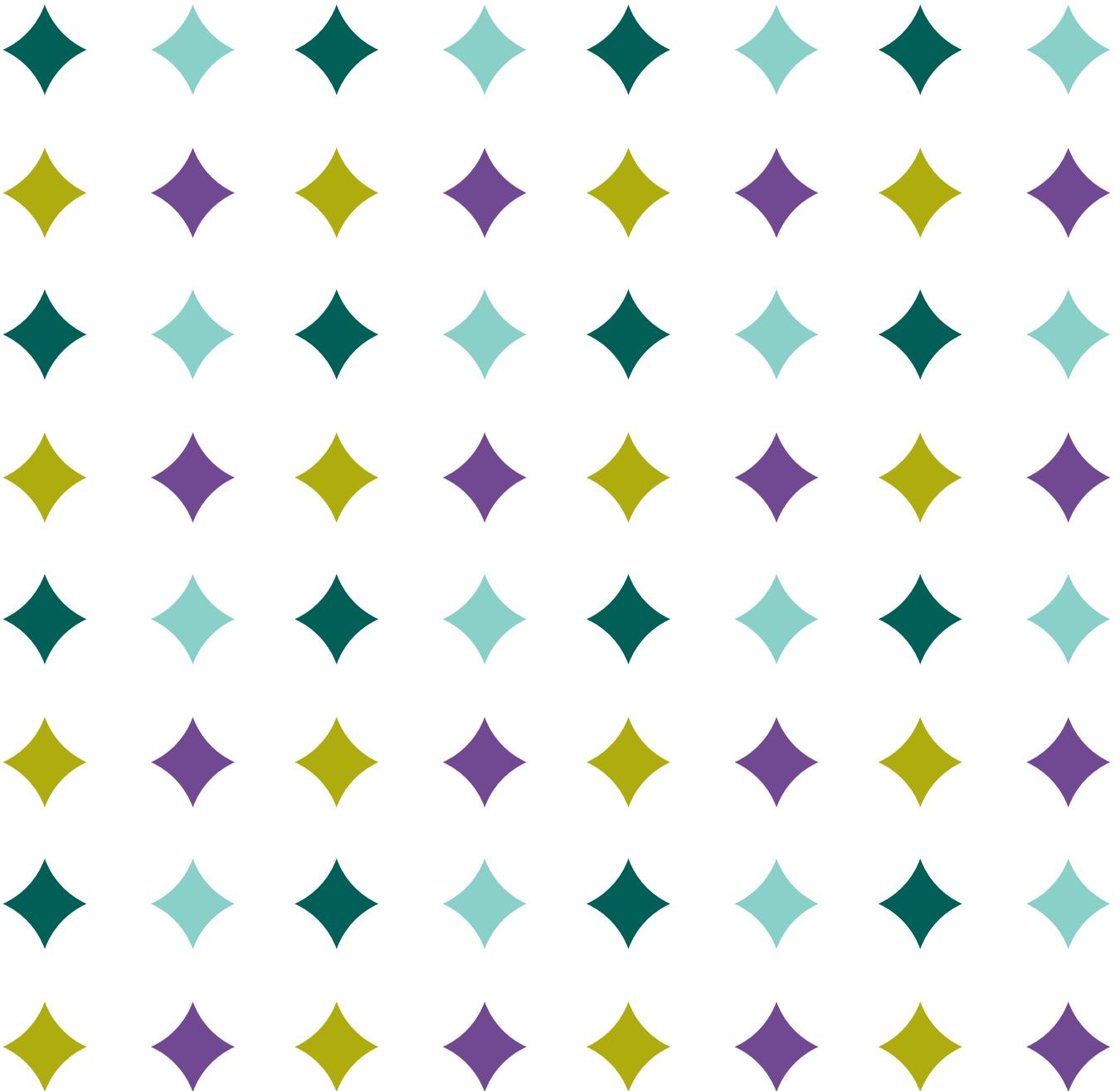# swift**ref**

The global reference data utility

**Your single source for worldwide
reference data and financial information**

SWIFTRef, the global reference data utility

From SWIFT, the ISO Registration Authority for BIC and IBAN formats, and the Prime Issuer of LEIs

If...

