Data Connection

DENISE GODBEE SENIOR TRAINER



What & When?

What is Data Connection?

- Data Connection is a robust tool that allows for importing and exporting of data from your locators.
- Can be updated in the locator without doing data entry in the locator itself.
- Can be used to verify the data in a locator to compare to your workpaper or other expected results

When should I use Data Connection?

- When you want to automate processes and remove data entry requirements
- Used with API to improve efficiencies or with webservices to execute the data connection call instead of manually importing
- Can potentially be used when no other import capability is available

Import Templates

You can create an import template by Exporting the data connection file from a locator that is already populated to understand the format and required fields, or you can manually create one.

- Fields available for import change by year and also by entity type
- · Form and Field names also vary per return
- Development may also add new fields each year

Import templates can be edited in Excel or Notepad

• Import templates that are not in the correct format will fail during import. Development may need to review the files.

Data Connection Files

If creating and not exporting...be sure to save as an CSV file not an XLS

Header Record is Mandatory and requires

- Locator Number
- Entity Name
- Data connection replacement flag

All items must have quotations in the header and a comma to separate the 6 available fields

IE. "OOOCNZ", "ABC Company", "O", "O", "O", "M" (zeros will put zero as the value use "" to leave blank) Optional fields are

- Entity name line 2
- Client code
- And file source code

Import Replacement Flags

M – Recommended flat for import – keeps all existing data in the return as is and only imports data that has been replaced in the file

R - Will delete all existing data in the return first then import data in the file

U – This will align group data for forms included in the file for import and return information existing in the return before import

H – Hybrid of U and M flags (Go Wolverine's!)

"000CNZ", "ABC Company", "", "","", "", "R"

Data Connection Files

Data Record Requirements

- Quotations are optional in the data records but required in the Header
- Each row must include commas to separate each requirement
 - Form name
 - Copy number
 - Group number
 - Subgroup number
 - Field name
 - Value
 - Organizer indicator (required or import will fail)
- Each line must indicate O for Organizer
 - General Information,0,0,0,IN CARE OF NAME,George Boo,0

Data Connection File Set

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