

Structured address in payments: the new rules in force from November 2026



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Structured address in payments: the new rules in force from November 2026

On 22 November 2025, all financial institutions successfully completed the transition of messaging from **MT** format to **ISO 20022 XML** format for all international payments in the SWIFT circuit. This important change has made it possible to improve interbank operations, increase the fluidity and speed of payments, strengthen the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing by providing a universal standard of payment files.

The international standard ISO 20022 also aims to make payment data increasingly explicit and structured.

To this end, from November 2026 new rules will be introduced that will define the methods of transmission of data relating **to the address of the payer and the payee** and which will be applied by the main market infrastructures that use the ISO standard (e.g. TARGET2, CHAPS, EBA STEP2, SWIFT), with consequent impacts also on the CBI XML transfer standards.

The next key deadline is therefore **15 November 2026**, the date from which for **all international payments (FinPlus/CBPR+), RTGS (urgent/High Value Payments settled through Target2 and EBA EURO1), SEPA Credit Transfer (SCT), SEPA INST and SDD collections, if an address is indicated (even if optional) then it must be reported by populating the various detail fields provided for by the XML standard, with a minimum of Town Name and Country (Structured Address or Semi-Structured Address)**. Otherwise, the instructions given **will be** rejected by the network.



From 15 November 2026, regardless of the channel used, payment (eg SCT) and collection orders (SDD) must be generated by indicating the addresses in **Structured or Semi-Structured mode**.

Index

- 01 When do I need to provide the address in the payment instructions?
- 02 In which country is the Beneficiary's address required?
- 03 How is the address structured and what will change from November 2026?
- 04 What actions should be taken if you use the myhub, BNL Business e-banking or CBI passivo channels?
- 05 What actions should I take if I send a paper order or a certified email?
- 06 What actions should be taken if using BNP Paribas' international channels (Connexis, Swiftnet, EBICS)?
- 07 In summary, what are the actions to be taken?
- 08 Summary of the available standard and address data required according to the new rules that will come into force from November 2026



01 When do I need to provide the address in the payment instructions?

The need to indicate the addresses of the payer and payee varies according to the type of **payment flow** and the **country of destination** of the payment: in particular, for a payment, the country where the current account to be credited is held counts, regardless of whether the beneficiary's registered office is in a different state. The following table illustrates when an address is required:

POSTAL ADDRESS: IN WHICH CASE IS IT REQUIRED?

The requirement to provide an address depends on the type of payment and the counterparties involved

Today, the counterparty's address is MANDATORY in a limited number of cases. These rules are not new. The change as of November 2026 is that when an address is present, **it must be in the structured or semi-structured (hybrid) format**.

TYPE OF PAYMENT	DEBTOR ADDRESS	BENEFICIARY ADDRESS (CREDITOR)
International payments or settled through RTGS (i.e. Target2)	Mandatory if towards a beneficiary or a currency out of EEA* (UE Reg. 2023/1113). Always provided by BNP Paribas	Mandatory if required by Local Regulation, e.g. Canada (cf. BNP Paribas Currency Guide) Recommended if the payment is not done between two Country in EEA* or in a currency not EEA**
SCT and SCT Inst	Mandatory if towards a beneficiary inside SEPA, but not in the EEA*** (UE Reg. 2023/1113). Always provided by BNP Paribas	Optional
SDD	Mandatory if SEPA debtor bank is outside the EEA*** Optional in all the other cases	Optional

Provided by BNP Paribas

Provided by client

* EEA – European Economic Area : 27 countries of the UE, Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland
 ** EEA currencies different from EURO: CHF, CZK, DKK, HUF, ISK, NOK, PLN, RON, SEK
 *** SEPA Countries outside the EEA : Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Switzerland, United Kingdom + other small territories dependent on SEPA countries

As for payment debtors (green section), the personal data and address are automatically retrieved by the bank from internal systems. Therefore, no action is required from who submit the payment.

As for the beneficiary of the payment, or the debtor in the case of SDD collections (red section), it is the person who submits the payment or collection who has the burden of filling in the information relating to the counterparty's address within the order:

- International or RTGS bank transfers: the beneficiary address is always recommended or mandatory if required by local law (see paragraph below).
- SCT and SCT Inst: The payee address is optional. However, banks in some countries, such as Switzerland, are beginning to require it as mandatory. Therefore, it is suggested to indicate at least "City" and "Country" in the dedicated XML fields (Semi-Structured Address) in the case of a foreign IBAN.
- SDD: the debtor's address becomes mandatory if the debtor's bank is located outside the European Economic Area. Therefore, it is suggested to indicate at least "City" and "Country" structured in the case of a foreign IBAN.

02 In which country is the Beneficiary's address required?

The presence of the address is mainly required in international payment transactions, where the risk of errors or non-compliance with regulations is greater. The recipient's address is currently mandatory for some countries (e.g. Canada, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, etc.) and is recommended in other cases.

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR COUNTERPARTY ADDRESSES

For the list of countries requiring details of the counterparty's address, please refer to BNP Paribas' Cash Management website: [here](#) (*List of countries requiring the address of the counterparty*).

This list is subject to updates as additional jurisdictions could introduce mandatory requirements for the address of the creditor.

INTERNATIONAL PAYMENT GUIDELINES

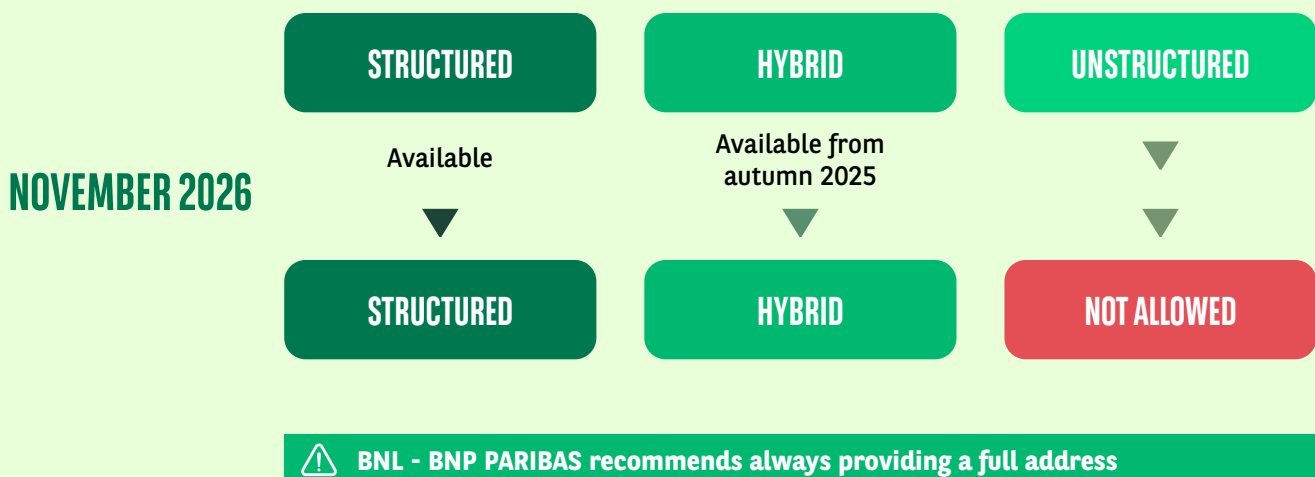
The BNP Paribas Group's Currency Guide, available at the following link [BNP Paribas online Currency Guide](#), contains practical guidelines for formatting your international payment instructions in over 130 currencies.

