

General	
1.	What is the general time frame for the release of NextGen 1.1 today? (A year or a number of months would be very helpful.)
	A. Testing should begin sometime in late spring/early summer 2014 with four test courts (AK, CA-S, OR, NJ) with plans for those courts to go live in winter 2014/2015. We will try to make the testing opportunity sooner and will let the vendor email list know when testing can occur.
2.	Will the local courts still be allowed to add in local customizations (such as additional data collection pages) to their local ECF deployment? And/or will the local districts be allowed to change the Case Opening process to allow it to take additional data not specified in the proposed specification?
	A. The local courts may require additional local forms as they do now, but XML data will not be collected from the local forms.
3.	Do the vendors submit the XML package and documents directly into CM/ECF?
	A. Yes, there will be two options for submitting XML data. NextGen CM/ECF will have menu options for submitting the entire XML petition package to open a bankruptcy case or to file amended case filing information. And, there will be a web-accessible interface for submitting the attorney's authentication information and the entire petition and schedule data as XML. The PDF of the petition and schedules is also submitted during case opening but as a separate step from the XML data. Please refer to the following documents in the Information Exchange package zip file: 1) Read the README.txt and Bankruptcy_Master_Document.doc; 2) Open the catalog.xml file in a web browser to view the contents of this Information Exchange Package Description zip file.
4.	Are the vendors supplying PDF forms flattened or with the fillable fields of the PDF with the names in the CSV examples? Are the PDF fields listed as a reference point, vendors populate these and provide the PDF output only, not the embedded XML data?
	A. Yes. We will not read data out of the PDFs. The PDF fields are a reference point and the PDFs are there for reading only, not data extraction. The data will be read into CM/ECF from the XML provided. The PDF will continue to be treated as it is in current Gen CM/ECF, just a visual representation of the forms data that will be attached as a document to the case. Flattened is fine. Field names on a non-flattened fillable PDF do not matter. The only data processed will be the XML. The names of the fields on the PDF and in the CSV files are just labels for convenience, to precisely identify a particular unit of data. What matters most is using the correct XML nodes for the corresponding PDF fields.
5.	Will the XML data become part of the case (part of the public record) or just be treated as meta data for creating a filing?
	A. The XML data is not part of the public record and will not be shared outside the judiciary. The XML data should not be embedded in the PDF file, rather the XML is separate from the PDF. Sharing the data with just the trustees in the future is being considered.
6.	Will all courts implement this automatically with Release 1.1?
	A. When a court implements Release 1.1, they will use the Case Opening module that requires XML.
7.	Will courts still have the option to use case upload or not or will they all use XML when Release

	1.1 is rolled out?
	A. Courts using the Release 1.1 case opening module will accept XML.
8.	Will 'Open BK Case' functionality still be available? Can an attorney still manually open a case?
9.	A. Yes, this is in the current design for Release 1.1 that an attorney could still manually open a case and see all the screens they see today, but attorney filers will be encouraged not to do this as the XML data will not be collected via this case opening method.
10.	When is the case considered filed? When the XML is filed?
	A. The case is considered filed when the XML and PDF files are received and the fee paid.
11.	With regard to overflow pages, what is the plan to reconcile the XML with the PDF?
	A. The format of PDFs will be different from the XML. XML allows repetition of data elements within a container. All pages will be in the one XML<SchedX> container.
12.	What about specific words in the schedules (e.g. "unknown", which means something different that "none" or "zero")?
	A. Words like 'unknown' will be translated to "null" in XML. "Null" means "not supplied". The PDF will still say 'unknown.'
13.	As releases (and dot releases) go out to the courts, will they be required to implement them?
	A. Courts will continue to determine what release of the software and what modules they run.
14.	Will courts be able to customize? If a district mandates non-standard versions of official forms, how do we prepare the filing package?
	A. Courts may have required local forms, but they will not contain an XML file. Courts may require additional forms, as they do now, but XML data will not be collected from local forms. The non-standard PDF version of an official form can be submitted, along with XML based on the official version.
15.	How will pro hac vice work with Central Sign On?
	A. The registration process to apply for pro hac vice status will occur through PACER. That information will be passed to the courts and the local pro hac vice process completed.
16.	How do I start the upload process for a NextGen BK case (CM/ECF Case Upload seems to want the old case upload items)? Where on the website do we go to submit the NextGen PDF and XML files? Where is the NextGen CM/ECF menu item for filing a case using an XML file?
	A. CM/ECF does not put this link on its menu because it is not meant to be accessed directly by a user. Rather, it is a URL meant to be called by your script or program. Refer to the updated IEPD Master Document.
17.	What is OpenCase.pl? Is that the end of a URL?
	A. See updated IEPD Master Document. Yes, for case opening, the URL is: [court CMECF URL]/cgi-bin/OpenCase.pl For an amended filing, the amended filings URL is: [court CMECF URL]/cgi-bin/DocketWithPetition.pl -- the petition data will be POSTed as file attachment. For an amended filing, the amended filings URL is: [court CMECF URL]/bin/DocketWithPetition.pl. The petition data will be POSTed as file attachment.
18.	Has the authentication URL been determined yet?
	A. The REST end-point for the CSO Pacer User Authentication service is now available. See the updated IEPD Master document for the XSD and sample requests.
19.	Should the token be included with the NextGenCSO header for subsequent requests?

