

# Case study

## General Electric leverages SWIFTNet FileAct to further enhance its payment factory



### About GE

GE is a diversified technology, media and financial services company. It serves customers in over 100 countries and employs more than 300,000 people worldwide. Products and services range from aircraft engines, power generation, water processing and security technology to medical imaging, business and consumer financing, media content and advanced materials. For more information, visit [www.ge.com](http://www.ge.com).

### About Expertus

Expertus is a SWIFT Service and Solution Partner committed to provide the most flexible and powerful payments platform for financial institutions and their clients. Monetis™ is Expertus' suite of applications. Based on the latest technologies (including J2EE and XML) it offers built-in real-time cash management and AML capabilities. Expertus serves over 25 banks and multinational corporations across North America. For more information, contact [Marie-eve.bertrand@expertus.ca](mailto:Marie-eve.bertrand@expertus.ca).

### Business challenges

- Standardise
- Automate and centralise file transfer mechanisms
- Acquire monitoring tools

### Benefits for GE

- Additional features
- Consolidation
- Ease of integration



“We were looking for a single file transfer solution that could be adopted by our banking partners worldwide while being sufficiently flexible, secure and reliable to support a wide range of financial transactions,” says Ashish Gaur, Project Leader, GE Corporate. “The SWIFTNet FileAct messaging service coupled with Expertus Monetis Toolkit, was definitely the solution that best fitted our needs.”

### Business challenges

Until mid-2005 GE was using electronic data interchange (EDI) as its primary platform for performing high and low value transactions with banks. These were mainly treasury and intercompany payments as well as accounts payables/receivables. In addition, it used other banks' proprietary workstations, based on multiple types of communication links such as EDI VANS, lease lines, dial-up lines, and SMTP across multiple locations. As a consequence, maintenance costs were high.

GE needed a solution, which, in addition to the 3,000 file transfers per month, could also cope with files from 10 Kb to 6 Mb. The SWIFTNet FileAct messaging service provided secure reliable communication to handle these requirements while the Expertus Monetis Toolkit enabled interoperability between various platforms.

In 2004, GE started consolidating several file transfer systems onto SWIFTNet FileAct with several correspondent banks. The main drivers were standardisation and the need to restrict the number of third party applications and links.

“The main objective for using SWIFT was to establish a stable, secure and reliable platform,” says Ashish Gaur.

GE also needed appropriate tools to detect and correct file transfer problems almost instantaneously.

With the combination of Monetis and SWIFTNet FileAct, a number of tools were developed to monitor the status of the file

transfer, and the availability of the SWIFTAlliance Gateway and the File Transfer Interface (FTI). In addition, an archiving tool for data and control files was made available.

### Benefits for GE

The combination of using SWIFTNet FileAct and Expertus' Monetis toolkit provided GE with a number of benefits.

#### Additional features

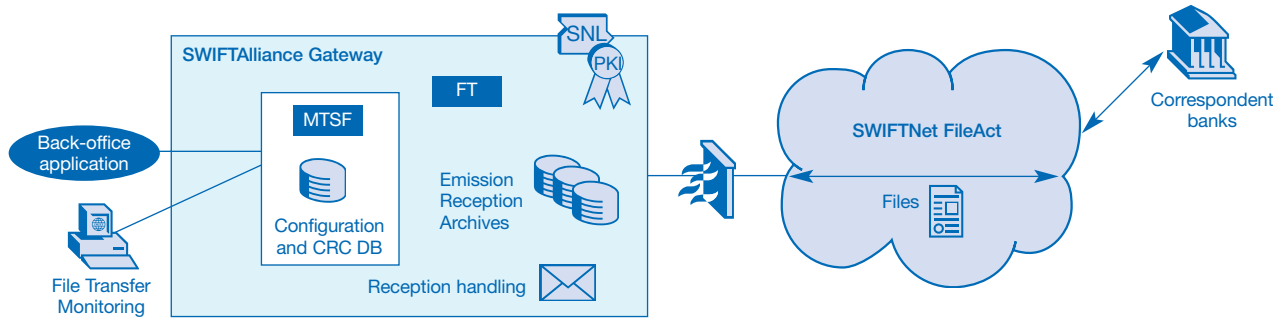
The toolkit runs directly on SWIFTAlliance Gateway with a File Transfer Interface (FTI). Its file transfer capabilities are: sending a file, getting a file, file reception and publishing. In addition, the Monetis Toolkit routes incoming files using a powerful routing rules engine. Another feature of the Toolkit is that notifications of delivery or errors are received via email.

