



IdSS Connections Frequently Asked Questions

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Defense Information Systems Agency
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Identity Synchronization Services



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Q. What goes in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) package?

- A. The MOA package is made up of the following documents: Connection Initiation Template, Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), Customer Interface Specification, Authority to Operate (ATO), and Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) documentation.
- Connection Initiation template: This document is used to capture the information required in each of the MOA and CIS forms that are described below.
 - Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) template: This is a template of the agreement document that will be signed by an SES (delegated to a GS15) for DISA. After the DISA representative signs, it will need to be staffed appropriately and signed by the Mission Partner.
 - Customer Interface Specification (CIS) template: This template is used to document the technical details and specifications of the IdMI connection.
 - Authority to Operate (ATO) documentation: As part of the MOA, we require documentation of the mission partners ATO (in whatever form the mission partner provides the information). This can be a memo or a signed email from a DAA with the effective dates of the ATO and system name.
 - Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) documentation: Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) are used to identify the potential privacy risks of federal government programs or services. They also help eliminate or reduce those risks to an acceptable level.

Q. How long does it take to process an MOA package?

- A. There is currently a 6-8 week turnaround time for MOA processing. This can be shorter or longer depending on Agency priorities as the MOA is staffed through our Office of General Counsel.

Q. Is the information from this feed considered Personally Identifiable Information (PII)?

- A. Yes. According to the definition of PII per DoD 5400.11-R the data contained in the feed is considered PII. Some data, such as name, is considered sensitive PII. The feed also contains non sensitive PII such as office location, telephone number, email address, and DoD Id Number.

Q. Can an organization establish a connection without a PIA?

- A. No. In order to establish a connection, some sort of assurance that the PII being delivered via IdMI will be protected is required. This can be achieved with a PIA or by providing a copy of a System of Record Notice (SORN) if one already exists. A PIA template can be found at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/forms/eforms/dd2930.pdf>. Guidance for completing the PIA is available at: <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/540016p.pdf>. Privacy Impact Assessments require a SORN to be referenced, so if a mission partner does not have one, they can reference DISA's (K890.14-DoD) at: <http://dpclo.defense.gov/Privacy/DODComponentArticleList/tabid/6799/Category/272/defense-information-systems-agency.aspx>.

Q. What type of accreditation is accepted?

- A. Either an Authority to Operate (ATO), Interim Authority to Operate (IATO), or a Certification of Networkiness (CoN) is acceptable.

Q. Can a copy of a document such as the MOA, PIA, etc., be shared with a person who is not listed as a POC for the Component in the documentation?

- A. DISA cannot share documentation without approval from one of the POCs listed on the document itself. The POCs themselves can share this information if they are willing.

Q. What kind of software should be used to connect to the data?

- A. Any software that supports LDAP based connections can be used to pull the data via IdMI. Mission Partners typically utilize Identity Management products such as FIM, SailPoint and UnitySync.

Q. What are the options for receiving the data?

- A. Most connections are achieved via a pull over LDAP/S. This allows the Component to have more control over updates by pulling directly from DISA's AD LDS instance. As an alternative to the "Pull" method, Components can connect via a "Push" option where DISA would push updates to the Component on a scheduled basis. The "Push" option doesn't give Components as much control over their updates, so the "Pull" method is preferred.

Q. How is a service account created?

- A. To receive a service account, Components must complete and submit a DoD System Access Authorization Request form (DD2875). A blank copy of this document can be found at:

<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/forms/eforms/dd2875.pdf>.

Q. Once a service account has been created, is there a setup document available?

- A. Since configuration steps vary depending on the connection software chosen by Components, there is no official configuration document. Information to test connections such as IPs, ports and destinations can be found in the Customer Interface Specification.

Q. What is the difference between IdMI and EDQS?

- A. The primary difference is that IdMI is a batch delivery of data at a pre-determined frequency while EDQS is a query service that returns data for real-time requests. While Components are eligible to receive one connection to IdMI at no cost, establishing an EDQS connection requires the customer to purchase an AD LDS server that will be hosted and managed by DISA.

Q. Is there a list of complete list of attributes made available via IdMI and EDQS?

- A. Yes, a complete list of attributes can be found in the IdMI Data Dictionary which can be downloaded from the IdSS section at:
<http://iase.disa.mil/idam/Pages/documentation.aspx>.

Q. What is the notification process for significant changes to the attributes included in the IdMI feed?

- A. Prior to making significant changes to the data supplied by IdSS, we notify the POCs listed in the MOA via email with 4 weeks' notice.

Q. Is there an IdMI test environment available?

- A. There is no test environment, but DISA can typically provide some build information and a small set of data (containing people within the Component) so a Mission Partner can build and configure a test environment. To get started, the Component must provide DISA with a small list of personnel with their EDIPI and PTC (.mil, .civ, .ctr). This is a manual pull, so it is easier to keep it on the smaller side.

Q. What is the difference between the “Contact”, “Detailed”, and “Extended” sets of attributes?

- A. IdSS data attributes are grouped into three different options. The columns in the IdMI data dictionary indicate which attributes are included in each option. Contact attributes make up the most basic set of data we can provide. Detailed attributes include all of the contact attributes plus a few more, and the extended set contains every attribute we can make available to customers.

Q. How does the system update entries when an individual is no longer an active member in the DoD (e.g., separated, retired, etc.)?

- A. Upon notification from the DMDC, the identity and contact attributes for that persona are removed and will no longer appear in IdMI.