



Peppol International (PINT) Billing A-NZ Service Provider Engagement

- What is the purpose of this engagement?
- What are the changes between the current and new PINT A-NZ specifications?
- What are the impacts of these changes?
- What is the migration plan to support implementation?

Purpose

This engagement with Australian and New Zealand Peppol service providers (A-NZ SPs) intends to share information and seek feedback about the migration from the current [A-NZ Peppol Business Interoperability Specifications \(BIS\) 3.0 extensions](#) to the [PINT A-NZ Billing & Self-billing BIS](#).

For brevity in this document,

- the current [A-NZ Peppol BIS 3.0 extensions](#) will be referred to as 'current specifications',
- the [PINT A-NZ Billing & Self-billing BIS](#) will be referred to as 'PINT A-NZ specifications',
- the [Document Type Identifier Schemes](#) 'busdox-docid-qns' and 'peppol-doctype-wildcard' will be referred to as 'busdox scheme' and 'wildcard scheme' respectively,
- 'invoice' should be taken to also apply to credit note and to self-billing transactions.

Note: PINT specifications are also referred to as 'specialisations' / 'specializations', as they specialise a common 'base' PINT specification.

Background

The [PINT A-NZ specifications](#) were issued by OpenPeppol for [member review](#) on 18-Sep-23 and, subject to review and approvals, are expected to be published in December 2023.

Once published, the Australian and New Zealand Peppol Authorities (A-NZ PAs) plan to migrate from the current specifications used in the A-NZ jurisdictions to the PINT A-NZ specifications.

The change will be formalised by the A-NZ PAs updating their Peppol Authority Specific Requirements (PASRs), supported by migration plans. The PINT A-NZ specifications will become the specifications available in A-NZ, and, after migration is complete, the current specifications will no longer be available. Support for Self-billing, using the PINT A-NZ Self-billing specification, will remain optional.

To inform the changes to the PASRs and the supporting migration plans, the A-NZ PAs are requesting [feedback](#) from A-NZ SPs about the timeframe for planned migration to the PINT A-NZ specifications.

Changes between the current and PINT A-NZ specifications

The draft PINT A-NZ specifications were [issued for member review](#) by OpenPeppol on 18-Sep-23. Feedback about the specifications is due by 10-Nov-23, and should be provided via OpenPeppol using the instructions and template on the [2023.09.18 PINT A-NZ specifications v0.9](#) Confluence page.

To minimise impacts and complexity of migration, the PINT A-NZ specifications have been drafted to closely align with the current specifications – they share the same data model and semantic meanings, and the business rules are functionally the same.

However, SPs should be aware of the following changes from the current specifications:

1. New business process and specification identifier values.
2. Support for a new document type identifier scheme, the wildcard scheme, introduced through the [Peppol Policy for use of Identifiers](#), in addition to the existing 'busdox' scheme.
3. Business Rules – new rule identifiers, some rationalisation and removal of redundant rules, removal of rules that currently have a 'warning' severity.
4. The specifications will be published on OpenPeppol's website.

1. New identifier values

The draft [PINT A-NZ specifications](#) specify new values for the business process type (cac:ProfileID; [ibt-023](#)) and specification identifier (cac:CustomizationID; [ibt-024](#)), as shown in the table below.

Table 1: PINT A-NZ Identifiers

Specification	Business process type	Specification identifier
PINT A-NZ Billing	urn:peppol:bis:billing	urn:peppol:pint:billing-1@aunz-1
PINT A-NZ Self-billing	urn:peppol:bis:selfbilling	urn:peppol:pint:selfbilling-1@aunz-1

2. Wildcard scheme

A new document type identifier scheme, known as the wildcard scheme, is defined in the [Peppol Policy for use of Identifiers](#) and is utilised for PINT specifications. As well as allowing clear identification of how PINT specifications are related, the new scheme simplifies and reduces receiving capabilities for entities that need to exchange documents across domains.

The updated Peppol policy comes into effect across the network on 1-Jan-24 (as per [OpenPeppol eDelivery Specifications](#)); however, Corner 1 service/software providers will only need to change 'capability lookup' functions when they are ready to send PINT documents.