	A. From IEPD Master Document: Every request needs a NextGenCSO token.
20.	If a district mandates non-standard versions of official forms, how do we prepare the filing package?
	A. Courts may require additional forms, as they do now, but XML data will not be collected from local forms. The non-standard PDF version of an official form can be submitted, along with XML based on the official version.
21.	Form B22A has major changes with new form numbers and new lines numbers effective 12/1/2014. Will the Case Upload Specification change?
	A. There will be no changes to current Case Upload specifications, with exception to renaming the labels to match the new form line numbers. Number of Vehicles field is obsolete and marked as N/A. The line numbers in the file do not change.
22.	Has the authentication URL been determined yet?
	A. The REST end-point for the CSO Pacer User Authentication service is now available. See the updated IEPD Master document for the XSD and sample requests.

XML Specifications	
1.	Where can I learn more about how to test the new XML schema?
	A. In the IEPD posted to www.pacer.gov/documents/CaseOpening/BankruptcyFilingForms.zip , which describes how to load XML into the PDFs. If the answers go where they should, our system will take care of putting the data where it needs to go in CM/ECF. There is also the README.txt file available with the IEPD.
2.	Will there be a menu item that allows the vendors to view the imported XML data of a filed case (like with the judiciary will use to view the uploaded data)?
	A. XML data will not be available to external users in Release 1.1.
3.	Is there such a thing as an XML file validator that might be used prior to filing an actual case?
	A. There are many XML file validator tools which are easily acquired.
4.	What happens if the XML data does not match to what is on the form? Example: The XML specifies a chapter 7 filing but the forms are filed for a chapter 13 case.
	A. The case opening is going to operate on the DATA; so, if the data says chapter 7, case opening will open a chapter 7 case and run the chapter 7 lead event. Testing will be required to give the vendors time to make sure their data matches their PDFs. If an error should occur and the data and PDFs don't match, the PDFs are the official filing, but the clerk's office (if the attorney doesn't) will catch the discrepancy and contact the attorney to correct the filing.
5.	Will there be any verification of the XML data?
	A. The XML data will be validated against the NIEM specifications and the bankruptcy business rules, which are described in the IEPD package.
6.	What happens if required data is missing?
	A. If the XML file fails to validate, the schema will be rejected. If data is missing, the court will decide on what happens next to correct any deficiency.
7.	What will happen if the XML does not match the PDF?
	A. The clerk's office would see that it did not match and follow its quality control process.
8.	Will there be one XML file per filing or one XML file per form?
	A. There will be one XML file per filing.
9.	Now that the petition and schedule data is being submitted at case opening, will the NextGen

	case opening screens be pre-populated from the XML data?
	A. Yes, not only the data submitted, but the totals will pre-populated, e.g., total dischargeable debt.
10.	How is the debtor's county on FormB1 validated?
	A. The valid list of county codes is defined by NIEM standards (USCountyCodes). We do not validate county codes based on address.
11.	On Schedule B it would be very common to see a Property value of "Unknown" or "Disputed" for difficult to value things, like an Interest in a Business or a Pension that pays a monthly value for life. On Schedule D, E, or F the Claim Amount for something like a Lawsuit may show "Unknown" or "Disputed" or "Pre Judgment". How can we record the alternate information?
	A. The XML schema was designed to match the contents of the form. It is not possible to capture text in a field designated as an amount type. If a form does not indicate that alternative information is permitted, e.g., text for an amount, then the alternative data (unknown) cannot be captured. To handle this, the alternate data can appear on the PDF form but the XML data must be omitted.
12.	12. Many districts require separate schedules for each spouse for Schedule C and there do not appear to be tags which differentiate the joint usage of exemptions. In the case of B6C, there are some exemptions that belong to the spouse in the case of joint debtors. Should we create a separate form for the spouse or append its exempts at the end of the file? If so, how should we identify the rest of the debtors?
	A. The XML will accommodate the filing of a separate Schedule C for joint debtors in districts that require it.
13.	Will the matrix continue to be submitted as a .txt file or will it be in XML?
	A. The matrix will be submitted in XML format using vendor software. IF the case is opened by hand, the matrix will still be submitted by the attorney in the .txt format.
14.	In the form B6F_example, the claim amount ID tags are different for every claim. Which name should we take as the actual ID for every claim?
	A. The XML is almost entirely element driven. The s:id attributes in the example XML files are almost without exception meta-data, documentation, a labeling of each node that has data, in order that we can create charts of the various forms. As we recognize this might be confusing, we have provided a "clean" example that has been stripped of the metadata. It is in the package at this location: \BankruptcyFilingForms\XMLsamples\NG_BanruptcyPetition_example.xml.
15.	When is a full StructuredAddress vs. a non-structured used?
	A. Address values should always be broken out into the component parts inside a <nc:StructuredAddress>. Mailing addresses, particularly for the debtor and creditors, must be broken out into components. Most addresses can have a location description, which in some situations may be more appropriate than a full broken-out address; for example, listing property that doesn't have a mailing address.
16.	Why does the schema for FormB1 assume that every attorney is a member of a firm?
	A. JudicialOfficialFirm node provides the necessary structure for handling attorney information. The OrganizationName may be used to identify the firm name, but it's optional.
17.	In the B1 VolPet the County (cmecfcodes:USCountyCode) is part of the Debtor's Address node. That county is the "County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business" so it may not always be the county for that address. In the XML it should be its own element outside the

