

# FIRS Nigeria E-Invoicing Enablement for Enterprises

**Prepared by:** Softrust and Bluelight Systems

**Document Status:** Draft for Client Review

## 1. Executive Summary

1.1 Objective and scope

1.2 What the client gains on day one and month twelve

1.3 Solution options overview, fit for small, mid, and large enterprises

1.4 Why Softrust and Bluelight, proof of speed, safety, and compliance

<diagram: One-page solution landscape showing SmartAPI, BlueInvoice, Email Connector, BlueBox and FIRS MBS>

## 2. Product Suite Overview

2.1 SmartAPI, compliance-grade REST API for ERP and billing systems

- Purpose, key capabilities, typical integration patterns
- Supported methods of submission and response handling
- Where to find schemas and examples
- <BluelightSmartAPI> Technical summary to be inserted here

2.2 BlueInvoice, SaaS web invoicing application

- Create and manage invoices, customers, products, taxes, HS codes
- User roles, approvals, and audit history

2.3 Email Connector, process by sending invoice attachments to a unique address

- Accepted formats, acknowledgement, clearance notifications, return of received invoices

2.4 BlueBox, non-invasive capture during printing or batch drop from folders, ports, or network

- Zero change to legacy ERP, capture, transform, and submit automatically

<diagram: Product capability matrix by use case and client profile>

## 3. Regulatory Context and Compliance Assurance

3.1 FIRS MBS model, clearance workflow, legal artifacts

3.2 Conformance approach, versioning, and change absorption handled centrally

3.3 Evidence, QR code, signature, archival periods and retrieval

<diagram: Compliance lifecycle from invoice creation to clearance and archive>

## 4. Systems Requirements and Compatibility

### 4.1 Supported integration endpoints and formats

- REST JSON, XML, CSV, PDF, email, file drops, print capture
  - 4.2 ERP and billing system compatibility
  - SAP, Oracle, Microsoft Dynamics, Sage, custom in-house systems, others
  - 4.3 Network and hosting considerations
  - VPN or secure internet, mTLS, IP allowlists, proxy options
  - 4.4 Customer hosting requirements
  - Option to host SmartAPI components inside customer environment if required
  - Support for hosting within NG OPCO server when mandated
- <diagram: Reference integration topology with on-prem, cloud, and hybrid variants>

## 5. Security Architecture

### 5.1 Transport security, TLS 1.3, mTLS or OAuth 2.0

### 5.2 Authentication and authorization model, RBAC, least privilege

### 5.3 Data at rest encryption, keys, secrets, and certificate lifecycle

### 5.4 Non-repudiation, digital signatures, QR payload integrity

### 5.5 Logging, SIEM integration, intrusion detection, audit trails

<diagram: End-to-end security controls from client systems to FIRS and archive>

## 6. Data Mapping and Schema

### 6.1 Canonical data model accepted by SmartAPI

- Header, lines, amounts, taxes, TINs, HS codes, service codes
  - <BluelightSmartAPI> Canonical schema reference placeholder
  - 6.2 Mapping to FIRS MBS schema
  - Required fields, validation rules, error codes
  - 6.3 Format support
  - JSON preferred, XML and UBL variants by adapter, PDF metadata where applicable
  - 6.4 Resource library and reference data
  - Products to HS codes, customer TIN mapping to regulator, tax and service codes syncing to FIRS resources
  - Parenthetical example noted in inquiries, for Airtel and similar clients
- <diagram: Field mapping flow from client ERP to canonical schema to FIRS submission>

## 7. Integration Capabilities and Methods

### 7.1 SmartAPI integration

- Direct REST, webhooks, polling, idempotency, replay  
7.2 File and batch integration
- SFTP, secure object storage, checksum validation  
7.3 Email Connector flow
- Inbound address, accepted attachments, parsing and validation, acknowledgements, returned documents  
7.4 BlueBox print and folder capture
- Printer port hook, folder watcher, batch ingestion, rules engine  
7.5 Hybrid approaches and migration paths from legacy to API  
<diagram: Integration decision tree by client maturity and timeline>

## **8. Methods of Receipt Processing and Submission to FIRS**

8.1 Supported document types, invoices, credit notes, debit notes

8.2 Pre-checks and validation prior to submission

8.3 Submission channel selection and failover rules

8.4 Response handling

- Acknowledgement, accepted, rejected, pending, retries, replay queue  
8.5 Archival of payloads, receipts, signatures, and QR  
<diagram: Transaction sequence from receipt to FIRS response and archive>

## **9. Tracking, Monitoring, and Audit**

9.1 Real-time dashboards for Finance, IT, and Compliance

9.2 Status tracking, search, and filtering

9.3 Reconciliation jobs, daily and intraday, exception queues

9.4 Evidence bundle export, audit reports, regulator requests

<diagram: Dashboard mock including submission volume, clearance rates, rejects by reason, SLA tiles>