You are

A financial institution

A corporation

A financial services provider

A software company

Looking for

Accurate SWIFT BICs

Legal Entity Identifiers (LEIs), hierarchies and shareholding

Global Intermediary Identification Numbers (GIINs)

Worldwide (national) clearing/sort codes

IBAN validation tools

BBAN-to-IBAN conversion tools

Detailed financial information about counterparty banks

Standing Settlement Instructions (SSIs)

Payments routing data

Financial institutions' membership in national and international clearing & settlement systems

Currency codes and detailed country information

Bank holidays & business hours

Wishing to

Build an accurate Bank Master File

Significantly improve STP rates of payments and direct debits

Save time and money on payment investigations and repairs

Correctly identify trade counterparties in regulatory reports

Evaluate counterparty risk

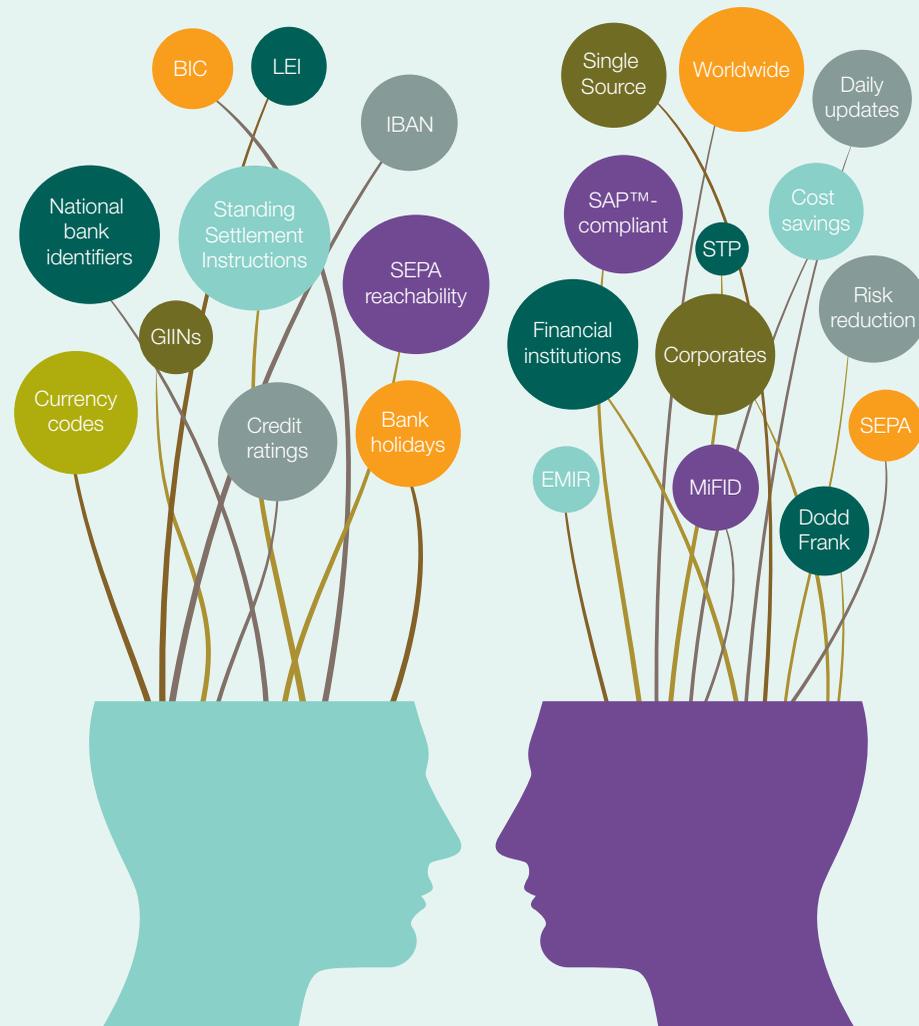Maintain customer satisfaction and build on your reputation

But struggling to

Collect these financial identifiers and data from a multitude of central banks, code-issuers and counterparties worldwide

Keep this data constantly up-to-date

Then SWIFTRef is exactly what you need!