	address. Concern is some kind of validation may reject the county as not valid for the address.
	A. Refer to Q10
18.	The XML Schema defines most all amounts as a base type nc:AmountType which is based on a xsd:decimal which requires a valid number? Is there a way to have text in amounts on B6A,B,D,E,F ?
	A. The XML schema was designed to match the contents of the form. It is not possible to capture text in a field designated as an amount type. If a form does not indicate that alternative information is permitted, e.g., text for an amount, then the alternative data (unknown) cannot be captured. To handle this, the alternate data can appear on the PDF form and the XML data can be omitted.
19.	On Form Schedule I - "How Long Employed" is XML element <bkcmech:DurationYearsQuantity>.The schema defines this as an Integer and the suggests its Years are required. The form does NOT require Years and prior form instructions stated "Yrs and Mos".
	A. XML element DurationYearsQuantity is renamed to EmploymentDuration and the type is changed to Text to accept a textual description.
20.	The XML for Schedule J requires the dependent Age to be an Integer in years. There is no such requirement for Integer Years by the form instructions and we allow the Atty to enter any text he wishes e.g. "3 mos", "7 days", "60 yrs", "Unknown", "Infant", "May 1960".
	A. The XML field type will be changed to Text to accept a textual description.
21.	Schedule E omits 507(a)(2) for Priority Administrative Expense Claims. Our software, and others, allow attorneys to list claims in that category on E. Please consider allowing the XML to contain Code 2.
	A. 502(a)(2) claims. That code section deals with administrative expenses, not priority claims. Schedule E is for listing priority unsecured claims.
22.	XML for Schedule E - do not have a parameter to list each individual claim's Priority Category, e.g. Domestic Support or Taxes.
	A. Currently the form Schedule E does not provide the ability to store the Type of Category besides the checkbox to indicate the claims in that category are listed. As part of the forms modernization, Schedule E is modified to include the Type of Priority(category). The XML will be modified at that time to support the new Schedule E.

PDF/A	
1.	With regard to PDF/A, has the issue of embedded fonts increasing the file size been addressed?
	A. We are planning to implement Adobe PDF Generator in NextGen Release 1.1 and we are currently testing this product.
2.	When PDF/A is turned on in NextGen, will it apply to just the petition or to all documents filed?
	A. All documents.
3.	Before a court moves to PDF/A, will there be a transition period?
	A. No. However, the courts will provide notice via their website and other means, but there will be no warnings provided within the CM/ECF program itself.
4.	Where can I find specifications about PDF/A?
	A. We are accepting the same standards as currently stated for PDF/A documents http://www.pacer.gov/announcements/general/pdfa.html
5.	Which version of PDF/A is accepted?

	A. We expect PDF/A-1 compliant documents. PDF/A-1a documents are preferred; PDF/A-1b documents meet the minimum necessary requirements for court acceptance. The specifications for PDF/A-1 are listed in ISO 19005-1.
6.	

Forms	
1.	I thought the bankruptcy court was going to really change the forms and completely modernize them. Are the petitions or other schedules or statements changing? What new Official Bankruptcy Forms will be part of XML for NextGen Release 1.1?
	<p>A. With Release 1.1, the existing forms, for the most part, will still be in use because the Official Forms are being incrementally re-designed. Official Forms 22A-1, 22A-1Supp, 22A-2, 22C-1, 22B and 22C-2 will become effective December 1, 2014.</p> <p>B. These forms, along with the existing petition schedules and creditor matrix, will be the complete set of XML data elements in Release 1.1</p>
2.	How do I get the most recent forms?
	<p>A. Approved: http://www.uscourts.gov/FormsAndFees/Forms/BankruptcyForms.aspx</p> <p>B. Pending Forms (Approved Oct 2014) for December 1, 2014: http://www.uscourts.gov/FormsAndFees/Forms/BankruptcyForms/BankruptcyFormsPendingChanges.aspx</p>

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