## **10. Onboarding Support**

10.1 Step-by-step onboarding plan

- Kickoff, environment setup, schema confirmation, connectivity, pilot run  
10.2 Dedicated technical support, channels, and SLAs during onboarding  
10.3 Testing and troubleshooting approach, guided rejects and correction workflows  
10.4 Client responsibilities and prerequisites checklist  
<diagram: Onboarding timeline swimlane across client, Softrust, Bluelight roles>

## **11. Delivery and Implementation Methodology**

11.1 Phased approach

- Discovery, solution blueprint, demo, build, SIT, UAT, deployment, go live, hypercare
- 11.2 Entry and exit criteria per phase
- 11.3 Cutover approach, rollback plan, stabilization
- 11.4 Documentation, runbooks, and handover to steady state
- <diagram: Gantt-style plan with milestones and decision gates>

## 12. Scope of Work

- 12.1 Requirements gathering and analysis
- 12.2 Solution design, architecture, integration patterns, security model
- 12.3 Development of integration services and adapters
- 12.4 Testing, unit, SIT, UAT, performance, security
- 12.5 Deployment and configuration across environments
- 12.6 Monitoring and management setup, dashboards and alerts
- 12.7 Training and knowledge transfer
- 12.8 Post-implementation support and maintenance
- <diagram: RACI view across the scope of work items>

## 13. Key Technical Requirements Coverage

- 13.1 APIs to generate IRN, QR codes, encryption artifacts
  - Provided via <BluelightSmartAPI>, reference endpoints and example payloads to be inserted
- 13.2 Resource library
  - HS code mapping, customer master with TIN linkage to regulator, tax and service code mapping to FIRS resources
- 13.3 Hosting and residency
  - Support for hosting within NG OPCO server when required, alternatives and controls for cloud or hybrid
- 13.4 Performance, throughput targets, and rate limits
- 13.5 High availability, RPO and RTO, disaster recovery
- <diagram: Technical compliance coverage checklist mapped to FIRS requirements>

## 14. Systems Requirements by Option

- 14.1 SmartAPI integration requirements
  - Network, auth, SDKs or sample code, logging expectations
- 14.2 BlueInvoice requirements
  - Browser support, identity and access, export and import features
- 14.3 Email Connector requirements
  - Allowed sender domains, attachment formats, size limits, DKIM or SPF if enforced
- 14.4 BlueBox requirements

- Supported printer ports, folder paths, OS compatibility, service account permissions  
<diagram: Compatibility matrix per option and environment type>

## **15. Risk Management Approach**

- 15.1 Risk identification, likelihood and impact scales
  - 15.2 Top risks and mitigations for onboarding and steady state
  - 15.3 Contingency playbooks, outage, rejection spike, certificate expiry
  - 15.4 Governance and escalation, PMO and steering cadence
- <diagram: Risk heat map and control coverage overlay>

## **16. Commercial Summary and Options**

- 16.1 One time services packages, Discovery, Pilot, Build and SIT, UAT, Cutover and Hypercare
  - 16.2 Subscription tiers for SmartAPI and add-ons
  - 16.3 Optional packs, CPI iFlows, PI templates, SFTP fallback, dedicated tenancy, enhanced DR, analytics
  - 16.4 Cost proposal provided in a separate commercial document
- <diagram: Commercial building blocks and tiering overview>

## **17. Support and SLA Overview**

- 17.1 Severity definitions and targets
  - 17.2 Availability objectives and maintenance windows
  - 17.3 Incident and problem management process
  - 17.4 Webhook retry and polling fallback commitments
  - 17.5 Reporting and quarterly service reviews
- <diagram: Incident timeline and service review loop>

## **18. Case Studies and References**

- 18.1 Relevant projects and outcomes
- 18.2 Contactable references, subject to client approval
- 18.3 Awards, certifications, and compliance attestations

## **19. Proposal Requirements Mapping**

- 19.1 Company profile
- 19.2 Project team and key personnel qualifications
- 19.3 Detailed project approach and methodology
- 19.4 High-level integration architecture diagram
- 19.5 Project plan, timeline, and milestones
- 19.6 Risk management approach

19.7 Case studies and references

19.8 Detailed cost proposal, licensing, implementation, support

- Provided as a separate annex  
<diagram: Requirements traceability matrix mapping client RFP items to this outline>

## **20. Appendices**

A. <BluelightSmartAPI> endpoint list, schemas, and error catalog placeholders

B. Sample payloads, happy path and reject examples

C. Email Connector header rules and parsing hints

D. BlueBox capture deployment guide overview

E. Glossary and acronym list

F. Compliance evidence bundle format and export options

G. Contact matrix for onboarding and support