What is SWIFTRef?

SWIFTRef is SWIFT's unique reference data and financial information service. It offers the financial industry a single and unique source for the reference data and financial information you need for flawless payments processing, accurate regulatory reporting, counterparty risk analysis and due diligence.

How does SWIFTRef work?

The SWIFTRef utility is a highly-secure database platform, sourcing and maintaining its data based on a unique collaborative approach, and strict data collection and maintenance procedures.

All reference data is sourced directly and from authorised data originators. Data originators go well beyond our 11,000 SWIFT users active worldwide and include:

- Banks
- Central banks
- Code-issuers
- Regulators
- Clearing & Settlement Mechanisms (CSMs)
- Banking associations
- Regional financial communities
- SWIFT, the ISO Registration Authority for BIC & IBAN formats and the Prime Issuer of LEIs

All financial information is exclusively sourced from Reuters and Dun & Bradstreet. Credit ratings from Moody's and holiday data from Copp Clark.
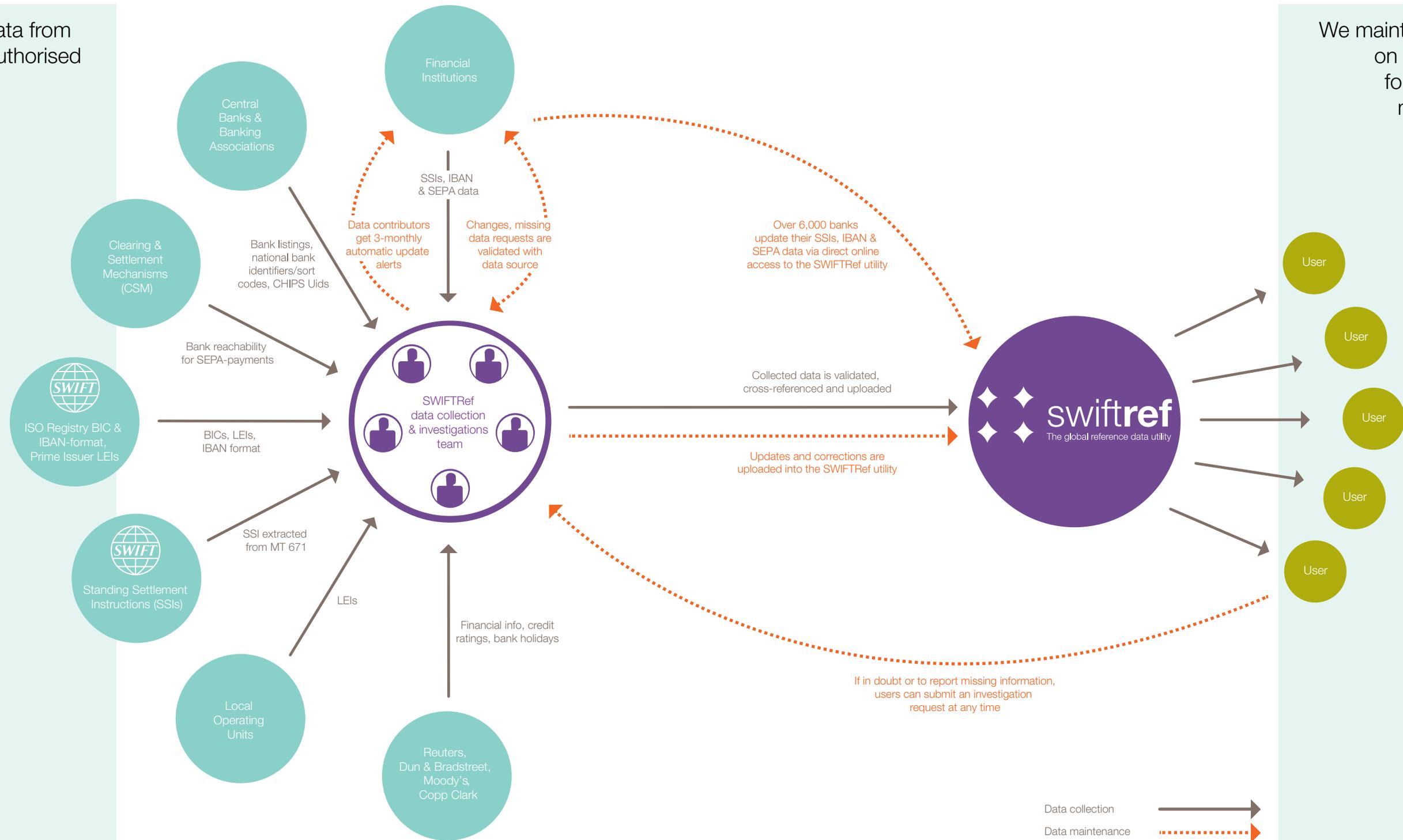
To guarantee data quality and completeness, a rigorous and ongoing data maintenance process underscores the SWIFTRef utility.

- Thanks to a set of free data maintenance tools, data originators maintain their IBAN and SEPA data as well as Standing Settlement Instructions (SSI) on a daily basis.

- Several regional communities, who have taken advantage of SWIFTRef's expertise in the development of a tailored national codes management system, are also feeding their community's updates directly and promptly into the SWIFTRef utility.

- An IBAN Exclusion List provides a listing of all bank IDs that should not be used in IBANs. The list is a great help. It enables the detection of invalid IBANs in payments and direct debits.

- SWIFTRef relies on a dedicated data team that ensures validation, cross-referencing and in-depth investigation of data directly with the owners when inconsistencies or omissions are reported.

- The SWIFTRef team constantly improves the quality and identifies gaps in the SSI directories.

- SWIFTRef also provides custom data validation services to its customers thanks to its breadth and depth of data and expertise.

The SWIFTRef utility meets the highest standards of accuracy and completeness in reference data.

We collect data from official and authorised sources only.

We maintain our data on a daily basis following strict maintenance procedures.

Financial Institutions

Central Banks & Banking Associations

Clearing & Settlement Mechanisms (CSM)

SWIFT
ISO Registry BIC & IBAN-format, Prime Issuer LEIs

SWIFT
Standing Settlement Instructions (SSIs)

Local Operating Units

Reuters, Dun & Bradstreet, Moody's, Copp Clark

SWIFTRef data collection & investigations team

swiftref
The global reference data utility

User

User

User

User

User

Bank listings, national bank identifiers/sort codes, CHIPS Uids

SSIs, IBAN & SEPA data

Data contributors get 3-monthly automatic update alerts

Changes, missing data requests are validated with data source

Over 6,000 banks update their SSIs, IBAN & SEPA data via direct online access to the SWIFTRef utility

Bank reachability for SEPA-payments

BICs, LEIs, IBAN format

SSI extracted from MT 671

LEIs

Financial info, credit ratings, bank holidays

Collected data is validated, cross-referenced and uploaded

Updates and corrections are uploaded into the SWIFTRef utility

If in doubt or to report missing information, users can submit an investigation request at any time

Data collection
Data maintenance

Why choose SWIFTRef?

SWIFT is uniquely positioned to manage the global reference data utility.

