

# COMPONENTS NECESSARY FOR SUBMITTING AN ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The following is a very high level overview of the most necessary components required to submit a Streamlined Sales Tax Simplified Electronic Return (SER). Some of these requirements will vary depending on the type of computer hardware and software utilized. For a more complete definition of transmitting and developing XML transmissions please refer to the SST Implementation Guide which can be downloaded at <http://streamlinedsalestax.org/registration%20systems.htm>

## Personnel

The most important component of development and transmissions of a SER are to have personnel with the necessary technical training, as needed in SOAP, XML, and communications technologies such as web services.

## Items Needed For Electronic Transmissions

**Hardware:** Basically, any PC with access to the internet can submit an electronic return provided it has the storage capability, development software, programs developed using the development software and access to the system where the transmission is being sent.

**Software:** There are many web service tool software packages available. The choice may only be dependent on the operating system being utilized.

## Basic Definitions

**Schema** - The schema defines the tables, the fields in each table, and the relationships between fields and tables

**Web service** - Web Service describes a standardized way of integrating Web-based applications using the *XML*, *SOAP*, and *WSDL* open standards over an Internet protocol backbone. XML is used to tag the data, SOAP is used to transfer the data, and WSDL is used for describing the services available

**XML** - XML Short for *Extensible Markup Language* It allows designers to create their own customized tags, enabling the definition, transmission, validation, and interpretation of data between applications and between organizations.

For a complete electronic transmission to be accomplished the following must occur:

1. The vendor submits transmission to the state.
2. The state receives the transmission.

3. The state will send a receipt indicating the transmission was received.
4. The state will send an acknowledgement indicating the acceptance or rejection of the transmission. If rejected this will include the reasons the transmission was rejected

Each electronic transmission contains a return header, and may contain a return, a payment, or both. The return header includes basic information about the filing, including whether a return, a prepayment only, or both return and payment are present. The return header also includes the identification of the taxpayer, the CSP, the ERO, and/or the Certified Application Software (CAS) if used.

The return schema (SER) will contain the necessary information as required by the Governing Board. This format will be acceptable by all SST member states.

Attached is an example of a test SER and basic diagram of the fields included in a SER.

### **Payments**

The payment record schema is the actual payment vehicle in the case of an ACH debit. For ACH credit or wire, which are originated by the taxpayer, the data is optional, but if filed will provide the states some information to match the payment to the return. Every ACH credit generates a trace number. The trace number can be included in an optional payment record attached to a return. Similarly, for payments made by check, a record can be sent with the check number and if payment is by wire transfer there is a wire identifier that can be transmitted.

Although a schema does exist for bulk payments, the states are currently working with TIGERS to insure the schema contains all the information necessary for all state and business requirements.

CURRENT SST SER  
4/28/08

Transmission Header

Transmission Manifest

Current Simplified Electronic Return (SER)

Header and Manifest contain basic transmission information to include Transmitter ID, Password, Date, etc. This is used by the state to verify the transmission is from a valid source and the type of transmission.

Information Contained in the SER

Return Type (Original or Amended)

Total Sales Amount

Exemption/Deductions Amount

Taxable Sales Amount

Tax Due On Sales Originating In State

Tax Due on Sales Originating Out of State

Tax Due On Sellers Purchases

Jurisdiction Detail

Total Tax Due

Total Interest Due

Total Penalty Due

Discounts

SSTP Allowance

Prior Payments

New Pre-Payments

Total Sales Tax Amount Due or Refund Amount

Payment and Banking Information if Payment is Due

The following information will be included and repeated for each state jurisdiction where taxes are due.

Jurisdiction Code

Jurisdiction Tax Due for Sales Originating In State

Jurisdiction Tax Due for Sales Originating Out of State

Jurisdiction Tax Due on Sellers Purchases

## Schema Definition and Example

TIGERS has adopted a standardized architecture for the transmission of electronic tax returns and reports referred to as a schema. This has significant advantages for state agencies wishing to leverage the development work necessary for SST in other applications.

A schema is a standardized tiered structure containing the transmission data and the document data. The transmission is set up to handle either a single document or a batch of documents. The transmission has 3 components, the Transmission Header, the Transmission Manifest and the Document.

Below is an actual TEST SER Schema.

**The original transmission had five SERs and each had eight jurisdictions included in each SER. I have removed all but one SER containing two jurisdictions to keep the example readable. Due to this, the numbers on the Schema will not be accurate.**

**The example is only to show the items contained in the Schema.**

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= <TransmissionHeader transmissionVersion="2007V01">
  <TransmissionId>CSP00001508114000082</TransmissionId>
  <Timestamp>2008-04-23T20:59:51.761</Timestamp>
= <Transmitter>
  <ETIN>CSP000015</ETIN>
  </Transmitter>
  <ProcessType>T</ProcessType>
  </TransmissionHeader>
= <TransmissionManifest count="1">
  <Reference documentId="CSP00001508114003163" />
  </TransmissionManifest>
= <SSTPDocument>
  <DocumentId>CSP00001508114003163</DocumentId>
  <DocumentType>SERWithPayment</DocumentType>
= <SSTPFilingHeader>
  <ElectronicPostmark DateSupplier="Transmitter">2008-04-
    23</ElectronicPostmark>
  <TaxPeriodStartDate>2008-04-01</TaxPeriodStartDate>
  <TaxPeriodEndDate>2008-04-30</TaxPeriodEndDate>
  <DateReceived>2008-04-23</DateReceived>
  <FilingType>SERWithPayment</FilingType>
  <SSTPID>S00036001</SSTPID>
= <TIN TypeTIN="FEIN">
  <FedTIN>123456789</FedTIN>
  </TIN>
  <FIPSCode>38</FIPSCode>
  </SSTPFilingHeader>
= <SimplifiedElectronicReturn>
  <ReturnType>O</ReturnType>
  <TotalSales>196256.58</TotalSales>
  <ExemptionsDeductions>3368.00</ExemptionsDeductions>
  <TaxableSales>192888.58</TaxableSales>
  <StateTaxDueSalesInState>9644.43</StateTaxDueSalesInState>
```

<StateTaxDueSalesOrigOutOfState>0.00</StateTaxDueSalesOrigOutOfState>  
<StateTaxDueOwnPurchWithdraw>0.00</StateTaxDueOwnPurchWithdraw>  
= <JurisdictionDetail>  
  <JurisdictionCode>25700</JurisdictionCode>  
  <JurisTaxDueSalesInState>338.94</JurisTaxDueSalesInState>  
  <JurisTaxDueSalesOrigOutOfState>0.00</JurisTaxDueSalesOrigOutOfState>  
  </JurisdictionDetail>  
- <JurisdictionDetail>  
  <JurisdictionCode>53380</JurisdictionCode>  
  <JurisTaxDueSalesInState>68.03</JurisTaxDueSalesInState>  
  <JurisTaxDueSalesOrigOutOfState>0.00</JurisTaxDueSalesOrigOutOfState>  
  </JurisdictionDetail>  
<TotalTaxDue>13006.51</TotalTaxDue>  
<InterestDue>0.00</InterestDue>  
<PenaltyDue>0.00</PenaltyDue>  
<Discounts>0.00</Discounts>  
<SSTPAllowance>14.23</SSTPAllowance>  
<Priorpayments>0.00</Priorpayments>  
<NewPrepayments>0.00</NewPrepayments>  
<AmountDueOrRefund>12992.28</AmountDueOrRefund>  
  </SimplifiedElectronicReturn>  
  </SSTPDocument>  
  </SSTPTransmission>  
: <SSTPPayment>  
  <PaymentMethodType>DBT</PaymentMethodType>  
: <PaymentInstrument>  
: <ACHDebit>  
  <RoutingTransitNumber>123456789</RoutingTransitNumber>  
  <BankName>MYBANK</BankName>  
  <BankAccountNumber>1234567890</BankAccountNumber>  
  <AccountType>1</AccountType>  
  <AccountHolderType>1</AccountHolderType>  
  <AccountHolderName>SpeedTax Inc</AccountHolderName>  
  </ACHDebit>  
  </PaymentInstrument>  
<PaymentAmount>12992.28</PaymentAmount>  
<RequestedSettlementDate>2008-04-30</RequestedSettlementDate>  
  </SSTPPayment>