03 How is the address structured and what will change from November 2026?

- Until November 2026: structured, semi-structured and unstructured formats are all accepted in xml interbanking messages
- **From November 15, 2026: Unstructured addresses will be rejected**

STRUCTURED ADDRESS

The following options are applicable to international payments and SEPA payments and collections (SCT, SCT INST, SDD)



The general rules for formatting a structured or semi-structured (hybrid) address are mainly based on the scheme of pain.001 ISO 20022 with slight changes based on the standard used for instructions.

next page >

EXAMPLE BASED ON VERSION 001 V.2019* - Rules valid for all payment types

OPTION STRUCTURED

STRUCTURED DATA

Department	<Dept>	
Sub Department	<SubDept>	
Street Name	<StrtNm>	
Building Number	<BldgNb>	
Building Name	<BldgNm>	
Floor	<Flr>	
Post Box	<PstBx>	
Room	<Room>	
Post Code	<PstCd>	
Town Name	<TwnNm>	> OPTION HYBRIDE
Town Location Name	<TwnLctnNm>	
District Name	<DstrctNm>	
Country Sub Division	<CtrySubDvsn>	
Country	<Ctry>	> OPTION HYBRIDE

OPTION UNSTRUCTURED

UNSTRUCTURED DATA

Address – Line 1	<AdrLine>	> OPTION HYBRIDE
Address – Line 2	<AdrLine>	

*the example is based on version 9 of the ISO, the latest available

XML ISO 20022 SPECIFICITIES - PAIN 001 V.2019*

Version 2019 (named v9) includes 14 structured fields. In the previous version these structured elements are: 8 inside v3 and 6 inside v2. In any case the two mandatory fields Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry> are present in both versions.

*the example is based on version 9 of the ISO, the latest available

> STRUCTURED OPTION

All the elements are indicated in a dedicated field, with at least Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry>

> HYBRID OPTION OR SEMI-STRUCTURED

- Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry> are mandatory
- All the other elements could be provided in the dedicated structured fields or in unstructured fields of the generic Address line field <AdrLine> (2*70 characters)
- It is recommended to avoid duplication in the content between structured and unstructured fields

CBI SPECIFICITIES - XML CBI SCT

The Postal Address is mandatory if:

- Service level is SEPA and the beneficiary IBAN is different from IT (Italy)
- Service level is URGP (urgent)

> STRUCTURED OPTION

All the elements are indicated in a dedicated field, with at least Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry>

> HYBRID OPTION OR SEMI-STRUCTURED

- Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry> are mandatory
- All the other elements could be provided in the dedicated structured fields or in unstructured fields of the generic Address line field <AdrLine> (2*70 characters)
- It is recommended to avoid duplication in the content between structured and unstructured fields

next page >

CBI SPECIFICITIES - XML CBI CROSS BORDER

If the BIC or the BEL is not provided, the following fields of the Postal Address become mandatory > ref. Structured option

> STRUCTURED OPTION

All the elements are indicated in a dedicated field, with at least Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry>

> HYBRID OPTION OR SEMI-STRUCTURED

- Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry> are mandatory
- All the other elements could be provided in the dedicated structured fields or in unstructured fields of the generic Address line field <AdrLine> (2*70 characters)
- It is recommended to avoid duplication in the content between structured and unstructured fields

CBI SPECIFICITIES - XML CBI SDD

The debtor's address becomes mandatory for any SDD to a non-IT IBAN

> STRUCTURED OPTION

All the elements are indicated in a dedicated field, with at least Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry>

> HYBRID OPTION OR SEMI-STRUCTURED

- Town Name <TwnNm> and Country <Ctry> are mandatory
- All the other elements could be provided in the dedicated structured fields or in unstructured fields of the generic Address line field <AdrLine> (2*70 characters)
- It is recommended to avoid duplication in the content between structured and unstructured fields

For ISO and CBI standards, you can refer to the standards within the pages published by the EPC ([European Payments Council](#)) and the CBI ([CBI - Standard](#)) respectively.

SOME EXAMPLES OF STRUCTURED AND HYBRID ADDRESS

Structured address correct

```
Nm>ALAIN DUPONT</Nm>
<PstlAdr>
  <Strt>Rue de France</StrtNm>
  <BldgNb>23</BldgNb>
  <PstCd>1000</PstCd>
  <TwnNm>Brussel</TwnNm>
  <Ctry>BE</Ctry>
</PstlAdr>
```

Hybrid address correct

```
Nm>ALAIN DUPONT</Nm>
<PstlAdr>
  <PstCd>1000</PstCd>
  <TwnNm>Brussel</TwnNm>
  <Ctry>BE</Ctry>
  <AdrLine>Rue de France 23</AdrLine>
</PstlAdr>
```

- The structured address is based on one or more address elements in a specific and structured field, with the minimum of **City Name <TwnNm>** and **Country <Ctry>** (ISO 2-letter country coding) **mandatory**;
- Semi-structured or hybrid address allows you to combine address information into structured and unstructured fields. According to the new rules, the **City Name <TwnNm>** and **Country <Ctry>** (**2-letter ISO country coding**) become mandatory, must be structured and up to a maximum of two address lines <AdrLine> are allowed.
- In cases where the Ultimate Debtor/Ultimate Creditor (*Ultimate Debtor/Ultimate Creditor*) is conveyed in the xml with the indication of the address, the same structuring rules must be followed.
- In cases where an address is conveyed in the Initiating Party tag (usually used to indicate Banks without BIC), the same structuring rules must be followed.

⚠ Some countries may impose additional formatting rules or require extra details, such as zip codes or sub-country division. Always check the address requirements for the destination country to ensure to be compliant and avoid processing delays.

In addition to the Currency Guide, country-specific address requirements can be found on the Swift website: [Swift Payments Market Practice Group document centre](#) | [Swift](#).

⚠ The address fields are formally controlled. However, it is not excluded that inconsistent data may slow down or compromise the execution of the payment, especially on the beneficiary's bank side.

04 What actions should be taken if you use the myhub, BNL Business e-banking or CBI passivo channels?

CBI XML (SCT/INST/INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS)

Please note that on the website www.cbi-org.eu under the Upcoming Releases page are available the updated standards. For transfers via **CBI XML**, it should be remembered that:

- For SEPA payments towards Italian IBANs, the presence of the beneficiary's address is optional. However, in case an address is registered, then you must enter at least the structured fields "City" and "Country".
- For SEPA payments with a beneficiary Iban other than IT (including those of San Marino), the rules already in place apply, which provide for at least the mandatory structured fields "City" and "Country" in the beneficiary's address.
- For international payments, the beneficiary address is required according to the rules of the destination country (ref. Currency Guide). If the address is mandatory or recommended, you must enter at least the structured beneficiary fields "City" and "Country".

⚠ SCT and International payments sent before November 15, 2026 and with an execution date after November 15, 2026 will have to comply with the new address requirements. If you do not comply with the new rules, transactions will be rejected.

⚠ The PE-EF standard (also called BONI PE) can no longer be used because it does not allow address data to be conveyed in a structured way. This standard will therefore be decommissioned by BNL as already happened in the Italian interbank circuit since March 2023.

PC - EF STANDARD (ALSO CALLED BONI PC) WHICH IS CONVERTED INTO XML THROUGH THE CONVERTER SERVICE ACTIVE ON THE BNL CHANNEL (MYHUB, BNL BUSINESS E-BANKING)

Please note that if you use the BONI PC format to issue SCT payments, the transfer instructions must not contain the payee address. As a result of the conversion, all payments will be processed without a beneficiary address.

⚠ Transfers to San Marino IBANs are non-EEA, so they must be excluded from the BONI-PC conversion service and possibly sent via data entry on the front-end of the electronic channel.

SEPA DIRECT DEBITS (SDD COLLECTIONS)

The **debtor's address** is a mandatory requirement for SEPA Direct Debit (SDD) transactions when:

- The debtor's bank is located outside the EEA.
- The creditor operates through a non-EEA bank, regardless of the country in which the debtor's account is rooted.

EXAMPLE:

The service company "Energia Italia SPA"

Mario Rossi signs an SDD mandate with the company "Energia Italia SPA" to debit monthly payments for electricity services to his bank account at a bank located in the United Kingdom (UK).

