



Tym Huckin Ltd

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Title: Suggested amendment to the new UMSO and MA DTN flows
Author: Tym Huckin, Director

Background

We are completely in favour of the proposal to utilise the DTN for sending summaries and control files, and the resultant responses.

Whilst the working group had spent a considerable time deliberating the various aspects of this, there is one element which has subsequently become evident and which we feel needs an alteration to the proposal.

Issue

As supplier of the UMSO software Calitor, we have been working with WPD to look at the issue of retrospective summaries (and/or control files). The issue of historically applied summaries appears in PDA's "comments" document.

In paragraph 6, they say "When an MPAN/Sub-Meter receives historic updates, then the entry should include the earliest EFD{UMS} entry plus entries for all the subsequent effective from dates (via multiple GP1 groups). For example, a retrospective update with EFD{UMS} of 1st Dec 2019, would also include, say, update effective from 1st Jan 2019, 1st Feb 2019, etc. to one that covered today".(I think that is a typo and should be 1st Dec 2018)

This could cause a number of problems.

Taking the worst case scenario, we will look at the example of a revised summary for 14 months ago. Within this, there are two possible further scenarios:

1. All the inventories in the 14 month period are to be revised, or
2. A limited number (worst case is just the one) are to be revised,

Scenario 1: If an UMSO has received 14 months' worth of back dated inventories, these might not all be processed in one sitting. Any flow created starting 14 months ago could be incomplete. This may not in itself be a problem as far as importing the summaries goes, but reading between the lines I'm expecting there to be an element of automatic recalculation here. The MA system would recognise this is a historic summary and once they have all been imported, it would recalculate from the earliest date in the file to "yesterday". If the file is incomplete, this creates an issue the following day when the MA receives the remainder of the months and further recalculations of some of yesterday's recalculations are completed.

Whilst it may be feasible to suggest that the complete flow isn't sent until all the revised inventories are processed, this might not be possible. Under BSCP

520 the UMSO has 5 days to send the data to the MA once processed. There could well be a situation whereby some are processed on one day, but the others may not be processed until after the 5 working days. If the UMSO waits until after all the files are processed before sending a single flow, then the first ones would be sent late and would create an audit failure issue for the UMSO.

Equally, if one of the months in any one flow fails validation, then we anticipate it halting the import from that point. Again, worst case is that 13 months ago fails so only the oldest one is imported. This means the UMSO has to resend 13 summaries. This in turn begs the question about whether any recalculations are done and what periods.

Scenario 2: The inventory 14 months ago may have had an error, or simply the wrong effective from date. Perhaps the UMSO put 10/01/2020 instead of 01/01/2020... Only that one month needs to be re-applied, but the current proposal means that all summaries since 01/10/2020 need to be sent. Currently the UMSO would only need to send the updated summary and the MA can then re-apply the ones they already have. This scenario also means that if any automatic recalculations *are* being triggered for the period that the flow covers, there would be 13 months' worth of HHDC data sent that is totally unnecessary, and as mentioned before, at a cost to the MA for using the DTN. It is also totally unnecessary for the HHDC to process data that's not changed.

Proposed Solution

Our proposed solution is the inclusion of an optional Jxxxx Effective To Date{UMS} item. This would be applied to group GP1 after the Effective From Date{UMS}.

If the summary flow(s) do not have this field, then it can be taken that the data is to be applied from the effective date up to today. If a flow has an effective to date then any recalculation can be applied between the two dates (and sending the corresponding HHDC data) and would remove the need to re-import 13 months of unchanged data.

GP1 | 0000000000000 | 0001 | 20200101 | 20200201 |

This would replace just the January summary

GP1 | 0000000000000 | 0001 | 20200101 | |

This would replace everything since 1 January

The inclusion of this, especially if it is used for all summaries in the flow, is that those passing validation can be imported and recalculated automatically, and those that fail can be rejected. This then means the UMSO only has to resend a limited number of summaries, which would then be imported and recalculated.

We propose that an Effective To Date{UMS} is compulsory for retrospective summaries, i.e. those that replacing a previously issued ones with an inventory sequence value above 1, and optional for others.

Giving a similar example to that above,

GP1 | 0000000000000 | 0002 | 20191201 | 20200101 |

GP4 |

GP4 |

GP1 | 0000000000000 | 0002 | 20200101 | 20200201 |

GP4 |

GP4 |

GP1 | 0000000000000 | 0002 | 20200201 | 20200301 |

GP4 |

GP4 |

GP1 | 0000000000000 | 0001 | 20200301 | |

GP4 |

GP4 |

Proposed Data Item

Item Name: Effective to Date {UMS}

Item Reference: Jnew

Item Ownership: MRA

Item Description: Effective date one which the inventory details cease to be applicable

Units: None

Valid Set: A valid date within the constraints of the format.

Validation: As Valid Set

Domain: Date

Logical Format: DATE

Physical Length: 8

Has Synonyms:

Has Aliases:

Notes: