



GCSAGILE

FATCA and CRS

...the time is now!

Global tax compliance is here

So is the service to keep you in control

Compliant

Cost effective

Customer focused



FACS | fatca and
crs service



Understanding FATCA and CRS

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) was put in place by the United States government in an effort to reduce US income tax avoidance. It places compliance obligations on non-US financial institutions to identify US taxpayers and report on them annually. It also involves withholding requirements for payments to certain foreign entities and financial institutions.

The Common Reporting Standard (CRS) was developed by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) with similar aims. To assist participating jurisdictions in reducing tax avoidance, CRS specifies a global reporting standard for the automatic exchange of financial account information (AEOI). As with FATCA, there are due diligence obligations on financial institutions to both identify and report on residents from other nations.

Consequences of FATCA and CRS

Compliance

Failure to comply with FATCA and CRS involves not only the risk of reputation damage, but also significant financial penalties. While these regimes are new, strong precedents exist for similar financial crime prevention regimes, such as Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Sanctions Screening, where financial institutions have already been forced to pay fines up to, and exceeding, \$1 billion.^{1,2,3}

Costs

Estimates of the implementation and on-going costs of FATCA and CRS are significant. For FATCA alone, the costs for large financial institutions could exceed \$100 million^{4,5} and the addition of CRS only increases this number. Even for smaller financial institutions, the costs are substantial. With such large sums involved, the need for a cost effective solution is vital.

Customers

FATCA and CRS impact customers. Financial institutions are required to obtain additional information from their account holders and, in certain circumstances, documentary evidence also. The result is unavoidable: FATCA and CRS affect the customer experience. The degree to which that impact is positive or negative depends on the solution each financial institution puts in place.

[1] <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-bnp-paribas-settlement-idUSKBN0F52HA20140701>

[2] <http://www.forbes.com/sites/robertwood/2014/05/19/credit-suisse-guilty-2-5-billion-fine-but-avoids-death-in-u-s-ubs-was-luckier/>

[3] <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-hsbc-probe-idUSBRE8BA05M20121211>

[4] <http://www.forbes.com/sites/robertwood/2011/11/30/fatca-carries-fat-price-tag/>

[5] <http://www.greenbacktaxservices.com/blog/real-look-at-fatca-and-possible-issues-and-costs/>

Meeting the challenge

FATCA and CRS are complex regimes and despite their similarities they each pose unique challenges. To meet these challenges, financial institutions need a single, comprehensive service built by people who not only understand the complexities, but know how to simplify them.

GCS Agile have developed a powerful and flexible FATCA and CRS service to help you reduce your compliance burden, streamline your business processes and minimise costs.

In an ever-changing global tax compliance landscape, we are committed to helping you take control of your FATCA and CRS obligations, both now and in the future.





Features and benefits

Take control of your FATCA and CRS compliance

- Identification, classification, due diligence and reporting
- Automatic tracking of change of circumstance
- Annual re-tests of account balances for pre-existing customers
- Identify which customers are subject to FATCA withholding

Reduce costs, increase productivity, streamline processes

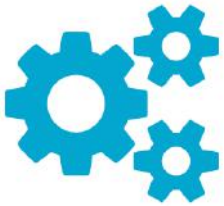
- Increase operational efficiency via sophisticated workflow functionality
- Tailored to your business via a powerful, rule-based configuration engine
- Reduce operational costs through a high level of automation
- Optimise your business with comprehensive executive reports

Fits in easily with your business

- Designed to work with your existing business processes
- Flexible and scalable architecture
- Easily integrates with your existing technology landscape
- Secure, with a comprehensive audit trail

Reduce costs

Compliance is mandatory, but expensive. We understand your need to minimise costs and have designed our FATCA and CRS service to meet this need.



Automation

Our service provides a high level of automation. Costs are reduced via the need for less resources, while additional benefits include increased consistency and reduced errors.



One platform

Having everything in one place reduces time wastage and allows processes to be streamlined. Internal users do not waste time switching between multiple systems and trying to link up customer and account data from different locations.



Avoid rework

Consolidating both FATCA and CRS business rules into a single service means that customers are assessed only once for both regimes. This results in a better customer experience and increased operational efficiency.

One platform

Variation is inevitable. Flexibility gives you control.

Financial institutions that operate in multiple jurisdictions are forced to deal with country-specific differences in terms of regulations, reporting schemas and submission processes. Even within a single jurisdiction, both FATCA and CRS offer multiple paths to compliance, allowing financial institutions to optimise. After all, the best approach for your Retail customers may not be the same as for your Commercial clients.

Our powerful, rule-based configuration engine can easily cater for numerous variations, from multiple jurisdictions to the needs of different business units and the quirks of various source systems. With one platform you can cater for all your FATCA and CRS compliance needs.



Customer experience

FATCA and CRS impact customers.

Additional paperwork and requests for documentary evidence are unavoidable. This leads to increased customer frustration and enquiries. How do you guarantee the best possible customer experience? By giving your staff a single, comprehensive service that has everything they need in one place.

The alternative? The use of disparate systems that were not designed with FATCA and CRS in mind. Customer and account data that reside in separate locations. Due diligence checks performed by one platform, but managed from another. Multiple systems, but no clear picture.

We understand that you value your customers. By putting all the vital information you need in one location, our service enables you to give them the experience they deserve.



Powerful metrics

FATCA and CRS impact your organisation.

To know where you stand you need powerful metrics. Without them you cannot guarantee compliance, streamline your processes or drive down costs.

Better productivity, increased efficiency, reduced errors. They are only possible with up-to-date, accurate data that lets you identify issues early so you can take pro-active steps to resolve them.