As a member-owned cooperative, more than 11,000 financial institutions, as well as corporates in over 200 countries trust SWIFT every day to exchange millions of standardised financial messages. The SWIFTRef utility is based on the same high levels of security, resilience and support.

We understand your financial messaging needs. As a standardisation authority catalysing the needs from the financial community, SWIFT champions a world of financial messages.

Therefore, we understand the requirements linked to accurate reference data and financial information.

Thanks to its industry role and relationships, SWIFT is uniquely placed to collect reference data from data originators and financial community members.

As the ISO Registry for BIC and IBAN formats and the Prime Issuer of LEIs, SWIFT itself is a key originator of reference data.

High quality reference data

SWIFTRef sources data solely from authorised data originators to ensure the highest data quality expected by our end users.

A dedicated data collection team constantly researches and improves data quality while ensuring direct follow-up with originators when investigation requests are introduced for missing or incorrect data.

Daily updates

In a typical month, approximately 1,400 BICs undergo one or more changes, approximately 10,000 national clearing codes are created or removed and approximately 15,000 SSIs change. About 15,000 new LEIs and 5,000 new GIIN codes are also added. With this in mind, maintaining accurate and up-to-date global reference data is a major challenge for any individual organisation.

Thanks to our unique collaborative approach and easy-to-use maintenance tools, SWIFTRef can rely on its data owners to maintain their data in the SWIFTRef utility on a daily basis. This way SWIFTRef offers you the highest levels of data accuracy.

Any format and delivery channel

You can choose from our extensive range of data formats and delivery channels: online lookup service, flat files (in txt or xml) – manually or automatically downloadable (web services) or delivered over FileAct, and SWIFTRef APIs.

To best support your ERP requirements and needs, directories are available in SAP™ and ERP compatible formats.

Automation

You can automate the handling of files via download automation and FileAct.

SWIFTRef Data Manager

To help you better manage your reference data (even from different sources), SWIFTRef provides the software to help you manage, merge and build data files to meet your company-specific needs.

Service and support

A multi-lingual helpdesk is available for your day-to-day data queries.

Worldwide data coverage

410,000+
LEIs

250
Countries & regions with holiday information, country & currency codes

140,000+
Local language codes from China, Japan, Korea, Russia and other

110,000+
ISO-registered BICs from financial institutions and corporates worldwide

1,000,000+
National bank identifiers from 180+ countries

And also
Financial, entity, and regulatory status for financial institutions and corporates worldwide

810,000+
Standing Settlement Instructions

70+
IBAN countries including 34 SEPA

190,000+
GIINs

> "Given the efforts that are made to source the SWIFTRef utility only with the highest quality and accuracy of IBAN and BIC data (particularly in the SEPA dedicated directories), Société Générale has had no hesitations to adopt the SWIFTRef IBAN Plus directory as their main reference data source for SEPA payments. Given the high volumes of SEPA payments we process on a daily basis, the operational risks in deducing a wrong BIC from customer IBANs and the reputational risk we run in case of payment failures on behalf of our personal and corporate customers, we recently even decided to upgrade as soon as possible our systems for the daily feeds from SWIFTRef.

Martine Brachet,
Former Head of Interbank Relationships, Société Générale Group

A SWIFTRef solution tailored to your needs

Every organisation differs in type, needs and budget. The SWIFTRef portfolio offers a variety
of directories, allowing you to identify the best solution for your organisation.

