

GAIN Data Management Whitepaper

Simple VDF Release Integration with a Fully Maintained VDF Interface

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Zurich-based reference data vendor SIX Telekurs launched the latest release of its Valordata Feed (VDF) in July 2010. For the new version, SIX Telekurs has completely restructured the way it presents financial instrument underlyings, as well as redemption and interest terms. As a result of this restructuring, existing VDF clients are now faced with a considerable amount of reprogramming to their VDF loaders, for both this and future releases. AIM Software provides a fully-maintained VDF interface to banks and financial institutions. By implementing VDF in conjunction with AIM Software's GAIN reference data platform, SIX Telekurs clients can therefore avoid having to perform these regular reconfigurations.

The new VDF release

The new release of SIX Telekurs' VDF (01/2010), available from July 2010, contains the most significant structural changes since the data feed was first launched. Below is a short overview of the most important changes:

- Implementation of the new concepts 'Underlying' and 'Redemption/Interest terms'
- Comprehensive structural extensions in various VDF message types
- Fundamental changes in the message logic and the cash flow philosophy of derivative instruments

Further detailed information concerning these and other changes can be found in SIX Telekurs' VDF Release Information 01/2010.

The new VDF underlying concept

The greatest challenges with this new release come from the new method for presenting underlying data. The main shortcoming of the old model was that it was not possible to identify underlyings directly—the actual

underlying could only be identified after the interpretation of the components in the message type TKXUD 'Underlying' by using the artificial 'Underlying ID' that was delivered in the TKXRD message.

SIX Telekurs' new underlying concept allows the underlying to be referenced at instrument level, making it considerably easier to access, and answering a clear market need. The message type TKFQD 'Instrument Composition' is now used to deliver the underlying composition information. In addition, a large number of new attributes make the interpretation of relevant underlying information easier.

New release brings challenges

These substantial changes to the messaging logic and the subsequent modification of the metadata mean that all VDF loaders currently being used by financial institutions to import VDF data into banking applications need to be reconfigured. Depending on how deep into the VDF metadata structure an implementation goes, it is possible that whole pieces of the existing loader will need to be replaced. This can be very cumbersome. Furthermore, SIX Telekurs will continue to release VDF updates in the future, which depending on the scope and depth of the update will very likely require further reconfiguration by the client.

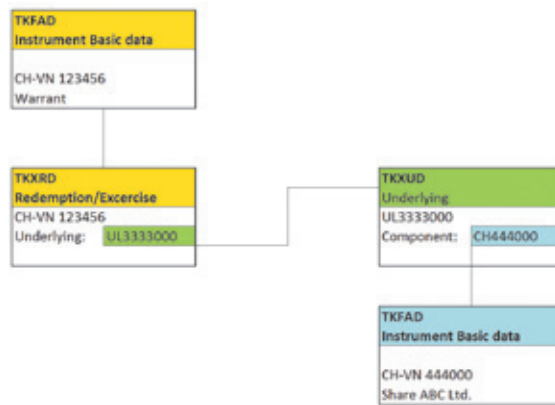
Partnership with the SIX Group and Rolotec

AIM Software has worked closely with the SIX Group for many years and is a Level 3 SIX Telekurs partner. For the past year, AIM Software has also had a partnership with Rolotec, a subsidiary of the SIX Group, which specializes in individual software solutions and data integration. AIM Software therefore has a strong insight into the SIX Group's technologies and products, and has access to a large number of VDF specialists. Thanks to these partnerships, AIM Software is able to offer banks and financial institutions a solution that enables their VDF consumers to easily process securities data and to avoid heavy maintenance work.

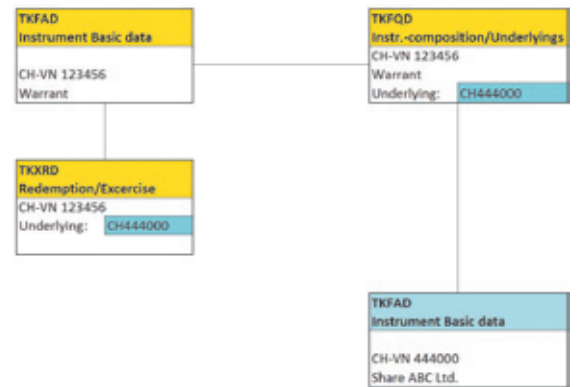
- Fully-maintained GAIN | VDF interface
- No maintenance burden for clients
- Full metadata integration
- Simple data mapping into the target system
- All-in-one solution for reference data management



"Our clients do not have to worry about an additional maintenance burden as a result of the new VDF release. AIM Software will take care of the maintenance of the interface."
Josef Sommeregger, Business Development and Sales, AIM Software



Existing VDF underlying concept



New VDF underlying concept

“With the implementation of the new underlying data structure, the latest VDF release 01/2010 represents one of the biggest challenges to banks and financial institutions since VDF was first introduced. To help clients manage this issue, SIX Telekurs will stage roadshows in a number of different locations in Switzerland.”

Markus Benz, Head Global Partner Business, SIX Telekurs

are required. Customers will be informed by AIM Software of up-coming new VDF releases and will receive any necessary updates cost-free as part of their maintenance agreement.

Fully-maintained GAIN | VDF interface

AIM Software has many years' experience loading and exporting VDF data, which means the firm is well-positioned to help VDF clients deal with the challenges associated with this new release. By implementing the fully maintained GAIN | VDF interface, developed in close cooperation with SIX Telekurs, clients can avoid carrying out the required reprogramming themselves. New updates can be rolled out quickly thanks to the tight integration between the GAIN | VDF interface and the VDF metadata. Metadata are structured data that describe the VDF data. GAIN is able to read these metadata and understand the VDF data intuitively, which means that usually only minimal changes to the loader

GAIN—a comprehensive reference data platform

GAIN Data Management is a comprehensive reference data management platform with 108 references worldwide. GAIN Data Management imports, selects, normalizes and validates financial data before they can be exported into the desired target system. With its modular configuration, GAIN can be customized to specific client needs and the client pays only for the functions used. GAIN deployments can range from a simple, single-feed straight-through processing system to a multi-source, multi-entity security master file. Clients can rely on fully maintained interfaces, which relieve them of the need to perform cumbersome reconfiguration work for the import and export of data. ■

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About AIM Software

www.aimsoftware.com

Established in 1999, AIM Software is one of the leading providers of data management solutions for financial markets, with offices in Switzerland, Austria, France, Luxembourg, the USA, Hong Kong and Japan.

With its worldwide service and support partner network, AIM Software provides internationally established software solutions and services with more than 108 references in 16 countries. Given its large client base, AIM Software can offer low-risk and low-cost all-in-one software packages, based on its industry proven data management software platform GAIN.

About SIX Telekurs

www.six-telekurs.com

As a leader in its field, SIX Telekurs specializes in procuring, processing and distributing international financial information. Financial market specialists at SIX Telekurs gather information from all the world's major trading venues – directly and in real-time.

The SIX Telekurs database with its structured and encoded securities administration data for more than 5,7 million financial instruments is unique in terms of its depth of information and data coverage. With offices in 23 countries, SIX Telekurs combines the advantages of global presence and local know-how.

About Rototec AG

www.rototec.ch

In the multi-faceted world of software development, Rototec has specialised in developing tailor-made finance software. As part of the SIX Group, Rototec focuses on Switzerland as a financial center, as well as on those markets, in which SIX Group companies are active.

When it comes to sophisticated, customized software solutions, Rototec is a proven partner. As a general contractor, Rototec takes care of all software matters in a tailor-made way. Rototec was founded in 1985 and is headquartered in Biel, Switzerland.