

MyStandards User Group Brussels 2017 Wrap-up

Introduction

On the 21-22 of November, we held the MyStandards User Group event at The Hotel (in the Centre of Brussels) to accommodate with the growing interest from participants (44 attendees in total!). During this two day event, you have demonstrated, more than ever, a lot of enthusiasm and shared a lot of information with us and your peers. All this feedback has been captured and this wrap-up report summarizes the main highlights of the different sessions.

Tuesday 21st morning

Fabien Depasse – Head of MyStandards, **SWIFT**- opened the day by sharing some insights on the state of the community and where the MyStandards portfolio is heading.

This was followed by a Product Update where **Stéphane Boreux** - MyStandards Product Manager, **SWIFT** – shared an update on the recent platform evolutions: the help page revamp, roles governance and an introduction to the upcoming Online UGE. The first version of the Online UGE (which will be available by the end of the year) will allow editing Usage Guidelines directly from the MyStandards portal. It will be continuously enriched to gradually replace the offline editor version.

The third session provided an overview of the new SWIFT offering; SWIFT Translator. **Quentin Bortolin** - MyStandards Product Manager, **SWIFT** - presented how this new solution will allow defining any message formats and mapping rules that then can be executed in any production environment. More information can be found: [here](#).

Tuesday 21st afternoon

In the afternoon, four experience sharing sessions were held that covered very different usage of the platform. Sharing their experiences was:

Esmeralda Daal - FundSettleConnectivity Manager, **Euroclear** - presented during the first session how they used MyStandards successfully to ease their client onboarding to their FundSettle offering. She shared how important internal promotion and training was for a successful adoption of MyStandards.

Isabelle Volckaert - Marketing e-Channels, Cash Management Competence Centre, **BNP Paribas Fortis** - presented how implementing MyStandards fitted in their strategy to propose digitalized, automated and self-enabling services. She also explained how efficiently they rolled-out MyStandards across the different regions.

Lukasz Popko - ICT Officer, **ESMA** - explained how they used MyStandards to develop and share implementation guidelines in order to comply with regulatory reporting requirements. He explained how they document MiFID2/MiFIR messages for both ESMA and national competent authorities.

Sharon Watt - Senior Analyst, Payment Message Standards, **Bankserv Africa** - shared insights about the Southern Africa payment community and how they collaborate as a community using MyStandards. All user group participants will for sure also remember the Southern Africa geography lesson.

Wednesday 22nd morning

The next day started with an introduction of the MyStandards portfolio evolution, where we explained that future investments will focus on the following areas:

- **Reduce time and effort:** Improve the user experience to make sure publishing and maintaining content is as easy as possible. For instance, the online UGE will improve the time and effort it takes to edit Usage Guidelines.
- **More for value for your content:** Leverage the effort of formalizing content beyond the documentation and testing. For example by integrating MyStandards content output with the new SWIFT Translator to ease mapping and translation rules to and from proprietary formats.
- **Extend the reach:** Evolve the offering to allow wider range of use cases. As an example, propose documentation for APIs.
- **Platform investments:** Continue to invest in technology basement to cope with usage growth. Like renewing the Readiness Portal UI technology to be more scalable and use this opportunity to improve the User Experience. MyStandards has grown quickly these last years in terms of usage and functionality. As a consequence, it is of key importance to increase the platform investments in order to offer the level of service expected by our community.

Following the product update, the audience was split in groups in order to have interactive workshops to help defining the product roadmap.

The first workshop focussed on defining the priorities in term of evolution of the Online UGE beyond the first version. Participants came up with a consistent message: first implement the remaining restrictions then allow usage guidelines and collections management. As soon as those are available, the Online UGE will become the main editor for creating and maintaining content. It was also clear that participants were looking forward to edit their guideline online.

The second workshop's objective was to define and prioritize improvement for managing content and users. Many ideas were shared during those sessions and three topics were highlighted by most of the participants:

- Improve the search to help find quickly the content we need to update
- More notifications for user on-boarding in communities and groups
- Warn user when - logged out of the application

The third workshop aimed to define and prioritize enhancements for content consumption and the Readiness Portal. Again, many ideas were raised during those sessions and three topics were highlighted by most of the participants:

- More compact / flexible documentation
- Improve response time for testing and tree loading
- Provide more reporting and analytics on Readiness Portal usage

Wednesday 22nd afternoon

In the afternoon, after a short introduction to APIs by **Stephen Lindsay** - Head of Standards, **SWIFT**, the group was split in 3 streams; MyStandards for APIs, Corporate On-boarding and Securities.

MyStandards for APIs

In a rapidly evolving technological landscape, we should not forget the pressing regulations (e.g. PSD2). It is clear that everybody understands the need for more standardisation in the API space, not only to reduce the risk of interoperability issues between payment systems participants but also to keep the complexity and integration costs as low as possible for the financial industry. It is still early days to confirm the adoption of ISO 20022 components in

designing APIs and the role MyStandards will play in this space. But similarities with the messaging paradigm are there to justify further exploring how MyStandards will help overcome the challenges in that field.

Corporate On-boarding

The main highlight of the session is a huge appetite for more formats on MyStandards platform. There is a lot of value for the industry by integrating the capabilities of SWIFT Translator with the power of the MyStandards platform. The end goal is a single platform to document all Standards; global and local.

Securities

Three main topics were discussed during the Securities session : migration, regulation and management of large amount of content.

For the Regulation topic, participants highlighted the opportunity to use the recently released “Regulatory reporting” entry point on MyStandards as a key asset to inform the community about the impact of recent regulations (such as CSDR) on Standards.

Regarding the management of large amount of content, the discussion mainly focused on improvements to the search engine. Three main ones were mentioned :

- Highlighting in the search results the reason this result is linked to the search criteria
- Supporting more advanced search engine techniques (e.g. the usage of the ‘+’ sign to indicate that a search criteria MUST be present in the result)
- Remembering the search settings such as filters and ‘order by’

Last but by no means least, the migration topic gathered a lot of attention and feedback. The consensus among the attendees is that the current process to migrate usage guidelines from one base message version to another in the offline UGE can clearly be enhanced.

The main proposals were to have a clear “process” view, whereby you could start a migration, have a view of all the changes (i.e. in a clear to-do list of point of attention), including a link to CR information, be able to interrupt your work at some point and come back to it later. From there, it would be very useful to have the ability to massively apply some decisions, such as removing an new code value across all the usage guidelines it appears in. Another request was the ability to migrate across multiple version of the message (e.g. : from version 3 to version 6 without having to go through version 4 and 5)

Conclusion

Year after year, the number of MyStandards User Group attendees grows and the collaborative mindset of the community remains astonishing. One key highlight of this year is that the platform has reached a maturity level in term of usage and features. Next year, efforts will focus on improving the experience using MyStandards by investing on the platform and tuning the existing features. Next to that, the addition of SWIFT Translator to the portfolio will give the opportunity to go one step further with translation between Standards. It will also open the door to more formats and you are clearly looking forward for this.

Thank you all for making this user group such a success, see you next year !