Directory	Bank data				SEPA data		Standing Settlement Instructions			Special data	All data			
	BIC Plus	Bank Directory Plus	Entity Plus	SWIFTRef Reach Plus	IBAN Plus	SEPA Plus	SSI Retail	SSI Wholesale	SSI Plus	Country, Currency, Holiday	Payments Plus	Bankers World Online	SWIFTRef Online	SWIFTRef APIs
Content														
All SWIFT BIC codes worldwide	●	●	●		● (IBAN countries)	● (IBAN countries)		●	●		●	●	●	●
National clearing/sort codes (180+ countries), incl. CHIPS + local language codes		●									●	● (excl local language)	● (excl local language)	●
Legal Entity Identifiers (LEIs)		●	●								●	●		●
BIC historical events (additions, deletions, modifications since 2007)	●												●	
BIC/IBAN data (70+ IBAN countries, incl. SEPA)					●	●					●	●	●	●
Clearing & Settlement Mechanisms membership, incl. EBA, TARGET, CIPS, India		●		●		● (SEPA only)					●	●	●	
SWIFT connectivity information (FA, IA, FIN)	●	●									●			
Bank Standing Settlement Instructions							● (Retail)	● (Wholesale)	● (All)		●	●	●	●
Timezone information	●	●												
Bank hierarchy information		●	●									●		
Country, currency codes and bank holidays	●	●								●		●	●	
Financial, regulatory & entity information, credit ratings												●	●	
SWIFTNet services data				●							●			
Broadcast messages (since 2009)													●	
Global Intermediary Identification Numbers (GIINs)			●											
Business Registration Numbers (BRN), Market Identification Codes (MIC)			●											
Entity Ownership information			●											
Channel														
Online	●	●			●	●	●	●	●			●	●	
As a File - manual download	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
As a File - automated download	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
As a File - over FileAct	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Format														
TXT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
XML	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●			
DAT, DOS, EBCDIC										●				
Frequency														
Monthly	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Daily	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		O	●	●	●

Legend ● : Available O: Optional
Technical specifications and samples for all SWIFTRef directory files are available free of charge at www.swift.com/SWIFTRef

A pack for every corporate

All corporates, irrespective of whether they are connected to the SWIFT network can take advantage of our SWIFTRef packs.

For corporates, we have a series of packs combining several of our standard web query and file-based products.

Pack One is an ideal start for SEPA compliance. With Pack Two and Pack Three, you can even benefit from an SAP™ compatible Bank Directory.

With all three packs you have the option to take on SWIFT Consulting Services to validate bank data in your ERP system prior to loading the file.

This minimises the impact on your vendor records and gives you full transparency on the quality of the data you hold.

SWIFTRef also offers an API option for all corporates.

Corporate Pack One

- Bankers World Online
- IBAN Plus

Corporate Pack Two

- Bankers World Online
- IBAN Plus
- Bank Directory Plus
- Bank Directory for SAP™

Corporate Pack Three

- Bankers World Online
- IBAN Plus and SEPA Plus
- Bank Directory Plus
- Bank Directory for SAP™
- SSI Plus

Start your free trial today

Register on www.swift.com/SWIFTRef

Our online, APIs and Data Manager services are all available for a free trial:

- Bankers World Online
- BIC Directory Online
- MT094 Online
- SWIFTRef APIs
- SWIFTRef Data Manager

"

When we take on a new agent or airline, and collect settlement instructions, information such as BIC and IBAN can now be validated quickly, minimising errors and payment failures. This validation is also particularly important as part of our SEPA migration project. The implementation of SWIFTRef has been very quick and straightforward. We received the SWIFTRef file through FileAct, which could then be uploaded directly into the relevant database. We received comprehensive documentation from SWIFT so this integration process was not difficult. Updated files are uploaded every month.

Suresh Dutt,
Global SWIFT Implementations Specialist, IATA

"

Before we had outdated SWIFT codes and national IDs, which led to payments being returned. As a result of these returned payments we lost out on early payment discounts amounting to circa €30,000 each month, which was a significant financial risk. SWIFTRef ticks all the boxes for us. It gives us quick and easy access to the important data, all in a single source, and as it is provided by SWIFT, we know it is always accurate and up-to-date. What's more, it is compatible with our SAP™ system. You can't say fairer than that.