As the UK is a non-EEA country, the address of the debtor, Mario Rossi, must be included in the SDD instruction.

It should be noted that the provisions towards San Marino are to be understood as non-EEA, and therefore orders must be placed indicating the minimum mandatory address information relating to the debtor's address as required in the transfer routes used.

next page >

Therefore, the **debtor's address**, for instructed with **the CBI XML standard, from 15 November 2026** becomes a mandatory requirement for all SEPA Direct Debit (SDD) transactions initiated towards **debtor IBAN other than IT**.

It is therefore necessary to update your personal data to allow the correct processing of collections.

For all other cases, the debtor/creditor address remains optional, but if it is fed, it must comply with the structure of the structured or semi-structured (hybrid) address, to avoid the rejection of the transaction.

⚠ SDD collections submitted before 15 November 2026 and with a deadline after 15 November 2026 will have to comply with the new address requirements. If you do not comply with the new rules, transactions will be rejected.

05 What actions should I take if I send a paper order or a certified email?

In the case orders instructed by paper/letter or by certified e-mail (PEC), it is required to indicate in the payment instruction, in a clear and unambiguous way, the data of the beneficiary address, if any.

In particular, if you do not use the bank form, which will be duly updated, you are required to clearly and distinctly indicate at least the data relating to the City and Country of the beneficiary's address.

EXAMPLE:

Creditor/Beneficiary name: Foreign Company SA

Beneficiary Address: n. 5 street 12345 Building Flower, stage 1

Town/City: New York

Country: US



06 What actions should be taken if using BNP Paribas' international channels (Connexis, Swiftnet, EBICS)?

IMPORT MT101

- The MT101 format does not fully support structured address fields. BNL and BNPP Paribas strongly recommend migrating to pain.001 as soon as possible, ideally before November 15, 2026. However, this format can still be accepted by using **the tag 50F field** to indicate the debtor's address. Indication of the address is optional. However, if it is indicated, you must ensure that it includes the Country Code (2 characters) and the Name of the City as structured elements in line 3. This is the only way to support the transmission of semi-structured addresses.
- When filling in field **59F** to indicate the **beneficiary** address, make sure that it includes the Country Code (2 characters) and the Name of the City as structured elements in line 3. This is the only way to support the transmission of semi-structured addresses.

Subfield 1 'Party Identifier'	/(Account) or (Code)(Country Code)(Identifier)
Subfield 2 'Name & Address'	1/Name of the ordering customer 2/Address details 3/Country code/Town

EXAMPLE OF A SEMI-STRUCTURED POSTAL ADDRESS IN THE MT101 59 FIELD (OPTION F):

:59F:/BE80001216371411

1/John Doe

2/Viale Garibaldi 1

3 / EN / Rome , 00153

Dove:

1/ = Name (/John Doe)

2/ = Address line (Viale Garibaldi 1)

3/ = Country Code (IT) / City Name (Rome) , and Postal Code (00153)

 **The same structure must also be used for field 50F to indicate the debtor address.**

If information is added after the City Name, it must be separated by a **comma**.

If no payee address is provided, the Field 59 *No Letter Option* may apply. In this case, the first two lines will be processed only as the name of the payee, with no possibility to isolate the address.

07 In summary, what are the actions to be taken?

Considering that from November 2026, BNL and BNP Paribas will no longer process payments containing fully unstructured counterparty addresses, we ask you to check that **all your payment instructions include addresses in semi-structured or fully structured format**.

Considering the complexity of the activities related to this important news, we kindly ask you to organize yourselves in order to:

- Prepare your ERP, treasury and HR systems to support semi-structured or fully structured address formats in all XML payment instructions according to the rules stated above.
- **Review the address data currently stored in your databases**, enriching it in case of missing data and so that it can be managed in the XML generated by the system at least with structured Country Code and City Name. If your databases do not currently include the City Name and Country Code for the beneficiaries, we invite you to contact the relevant counterparties as soon as possible to collect this information.
- If only the country is structured in the address, the name of the city must also be specified in the dedicated field and vice versa. Please note: Terms such as *“not provided”* or *“unknown”* in the Name of City field do not generate rejection in the payment, but may result in processing delays and additional investigation costs, or even rejection by the beneficiary banks themselves.
- **Ensure that all payment instructions**, including **future-dated orders, standing orders, and orders**, if sent before the November 15, 2026 dead line and settled after the date, **are actually updated** to the new rules and therefore contain structured or semi-structured (hybrid) address formats. If you do not comply with the new rules, transactions will be declined.