Our FATCA and CRS service puts you in control with a range of executive reports that let you:

- monitor your organisation's compliance status
- view the foreign tax demographics of your customers
- understand where you can optimise your processes





Manage change

FATCA and CRS are constantly evolving.

Interpretation is on-going, clarifications are frequently issued and jurisdictions around the world continue to add country-specific variations to what is already an incredibly complex domain. The only certainty is change.

While we cannot stop this change from happening, we are committed to keeping you on top of your FATCA and CRS obligations, both now and in the future. That is because FATCA and CRS are our number one focus.

We track updates, monitor changes and then use this knowledge to continually improve our service. But we do more than this. We also listen and work with you as an active partner to ensure that our FATCA and CRS service is not only right for you today, but will become even better for you tomorrow.

FACS data ingestion services

Compliance depends upon clean customer data.

For FACS to provide effective compliance, we need accurate customer data. We understand that capturing and cleaning customer data can be challenging, complex and costly. In particular, you are likely to have the same customer captured in multiple product systems and often, their details will be inconsistent. So your systems will tell you that you have more customers than you actually have.

FACS Data Ingestion Services are available to simplify and expedite extracting, cleansing and importing customer data required to get you compliant faster. Our unique, patented fuzzy (pattern) matching technology is able to automatically identify and clean (including de-duplicate) data, without human intervention, just like your operations staff would. As an example, it can rapidly identify the same customer stored in five different product systems with their name spelt in five different ways. That means that FACS starts with the right picture to ensure you get the right, compliant regulatory reports.



A technology platform that you can trust

At GCS Agile we recognise that FATCA and CRS provide enough challenges without you needing to worry about technology. That is why we have built our FATCA and CRS Service on a standard Enterprise Technology Stack. Proven, reliable, scalable, and enterprise ready.

Easy and Secure Access

Our FATCA and CRS Service is designed for easy access by the staff who need it.

Deployed as an internal web application, there is no cumbersome desktop installation required. Approved staff only need a computer with a web browser and the appropriate credentials.

The service can also be readily integrated with your organisation's single sign-on (SSO) solution, further streamlining access for your team and enabling you to operate as efficiently as possible.

Simple Integration

The nature of FATCA and CRS means it cannot be treated in isolation. It ties into existing processes and systems involving customer on-boarding, account opening, document collection, customer communication, and more.

As a result, you also need a FATCA and CRS service that can be readily integrated where necessary to meet the specific needs of your organisation.

By using Enterprise Java as the foundation for our service, we have access to a comprehensive array of proven integration components, technologies and libraries. This means that for any integration point you require, we can meet that need quickly and efficiently.

Deployment Flexibility

We understand the need for different organisations to have different deployment options. So we designed our service to provide the flexibility to fit into any technology landscape.

We also provide flexibility with regard to deployment location. Our service is available from any location globally through secure access. We offer the options of deployment to an organisation's internal private cloud, or even hosted externally on a public cloud environment

Security

FATCA and CRS require sensitive customer and account information. We understand your obligation as a Financial Institution to ensure that this data is protected. That is why our service has been designed with security as a key priority.

Our service provides the ability to encrypt data both in transit and at rest, using robust and proven security protocols, from HTTPS web requests to database level encryption.

User access to data and functionality is also restricted via authentication and authorisation mechanisms, with a rich set of roles and permissions. This ensures that your staff have access to the information they need to do their work, but no more.

Auditability

Comprehensive audit trails are logged for all key service functionality, providing an additional layer of protection.

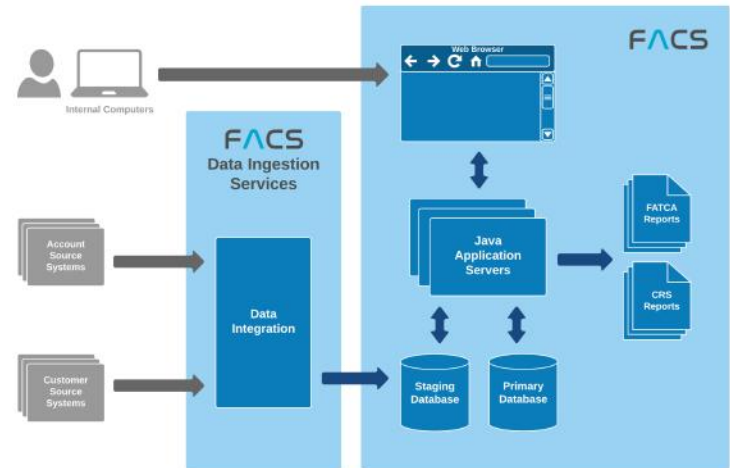
This not only provides benefits from a security perspective, but also ensures that you can explain to a regulator what has occurred, when and why it occurred, and where appropriate, who authorised it.

Scalability

The use of Enterprise Java brings with it a powerful ability to scale the service. Both horizontal and vertical scaling can be accommodated, allowing performance to be maintained even with large datasets.

This inherent scalability enables us to meet the volume needs of organisations of any size, from small and medium financial institutions to enterprise scale organisations.

Whether the number of accounts you have is in the thousands or the tens of millions, our FATCA and CRS service can scale to your needs.



Notes

Notes

FACS is an Australian based FATCA and CRS service provided by GCS Agile.

With years of professional experience at major financial institutions, our staff have been able to analyse and understand exactly what is needed to reduce the burden of these complex tax regimes. We have seen first hand what works and what does not. We know what approach is needed for success.

This knowledge and experience has allowed us to develop a powerful and flexible FATCA and CRS service. This service enables you to take control of your global tax compliance obligations in a manner that minimises costs, maximises productivity and allows you to optimise for the specific needs of your business.

Our aim is simple. To produce the best FATCA and CRS compliance service available and to continually improve by working closely with our clients and listening to their needs.



GCSAGILE



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