Note:

- Invoice senders are required to support the wildcard scheme, in addition to the busdox scheme, when performing SMP capability lookups.
- Invoice receivers are not required to publish a receiving capability using the wildcard scheme.

3. Business rule name changes & removal of warnings

The PINT A-NZ specifications include business rules that can be tested using the validation artefacts provided with the specifications. While the rules remain functionally the same as the current specifications, there are some differences to be aware of:

- the rule identifiers (IDs) have changed,
- several of the rules have been rationalised or reconfigured,
- some redundant rules have been removed, and
- rules in the current specifications with a severity of 'warning' have been removed, as these add little value due to the fact they can be ignored and can be a source of contention.

To assist service providers with implementing PINT A-NZ specifications, a [rule cross reference spreadsheet](#) has been provided, showing the relationships between the rules in the current A-NZ specification and those in the draft PINT A-NZ specification.

The PINT A-NZ rules are grouped into two rule sets.

- [Shared rules](#) are identical across all PINT specifications for the same process i.e., all jurisdictional PINT Billing specifications use the same Shared rules, and similarly all PINT Self-billing specifications use the same Shared rules.
 - Shared rule IDs are structured ibr-gg-nnn, where 'gg' is an optional group such as 'cl' for code list
- [Jurisdictional 'Aligned' rules](#) include rules that are either:
 - a. identical across jurisdictional PINT specifications that choose to use the rule
 - indicated by rule ID aligned-ibrp-gg-nnn ('ibrp' indicates the rule is from a pool of rules, used to maximise alignment across PINT specifications)
 - b. similar across jurisdictional PINT specifications that use the rule, whereby the structure and intent of the rule is the same, but localised data checks might be different e.g., 'VAT' or 'GST'
 - indicated by rule ID aligned-ibrp-gg-nnn-aunz
 - c. unique to the jurisdictional specification e.g., requiring that A-NZ sellers must include their ABN or NZBN
 - indicated by rule ID aligned-ibr-gg-nnn-aunz

4. New publication site

The PINT A-NZ specifications will be published on an OpenPeppol website and will include separate pages for different specification components in a similar way to the current [BIS Billing 3.0 specification](#).

The new location and format provide a better user experience, with the ability to drill down via semantic or syntax definitions and easily navigate between related objects. All PINT specifications across jurisdictions will use the same documentation format.

Validation artefacts and examples are available via the 'Download resources' link on each specification's home page.

In this document, hyperlinks to the PINT A-NZ specifications link to the draft specifications currently out for review. The PINT A-NZ specifications will be published to a different location.

Impacts when implementing PINT A-NZ

C3/C4 Software and Service Providers ('receivers')

Depending on commercial arrangements, e.g., where an Access Point provider offers value-add services, activities might be undertaken by any/all of the receiving Access Point (C3), end-user (C4) digital service or software provider, receiving/processing solution, or other 3rd party delegate.

Receivers will need to:

1. Consider receiving capability choices for each/all end-users:
 - at a minimum, a receiving capability will need to be published for end-users that will allow them to receive a PINT A-NZ invoice
 - software and service providers will need to determine whether end-users will be able to publish a receiving capability that will enable invoices from other jurisdictions to be received
 - end-user decisions regarding their receiving capabilities will depend on their requirements and the capabilities of their software and processes
 - any/all of the following receiving capabilities will allow end-users to receive PINT A-NZ invoices
 - pint:billing-1@aunz-1 (busdox scheme)
 - pint:billing-1@aunz-1* (wildcard scheme)
 - pint:billing-1* (wildcard scheme)
 - Noting:
 - end-users may have more than one receiving capability that supports the receipt of PINT A-NZ invoices
 - shorthand versions of the receiving capabilities have been shown, and full identifiers will need to be used (including namespace etc.) as per the [Peppol Policy for use of Identifiers](#)
2. Update SMP records:
 - Add PINT receiving capabilities as appropriate
 - Remove current A-NZ receiving capabilities (after migration is complete across A-NZ)
3. For domestic invoicing there should be no differences for end-users receiving documents prepared with PINT A-NZ specifications as compared with the current A-NZ specification.
4. If end-users choose to support cross-border capability:
 - End-users may receive PINT Billing/Self-billing documents from other jurisdictions by publishing a pint:billing-1* or pint:selfbilling-1* wildcard receiving capability.
 - The cross-border invoices may contain data that is not supported within the PINT A-NZ specification; however, when a cross-border invoice is received, there would be no obligation to be able to handle the overseas jurisdictional data if no specific receiving capability for the jurisdiction has been published
 - Refer to [PINT compliance](#) for further information about the expectations of senders and receivers regarding the relationship between published receiving capabilities and the invoice received.
 - Business and system processing impacts would need to be considered. E.g., end-users may need to consider implications related to fraud, security, supplier verification, business processes such as approvals etc.

C1/C2 Software and Service Providers ('senders')

Depending on commercial arrangements, e.g., where an Access Point provider offers value-add services, activities might be undertaken by any/all of the sending Access Point (C2), end-user (C1) digital service or software provider, sending solution, or other 3rd party delegate.

Senders will need to:

1. Update identifiers used in the payload content and Standard Business Document Header (SBDH) (PINT A-NZ business process type and specification identifier)
2. Implement an updated service discovery (receiving capability lookup) function including both the busdox and wildcard schemes:
 - Check for an 'exact match' receiving capability, using the busdox scheme first
 - If no match, then check for a wildcard match as per the [Peppol Policy for use of Identifiers](#):
 - pint:billing-1@aunz-1* and then, if no match,
 - pint:billing-1*

An asterisk '' is the 'wildcard' character*

Note – the above example uses shorthand versions of the receiving capabilities, and full identifiers will need to be used (e.g., including namespace etc.). A similar lookup process needs to be implemented for both the Billing invoice and credit note, and Self-billing (pint:selfbilling-1) invoice and credit note, when sending those documents.

Other considerations for Peppol Service Providers

- Engage with other service and software providers in the ecosystem such as C1/C4 DSP partners.
- Consider any contractual and integration implications.
- Consider supporting cross-border capabilities (sending & receiving of international invoices) in the future (noting there is no requirement to provide such services).

Draft Migration Plan

Migration Phases

The Peppol migration process includes three phases - Get Ready, Phase In/Implementation, and Phase Out. The table below outlines the activities expected to be completed within each phase.

However, this engagement seeks feedback from service providers to identify other impacts and activities.

Table 2: PINT A-NZ migration phases

PINT A-NZ published→	A-NZ PASRs published→	A-NZ PASRs effective→	Current specs removed→
Phase	Get Ready	Phase In/ Implementation	Phase Out ⁴
Current specifications	Mandatory	Mandatory	Deprecated
PINT A-NZ specifications	Optional	Optional	Mandatory
Overview	All parties review changes and prepare for implementation activities.	Senders build PINT A-NZ lookup and send capability. Receivers implement and publish PINT A-NZ receive capability.	Senders should support PINT A-NZ ³ Receivers must support PINT A-NZ
Software & Service Provider Activities	Senders and Receivers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PINT A-NZ specs Wildcard scheme Capability lookup Prepare for implementation 	Senders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add Wildcard lookup support Add ability to send PINT A-NZ Receivers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add ability to receive & process PINT A-NZ Add PINT A-NZ to SMP 	At end of phase: Senders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove capabilities to send current A-NZ Receivers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove current A-NZ from SMP
Send	Current specifications	Current specifications	PINT A-NZ
SMP Registration ¹	Current specifications	Current specifications PINT A-NZ ²	PINT A-NZ Current specifications ³

Notes

1. An SMP registration of 'PINT A-NZ' refers to a receiving capability using either a wildcard or busdox scheme that allows an end-user to receive a PINT A-NZ document.
2. During Phase In, the capability to receive a PINT A-NZ document is optional, but must be published by the end of Phase In.
3. During Phase Out, although PINT A-NZ will be the mandatory specification, existing receive capabilities for the current specifications should be retained to support flexible deployment by senders.
4. After Phase Out has completed, senders and receivers **must** support PINT-ANZ, and the current specifications are no longer available.

Proposed Migration Timeframes

The A-NZ PAs are seeking feedback on the proposed timeframes, to inform the updates to the PASRs.