In the event that compliance with this requirement cannot be guaranteed, please avoid sending sensitive payments close to this date, especially if sent before the deadline and with a later execution or expiration date.

- Ensure that by November 15 (payment value date), all addresses provided use the fully structured or hybrid format to:
 - » Beneficiary
 - » Ultimate Beneficiary/Creditor
 - » Debtor (this information is only required for accounts held with third-party banks not belonging to the BNP Paribas group: in case of use of MT101 with a third-party bank, this information must be reported in field 50F in the same way as described in field 59F, relating to the beneficiary)
 - » Ultimate Debtor/Ultimate Creditor

And the institutions involved in the payment chain (Initiating Party), if a BIC is not available.



08 Summary of the available standard and address data required according to the new rules that will come into force from November 2026

Below is a summary of the rules on the address to be applied. However, please always refer to what is published on the CBI website and in SWIFT ISO 20022.

CHANNEL	STANDARD	TYPE OF PAYMENT	PRESENCE OF BENEFICIARY ADDRESS OR DEBTOR ADDRESS IN CASE OF SDD	ACTION ON CLIENT
myhub/Bway CBI Passivo (including sending via CSE, Web services, H2H)	vCBI v.00.04.01	DOMESTIC SCT	Optional	If present, at least Country and Town Name are mandatory in structured field
	vCBI v.00.04.01	INTERNATIONAL SCT, EURO RTGS (DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL)	CBI asks for at least Country and Town Name in structured fields	Indicate at least Country and Town Name as mandatory in structured fields
	vCBI v.00.01.01	INTERNATIONAL PAYMENT	Mandatory, with Country and Town Name, in the case no data present in the field Id/OrgId/BICOrBEI	Indicate at least Country and Town Name as mandatory in structured fields
	XMLvCBI	DOMESTIC SCT	Optional	If present, at least Country and Town Name are mandatory in structured field
	XMLvCBI	INTERNATIONAL SDD (with IBAN different from IT)	Debtor address compulsorily present, with the minimum data of City and Country in structured fields	Indicate at least Country and Town Name as mandatory in structured fields
	ISO XML	DOMESTIC SCT	Optional	If present, at least Country and Town Name are mandatory in structured field
	ISO XML	INTERNATIONAL SDD (Non-EEA)	Obligatory address if the debtor's and/or creditor's bank is located in a non-EEA country	Indicate at least Country and Town Name as mandatory in structured fields
	BONI PC CONVERTER	DOMESTIC SCT	Optional	Do not fill in the address
International Channels	ISO XMLv3 / v9	SCT (DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL), EURO RTGS (DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL), INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS	Optional	If present, at least Country and Town name are mandatory in structured field
	vCBI v.00.04.01	DOMESTIC SCT	Optional	If present, at least Country and Town name are mandatory in structured field
	vCBI v.00.04.01	INTERNATIONAL SCT, EURO RTGS (DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL)	Optional	If present, at least Country and Town name are mandatory in structured field
	vCBI v.00.01.01	INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS	Mandatory present, with the City and Country subfields, in case the Id/OrgId/BICOrBEI field is not valued	Indicate at least Country and Town Name as mandatory in structured fields
	MT101	SCT (DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL)	n/a	n/a
	MT101	EURO RTGS (DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL)	Optional	If present, option 59F is mandatory for beneficiary data
	MT101	INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS	Optional but with limited usage of the standard	If present, option 59F is mandatory for beneficiary data

N.B Data input: in all channels the manual data entry guides the user in entering the mandatory address data