#### Consolidation

Consolidating several file transfer systems onto SWIFTNet FileAct results in a faster method of communication, and enables higher levels of security. In addition, any file type is supported. The Monetis Toolkit is a flexible system that can be tailored to any customer's needs.

#### Ease of integration

The integration of GE's payments applications with the Expertus' Monetis toolkit was fairly fast and easy to achieve. Expertus adapted its toolkit to meet GE's specific needs requirements. The biggest challenge was to ensure correct information from the banks in order to generate the right file format.



Monetis Toolkit for SWIFTNet FileAct using the SWIFT File Transfer Interface (FTI)

### Solution overview

GE opted for a solution based on real-time SWIFTNet FileAct within closed user groups, and selected Expertus to implement a complete SWIFT infrastructure.

It chose SWIFTAlliance Gateway as it had already been deployed for SWIFTNet FIN. Internal security processes segregate and protect the payments applications and files between the back office and the SWIFTAlliance Gateway.

The Monetis Toolkit includes a set of management tools that simplifies the operations of file transfers over the SWIFT network, and enables the integration of FileAct transfers into the regular flow of business documents.

The Toolkit provides capabilities for both incoming and outgoing file transfers and can be easily implemented and configured. Files are handled as they come in and are sent to the SWIFTAlliance Gateway. All exit conditions are logged via a number of applications such as mail or file storage, and appropriate error recovery actions are executed automatically.

All incoming files are handled by a rules engine that allows the user to specify where the document should be sent. The user specifies the criteria applied to the content of the control file that accompanies the delivery.

With the FTI facility, the Toolkit has a set of scripts that monitor incoming and outgoing transfers executed as batches

under the supervision of the SWIFTAlliance Gateway. This version also requires the files to be delivered to the SAG server itself. It then leverages the FTI command line utilities for the actual delivery, and processes all exceptions.

“We are very happy with Expertus. Their team definitely understood our needs and added value to the SWIFT services, complementing them with solutions that GE required,” explains Ashish Gaur.

### Next steps

Currently, GE is live on SWIFTNet FileAct with one bank. Four are in test mode and 20 more correspondents are planned for the future.

In addition, GE plans to use the RA version of the Monetis Toolkit as well. This version uses a direct connection to the SWIFTAlliance Gateway. This approach provides for enhanced robustness, real-time transfers, better scalability and finer granularity of event handling.

“GE is a good example of how corporates can take advantage of SWIFT messaging services such as SWIFTNet FileAct,” says Jacques Leblanc, CEO, Expertus Technologies.

### Solution overview

- SWIFTNet FileAct
- SWIFTAlliance Gateway with SWIFT File Transfer Interface (FTI) or Remote API Host Adapter (RAHA)
- SWIFT Remote API (RA)
- Monetis Toolkit
- UNIX Sun running Solaris 9
- VPN box and IP router

### About SWIFT

SWIFT is the industry-owned co-operative supplying secure, standardised messaging services and interface software to 7,800 financial institutions in over 200 countries.

### Contact us

For more information, please contact [beatrice.goethals@swift.com](mailto:beatrice.goethals@swift.com) or visit [www.swift.com](http://www.swift.com).

For more information on SWIFTNet FileAct on [www.swift.com](http://www.swift.com), please go to Products and Services>> Messaging Services>>SWIFTNet FileAct.

Copyright © S.W.I.F.T. SCRL (“SWIFT”) 2006  
 All rights reserved. Reproduction is however authorised with acknowledgement of the source, reference and date of publication, and all notices set out here. This publication is supplied for information purposes only, and shall not be binding nor shall it be construed as constituting any obligation, representation or warranty on the part of SWIFT, SWIFT, S.W.I.F.T., the SWIFT logo, Sibos, SWIFTNet, SWIFTAlliance, SWIFTStandards, SWIFTReady and Accord are trademarks of S.W.I.F.T. SCRL. Other SWIFT-derived product and service names, such as but not limited to SWIFTSolutions and SWIFTSupport, are tradenames of S.W.I.F.T. SCRL. SWIFT is the trading name of S.W.I.F.T. SCRL. Patent pending: SWIFTNet.