



BIC to LEI File

Relationship File Specifications

This document describes the BIC-LEI relationship to assist users who cross-reference BICs and LEI codes.

11 May 2018

Table of Contents

1	Legal notice.....	3
2	Background.....	4
3	Reference Data.....	5
4	What the file contains	6
5	File specifications	7
6	How to import the file into Microsoft Excel	8

1 Legal notice

SWIFT produces the BIC-LEI relationship on a monthly basis and makes it available to the public on its website at no charge. The file, in its existing format must not be sold, relicensed, or otherwise used for any commercial purposes.

SWIFT provides the directory solely as an “as is” service to institutions to help them cross-reference BIC and LEI codes. SWIFT does not guarantee that the data is error-free, accurate, complete, or up-to-date. SWIFT disclaims all express or implied warranties relating to the data including, by way of example, warranties as to merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. SWIFT also disclaims any and all liability, including any indirect, special or consequential damages whatsoever that may rise out of the use of this data.

Any copy of the SWIFTRef BIC-LEI relationship file, in whole or in part, should bear the following notice:

"SWIFT © and database rights [insert date (i.e. month and year) of the Relationship File version]. All rights reserved."

2 Background

SWIFT is a global member-owned cooperative and the world's leading provider of secure financial messaging services. SWIFT is committed to providing actionable global ID and reference data services and products (such as the business identifier code (BIC)) to global market participants, including regulators and the financial services industry, to uniquely identify, classify, and describe entities and financial instruments.

SWIFT is the registration authority for the ISO 9362 (BIC) standard appointed by ISO. In this role, SWIFT receives BIC registration requests, assigns a BIC, and publishes the related BIC Data Record as defined in and in accordance with the requirements set out in ISO 9362.

The BIC is an international standard for identification of institutions within the financial services industry. BICs are used in automated processing. They identify a financial institution or a non-financial institution.

The Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) is a 20-digit, alpha-numeric code based on the ISO 17442 standard developed by ISO. It connects to key reference information that enables a clear and unique identification of legal entities participating in financial transactions.

The file is built upon a mapping process originally established by SWIFT and certified by GLEIF¹ for another file publication: the [BIC-to-LEI Mapping Relationship file](#).

¹ Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF) is a not-for-profit organization created to support the implementation and use of the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI). GLEIF manages a network of partners (the Local Operating Units) to provide trusted services and open, reliable data for unique legal entity identification worldwide.

3 Reference Data

The SWIFT BIC Directory is the source for the BIC and BIC reference data. Additional information on this data source including field definitions can be found [here](#).

The SWIFTRef BIC-to-LEI Relationship File does not include historical BIC/LEI pairs, stand-alone unmapped BICs and LEIs, or the listing of daily or monthly changes. These can be obtained [here](#).

The following table describes the critical fields considered for mapping:

Critical Fields Considered for Mapping			
BIC	Description and Comments	LEI	Description and Comments

Fields Considered for Pre-Conditions			
Legal Type	LE (legal entity) or FB (foreign branch) and ≠ INACTIVE status	Registration Status	LEIs with Registration Status of ANNULLED or DUPLICATE are excluded
Fields Considered as Equivalents for Mapping			
Institution Name	The institution name is not always the legal name. It can also refer to business or operational names. Only Latin characters are permitted in this field.	Legal Name Other Entity Names or Transliterated Other Entity Names	The LEI reference data includes the legal name as well as other names and a transliterated name, given the legal name includes non-Latin characters. If available, "Other Entity Names" in English will be used.
ISO Country Code	ISO 3166 alpha-2 code of the country	Legal Address Country Other Address Country	

4 What the file contains

The file contains all known BIC-LEI pairs in which both the BIC and the LEI are active. In a BIC-LEI pair, the BIC and the LEI represent the same single legal entity or foreign branch. Legal ownership relationships between entities can be obtained [here](#).

The file contains three columns:

BIC	The BIC (ISO 9362 business identifier code) issued by SWIFT to the legal entity.
LEI	The LEI (ISO 17442 legal entity identifier) issued by GLEIF certified LOUs (Local Operating Units) to the same legal entity.
INSTITUTION_NAME	The legal name of the legal entity identified by both the BIC and the LEI. The legal name is derived from the LEI attributes.

5 File specifications

The file is published in comma-separated format (csv). It contains all BIC-LEI pairs. This means it is a “full” file and no “delta” file is made available. The file does not contain BICs that do not have corresponding LEIs or LEIs without corresponding BICs.

6 How to import the file into Microsoft Excel

The name of the file is BIC_LEI_SWIFTREF_V1_MONTHLY_<YYYYMMDD>.csv. The file is zipped into the BIC_LEI_SWIFTREF_MONTHLY_<YYYYMMDD>_CSV.zip file together with this document.

To import the file correctly into Microsoft Excel, select the following import options:

- File type: Delimited
- File origin: Unicode (UTF-8)
- Delimiters: Comma
- Text qualifier: “
- Treat consecutive delimiters as one (select)
- Column data format: Text