The dates below are **proposed** considering several factors:

- The Peppol Internal Regulations require a minimum of 6 months for the Phase In/Implementation phase after publication of the PASRs.
- Allow sufficient time for all SPs and DSPs to implement, without penalising early adopters.
- Mandated date to be prior to a biannual release change window (May and November each year) to maximise the Phase-In/Implementation period while minimising SP effort in supporting the current specifications.
- Complete the migration as early as will allow reasonable implementation time, to allow the benefits to be realised as early as possible.
- The proposed migration plan includes a Phase Out period, which could be used as a buffer to allow flexibility in C1 deployment/transition, and to mitigate risks relating to continuity of service. This period has been kept reasonably short as PINT A-NZ specifications would be the mandated versions, and new receivers will likely only be able to receive PINT A-NZ documents.
- A check-in point has been included to assess the readiness of the A-NZ service providers.

Table 3: Proposed PINT A-NZ migration timeframes

Milestone	Phase	Proposed date
PINT A-NZ specifications published	Get Ready commences	December 2023 Expected, subject to review and approvals
A-NZ PASRs published	Phase In/Implementation commences	March/April 2024 Expected, subject to review and approvals
A-NZ SP check-in Informal confirmation by A-NZ SPs (C2/C3) to confirm they will have implemented and deployed by the end of the Phase In, i.e., build and test completed, and deployment completed or scheduled	6 weeks prior to Phase In/Implementation completion	4th October 2024 (t.b.c.) Service Provider feedback requested
A-NZ PASRs effective (PINT A-NZ to be used) C2/3 deployment complete and PINT receiving capabilities published for end-users	Phase Out commences (Implementation completed)	15th November 2024 (t.b.c.) Service Provider feedback requested
Current A-NZ specifications removed	No further use of current specifications	30th April 2025 (t.b.c.) Service Provider feedback requested

Questions for A-NZ Service Providers

A-NZ Service Providers are invited to provide feedback to the A-NZ PAs on the proposed migration plan and dates, and considering the following questions

Migration to PINT A-NZ specifications

1. Are there additional impacts not captured in this document that need to be considered?
2. Are there additional technical activities not captured that may impact on timeframes?
3. Regarding the migration timeframes:
 - a. What other considerations should be taken into account?
 - b. Assuming the dates shown for publication of the PINT A-NZ specifications (December 2023) and A-NZ PASRs, (March/April 2024) is there sufficient time for the Phase In/Implementation phase?
 - c. Is there sufficient time for Phase Out?
4. Is there any additional support required from OpenPeppol or A-NZ PAs during the planned migration period?

Use of busdox and/or wildcard receiving capabilities

Currently, the A-NZ PAs are not proposing to mandate that receivers publish any particular receiving capabilities under PINT (busdox or wildcard schemes). However, the A-NZ Peppol SP community may recommend a consistent approach to improve the experience for various stakeholders.

For example, it could be recommended that all end-users publish:

- either pint:billing-1@aunz-1 (busdox scheme) and/or pint:billing-1@aunz-1* (wildcard scheme) even if they will also publish pint:billing-1* (wildcard scheme); this would potentially maximise understanding of end-users when using Peppol Directory to manually lookup their trading partner capabilities, and to be overt that the receiver can understand and process an A-NZ document.
 - pint:billing-1@aunz-1* (wildcard scheme); noting there are no plans to develop further specialisations of the PINT A-NZ specification, however, if any were to be developed, it would require no additional work for senders or receivers or publishing of receiving capabilities.
 - pint:billing-1@aunz-1 (busdox scheme); understanding that, regardless of such a practice note, all senders will still need to implement an updated service discovery (receiving capability lookup) function including both the busdox and wildcard schemes.
5. Should an A-NZ practice note be developed to recommend either a single default SMP registration, or a choice?

Note - This would be voluntary and does not change invoice senders' obligation to implement wildcard scheme lookup support.

Next steps

The A-NZ PAs will schedule a webinar in the coming weeks, to provide further information on what has been covered in this paper and allow an opportunity for SPs to provide feedback and raise any questions they may have.

In the meantime, any [feedback](#) on this paper can be provided to your relevant Peppol Authority:

The New Zealand Peppol Authority - support@nzpeppol.govt.nz

The Australian Peppol Authority - eInvoicing@ato.gov.au