User broadcasts
Users can send broadcasts to all other FIN users, or to a group of users.

— FIN Copy
Selected FIN messages can be fully or partially copied to a copy destination (T-Copy). In addition, their delivery to the intended destination can be made conditional on approval by the copy destination (Y-Copy). This feature is frequently used in the context of high-value payments clearing systems.

— FINInform
Some or all FIN messages sent or received by an institution’s subsidiary or branch can also be fully or partially duplicated to copy destination(s) for centralised processing including optional approval (Y-Copy) or monitoring of activities, outsourcing or regulatory reporting (T-Copy).
InterAct
- SWIFTNet PKI security
- Closed user group control
- Message validation

InterAct enables financial institutions to exchange individual structured financial messages securely and reliably.

InterAct offers different working modes to meet your specific needs:
- Store-and-forward messaging
  InterAct’s store-and-forward capability is designed for messages destined for a large number of correspondents, many of whom may not be online at the time of transmission. It removes the uncertainty and inconvenience of worrying about whether or not your correspondents are online at the time you send the message. The message is delivered as soon as the recipient is ready to receive it. As a result, SWIFTNet InterAct provides an ideal way to send individual instructions, confirmations and reports to large numbers of correspondents, even in different time zones.
- Real-time messaging
  Real-time messaging offers an alternative to store-and-forward to correspondents who are online at the time of transmission, such as market infrastructures or large correspondents expecting to receive an instruction or confirmation and that do not need store-and-forward added-value features.

Real-time query and response
This is an interactive service typically used in the context of workstation-based online enquiry or reporting systems. It is often used in conjunction with Browse.

Standard InterAct features
InterAct includes the following key standard features:
- SWIFTNet PKI security
  InterAct is secured with SWIFTNet PKI and offers message authentication, encryption and integrity control.
- Closed user group control
  Each InterAct message is controlled for compliance with predefined closed user group rules that determine which users can send messages to which other users. Non-compliant messages are not delivered.
- Message validation
  InterAct supports central message validation of XML-based SWIFT standards.
- Advanced delivery control (store-and-forward mode)
  InterAct offers a number of messaging features to control traffic delivery.

Optional InterAct features
InterAct offers the following key optional features:
- User-selectable priority
  Messages can be flagged as ‘urgent’ to allow for appropriate processing by your correspondents.
- Delivery notification (store-and-forward mode)
  This provides confirmation that your correspondent received your message.
- Non-repudiation of emission and reception
  In case of dispute, this allows SWIFT to confirm that the message exchange did take place as claimed.
- InterAct copy
  For selected messages, SWIFT can copy messages to a copy destination (T-Copy). In addition, the delivery to identified destination can be made conditional to an approval by the copy destination (Y-Copy). This feature is typically used in the context of payment clearing systems.
FileAct

- SWIFTNet PKI security
- Closed user group control
- Advanced transfer management
- Support for any file format
- Enhanced header

FileAct enables financial institutions to transfer files in a secure and reliable manner. FileAct provides a cost-effective way to transfer bulk files in different formats to your correspondents, while leveraging the unparalleled security and reliability inherent in the SWIFTNet platform.

Whether it is for bulk payments processing, transmission of cheque images, securities value-added information and reporting, or other business areas such as central-bank reporting or corporate-to-bank instructions and reporting, most financial institutions require the ability to exchange files in a secure, reliable and cost-effective manner. FileAct allows you to do precisely that. The benefits are significant and extend far beyond the realms of traditional file transfer solutions.

FileAct offers different working modes to meet your specific needs:

- **Store-and-forward file transfer**
  FileAct’s store-and-forward capability removes the uncertainty and inconvenience of worrying about whether or not your correspondents are online at the time you transmit the file. The file is delivered as soon as the recipient is ready to receive it. As a result, it provides an ideal way to send files to large numbers of correspondents, some of which may be in different time zones.

- **Real-time file transfer**
  Real-time file transfer allows an institution to send files to correspondents who are online at the time of transmission. It is an efficient and cost-effective way to exchange files with market infrastructures or large institutions.

- **Real-time file download**
  This is an interactive service typically used to download files from the system of a correspondent. It is often used to download files in the context of workstation-based systems.

- **FileAct Copy**
  For selected files, SWIFT can copy the file (or just the file header) to a copy destination (T-Copy). In addition, the file delivery to the intended destination can be made conditional to an approval by the copy destination (Y-copy). This feature is typically used in the context of payments clearing systems.

**FileAct features**

**Files supported**
- Any character set
- Any content structure
- File size up to 250 Mbytes

**File transfer security**
- Based on SWIFTNet PKI (managed certificates)
- Closed user group control
- Encryption
- Authentication control
- Integrity control
- Non-repudiation of emission and reception (optional)

**Transfer reliability**
- Automatic handling of intermittent communication failures
- Monitoring of transfer progress and status
- Delivery notification provides explicit confirmation of delivery by receiver (optional)
- Throughput management and traffic prioritisation

**Enhanced header**
- Dedicated optional header block to specify key business summary information (for example, number of payments or total amount)
- Allows file handling (such as routing) without having to open the file
## Browse

- Browser-based
- Browsing security
- InterAct and FileAct security
- Closed user group control

**Browse** enables users to browse on financial online portals made available by financial institutions and market infrastructures on SWIFTNet. It combines the user friendliness of web technology with the security features offered by SWIFTNet.

Financial institutions and market infrastructures that make their web portals available on SWIFTNet benefit from a more convenient and attractive delivery channel to their clients, while reducing costs and improving the security and reliability of their services.

### Browse features

Browse includes the following key features:

- **Browser-based**  
  Access to a Browse service is via a standard Internet browser (such as Microsoft Internet Explorer) and Browse interface software. There is no need to install any software or hardware from the provider of the online portal.

- **Browsing security**  
  Browse exchanges are secured by the combined use of the Secure Socket Layer protocol and SWIFT’s secure IP network.

- **InterAct and FileAct security**  
  Sensitive business or security data exchanges such as payment orders, confirmations, account balances, user IDs and passwords are exchanged through InterAct or SWIFTNet FileAct. Such exchanges benefit directly from all the features of these services, including their high security and reliability. Their use is made invisible to the person browsing.

- **Closed user group control**  
  Browse exchanges are only permitted within defined closed user groups.

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*For more information about SWIFT visit swift.com*