



ISO 2022 – The Journey Continues: Structured Address Requirements

PREPARE FOR EVOLVING DATA AND MESSAGING REQUIREMENTS

The adoption of ISO 2022 marked a significant milestone in the evolution of financial messaging. But this was just the beginning.

As payment standards continue to evolve, financial institutions must be ready to support richer data, improve data quality, and meet new industry requirements without disrupting operations.

What is changing?

Transforming Data Quality in Addresses

As ISO 20022 requirements evolve, unstructured postal addresses will no longer be accepted. Banks and payment service providers must adopt structured or hybrid address formats to avoid disruption to cross-border payment processing.

What is a Structured Address?

ISO 20022 replaces free-text addresses with structured fields, creating clean, consumable data that drives greater automation.

FULLY STRUCTURED ADDRESS	HYBRID
The recommended format: Each address component provided in a dedicated field: • Street Name • Building Number • Post Code • Town Name • Country	Mandatory structured fields: • Town Name (TwnNm) • Country Code (Ctry – ISO 3166-1 alpha 2) • Optional free text address lines for remaining details • Accepted as a stepping stone by Swift

Who and what is impacted?

Structured address requirements impact all organisations that send payment instructions, including banks, payment service providers, and corporates. This applies not only to organisations still using legacy MT formats, but also to institutions already using ISO 20022 where address data continues to be populated in unstructured or free-text fields.

The most direct impact will be felt by institutions that rely on legacy MT messaging or data translation services to bridge formats. Services such as Swift’s contingency solutions are expected to be withdrawn once MT103 and MT101 messages are no longer supported. MT101 cannot support ISO 20022 structured address validation.

These requirements introduce clearer steps for corporates and payment originators. When implemented effectively, ISO 20022 delivers tangible benefits, supporting faster, more reliable payments with fewer rejections and investigations, alongside improved visibility, compliance, and control.

The Risk of Inaction

Failure to support evolving ISO 20022 requirements could result in payment instructions being delayed, rejected, or require manual intervention.

To ensure business continuity and maintain data integrity, institutions need an ISO-native solution capable of transforming, enriching, and validating payment data.

Impeccable Transformation of Financial Messaging Data

Bottomline's Message Transformation and Enrichment service helps banks and payment service providers meet evolving ISO 20022 requirements with confidence.

Transform and enrich inbound, outbound, and legacy payment messages into ISO 20022-compliant formats, ensuring uninterrupted payment processing, even when systems or counterparties are not fully aligned.

Validate, test, and future-proof payment data before it impacts live transactions, while unlocking the full value of ISO 20022 through cleaner data, greater automation, and more efficient end-to-end processing.



Increase operational efficiency

Automate transformation and enrichment to improve straight-through processing, reducing manual exception handling and repairs.



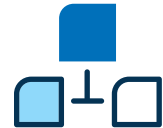
Elevate customer experience

Deliver clearer, payment data resulting in fewer delays and rejections, for faster, more reliable payments.



Prevent fraud and comply easily

More accurate sanctions and fraud screening, reducing false positives and investigation volumes.



Coordinate across multiple networks

Payments and messages are aligned across global networks, such as Swift, SEPA, and Bacs under ISO 20022.

Banks and PSPs can move beyond short term workarounds and confidently support ISO 20022 requirements in time for regulatory deadlines, and as standards continue to evolve.

Structured addresses are the next critical step in the ISO 20022 journey. Plan now and be prepared.

Protect processing continuity, strengthen compliance, and unlock the real value of ISO 20022 data.

Meet the ISO 20022 Structured Address requirements with ease

Talk to an ISO 20022 Expert Today



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