

Dear SIF Member,

As a certified supplier of products that provide SIF Infrastructure services, your feedback is being solicited on changes that are planned for the SIF Implementation Specification 2.4 release in January/February. These changes have been under development for over a year within the SIF Infrastructure group. There has been broad participation and feedback on both of these changes from within the US and UK SIF communities.

The SIF Specification governance model allows changes to the SIF Infrastructure after going through the SIF Specification Development Process, which includes workgroup and Technical Board approval, membership review and vote. In a minor release of SIF, such as SIF Implementation Specification 2.4, there is one additional approval step, which involves polling infrastructure vendors to determine their support.

Neither of these changes impact existing SIF Agents. These changes apply to Zone Integration Server products only and require additional functionality to support SIF Implementation Specification 2.4.

Change #1

Element Level Security

A SIF administrator can specify data element restrictions that remove messages or specific XML elements or attributes before being delivered to the application. This is a change to the requirements of the ZIS. For details of this change, see the Infrastructure change document at

<http://community.sifinfo.org/sites/Infrastructure/Shared%20Documents/Current%20Documents/SIF%202.4/ChangeProposal-Element%20Level%20Security.doc>

Change #2

SIF Zone Services

Agents currently share data in a Zone via two models, the Publish/Subscribe model and the Request/Response model. SIF Services will add a new service-based model to the SIF infrastructure.

The SIF Services proposal enhances the SOA characteristics of the SIF Specification by adding the following new message types to the Specification:

- SIF_ServiceEvent
- SIF_ServiceRequest
- SIF_ServiceResponse

Details of the new SIF Zone Service functionality can be found in the documents located at <http://community.sifinfo.org/sites/Infrastructure/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2fsites%2fInfrastructure%2fShared%20Documents%2fCurrent%20Documents%2fSIF%202.4%2fZone%20Services&View={0A44A5CB-C2B7-4016-9B3B-EEA2DEFF9AB5}>

In addition to the SIF Zone Services Infrastructure changes, there are eight SIF Zone Services that are currently positioned to be released as part of SIF Implementation Specification 2.4.

Assessment WG

- Assessment Scoring Service

SIF Services Task Force

- State Student Identifier Service
- State Staff Identifier Service

Student Record Exchange Task Force

- SREPublisher
- SREConsumer
- SREStudentDemographicRecordConsumer
- SREStudentAcademicRecordConsumer
- SREStudentSpecialEducationRecordConsumer

Response Required

Please respond to Ron Kleinman, rkleinman@sifassociation.org, by Wednesday, January 6th to this message with one of the following responses. If the SIF Association doesn't receive a response by this date, the assumption will be made that you support these changes to SIF Infrastructure.

I support these changes to SIF Infrastructure

I do not support these changes to SIF Infrastructure (please provide details)