Rolf Lehmann,
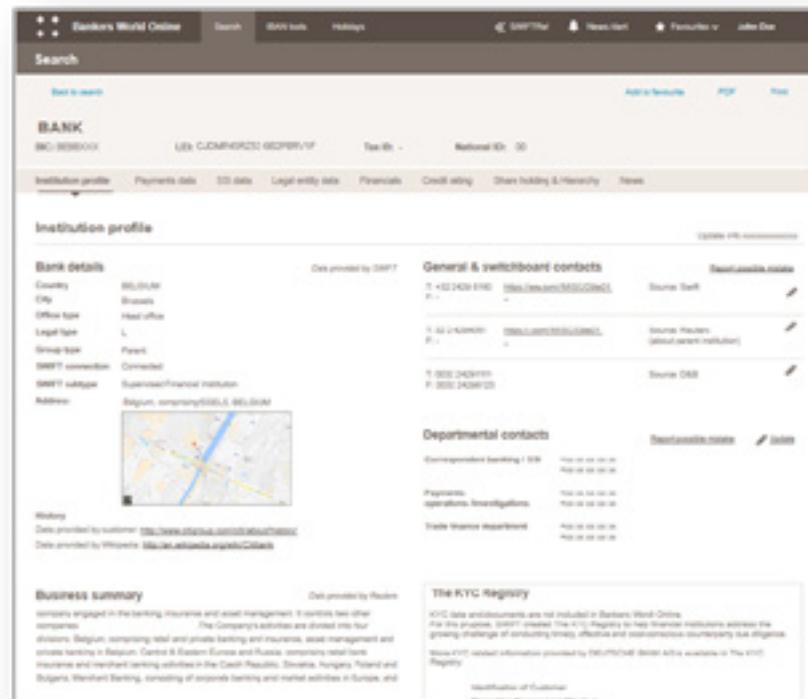Group Treasurer, Vetropack

Bankers World Online

Your online query tool for the full SWIFTRef database and more

"

SWIFTRef's Bankers World Online is a true state-of-the-art application providing us with absolutely all the information we need about our correspondents right at our fingertips.

Walfried Lemerz,
Head of Payment Services, Raiffeisen Bank International

Source: Samples of Bankers World Online.
Now also linked to The KYC Registry to allow you to explore due diligence information in more detail.

SWIFT is the ISO Registration Authority for BIC and IBAN formats; Prime Issuer of the LEI

Our strategic partnerships

We are proud to count on our strategic partners to help us provide the global financial community with the highest standards of SWIFTRef data quality and completeness.

SWIFTRef is the official provider and operator of EBA's EURO1/ STEP1 Directory

SWIFTRef is the official providor of directory services to Payments UK

SWIFTRef Business Applications

Application and service providers worldwide have adopted our SWIFTRef solutions and technical specifications to facilitate smooth integration with your in-house systems.

For more details about SWIFTRef Business Applications and how to join the programme, please visit www.swift.com/swiftref

About SWIFT

SWIFT is a global member-owned cooperative and the world's leading provider of secure financial messaging services.

We provide our community with a platform for messaging, standards for communicating and we offer products and services to facilitate access and integration; identification, analysis and financial crime compliance.

Our messaging platform, products and services connect more than 11,000 banking and securities organisations, market infrastructures and corporate customers in more than 200 countries and territories, enabling them to communicate securely and exchange standardised financial messages in a reliable way.

As their trusted provider, we facilitate global and local financial flows, support trade and commerce all around the world; we relentlessly pursue operational excellence and continually seek ways to lower costs, reduce risks and eliminate operational inefficiencies.

Headquartered in Belgium, SWIFT's international governance and oversight reinforces the neutral, global character of its cooperative structure. SWIFT's global office network ensures an active presence in all the major financial centres.

For more information about SWIFT, visit www.swift.com

About SWIFTRef

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Join us at industry events: https://www.swift.com/events and participate in our webinars: www.swift.com/webinars

Further questions
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