



Grade Crossing Inventory System (GCIS)

Release v2.1.0.0 (10/02/15)

Release Notes

This document is intended for Railroad, Transit, and State users. The following items will be released on Friday, October 2, 2015:

1. Online Form (Web User Interface (UI))

- a. Part I.5 Street/Road Name: will now allow dash (-) and slash (/) to be entered.
- b. Part I.6 Highway Type & No.: will now allow comma (,) and dash (-) to be entered
- c. Part I.12 RR Milepost: The prefix and suffix fields will now allow both alpha and numeric characters.
- d. For Grade-Separated crossings, all validations will be turned off for Part II-V.

Note: If the user provided information in Part II-V, the system will not validate the data. This includes any cross-field validations, which includes the validation for Part III.2.K Private Crossing Signs, where Crossing Type is Private.

- e. For At-Grade crossings, Part II.1.E Check if Less Than One Movement Per Day: The checkbox will automatically be checked if the sum of Part II.1.A – II.1.D is equal to 0. For crossings being updated, if any of the fields in Part II.1.A – II.1.D are left blank, the system will return an error requiring the user to input a numeric value.
- f. A “Contact Us” link will be available on the login page of GCIS, located in the footer.

2. FRA Approved Excel Template (used for the File Upload feature)

- a. The file names are updated to reflect the following published version:

- i. Railroad/Transit Users:

- Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template RR_Full_Inventory_Record v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015.xlsx
- Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template RR_Data_Only v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015.xlsx

- ii. State Users:

- Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template State v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015.xlsx

- b. Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template v1.0 – Railroad

- i. Is separated into 2 new files as described below:

- Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015 – Railroad Submitting Full Inventory Form

Note: This template contains all fields including the Header and Part I – V of the Grade Crossing Inventory Form, which will be used by Railroad users to submit their crossing record(s).



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- Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015 – Railroad Submitting Only Train Count Data

Note: This template should be used by Railroad(s) that were listed in Part I.7: “Do Other Railroads Operate a Separate Track at Crossing?” for submitting their train count data (multiple forms filed submission). It contains only the Header and a subset of fields from Part I and Part II of the Grade Crossing Inventory Form.

- ii. The Record Type column will no longer be displayed and a value is no longer required.
- c. Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015 – State
 - i. The Record Type column will no longer be displayed and a value is no longer required.

3. Data Validation

- a. Header Box C. Reason for Update: the system will no longer validate the crossing information when “Closed” is selected. This includes crossings submitted using the File Upload and Secure API method.
- b. When submitting crossings using the File Upload or Secure API, special characters, such as single quotes (‘), double quotes (“), and dash (-), will be parsed out for Part IV.7 Smallest Crossing Angle, and the submission will no longer return an exception.

4. Public & Secure API

- a. The GET request will now only return crossings with a Submission Status of Published to alleviate the timeout error issue.
- b. Users can request up to 10,000 records in the GET request (previous limit was 100).
- c. A new GET endpoint was added to allow users the ability to get all pending and historical crossing records for a specific Crossing Number.
- d. A new PUT and PATCH endpoint were added and the POST endpoint updated to accept a single crossing update.
- e. The Quick Start Guide was updated to provide additional information on how to query (GET) and submit (POST, PUT, and PATCH) crossing records.
- f. Users are able to query for Railroad Codes and Names using the GET request.



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5. Documentation Inventory

- a. The table below lists all current versions of documents located in the GCIS:

Document Name	Version	Last Updated Date
GCIS Web User Guide v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015	2.0	10/02/2015
GCIS Data Dictionary External Use v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015	2.0	10/02/2015
GCIS Data Migration Strategy v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015	2.0	10/02/2015
GCIS Electronic Submissions Instructions v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015	2.0	10/02/2015
Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template RR_Data_Only v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015	2.0	10/02/2015
Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template RR_Full_Inventory_Record v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015	2.0	10/02/2015
Grade Crossing Inventory Form Template State v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015	2.0	10/02/2015

6. Documentation Change

- a. An application version number, Document Release Date, and Revision Summary table were added to the following documents:
- i. GCIS Electronic Submissions Instructions v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015.docx
 - ii. GCIS Data Migration Strategy v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015.docx
 - iii. GCIS Data Dictionary External Use v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015.docx
 - iv. GCIS Web User Guide v2.1.0.0 Rel 10-02-2015.docx
- b. On page 3, a “Revision Summary” table was added to include the date of when each version was revised, the version number, the type of revision, and a quick summary of the type of changes that was made.
- c. FRA Instructions for Electronic Submission of U.S. DOT Crossing Inventory Data:
- i. On page 11, Appendix A, under the Single-field Data Validation Rules column, the row for I.5 Street was updated as follows:
Any alpha or numeric characters including dash (-) and slash (/)
 - ii. On page 11, Appendix A, under the Single-field Data Validation Rules column, the row for I.6 Highway Type and No. was updated as follows:
Any alpha or numeric characters including comma (,) and dash (-)
 - iii. On page 12, Appendix A, under the Single-field Data Validation Rules column, the rows for I.12 RR Milepost Prefix and RR Milepost Suffix was updated as follows:
Valid value: one to three alphanumeric characters or blank



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- iv. In Appendix B, the descriptions under the Single-field and Cross-field Data Validation Rules were updated throughout this appendix
- v. On page 29, Appendix B-1, under the Single-field Data Validation Rules column, the rows for I.12 RR Milepost Prefix was updated as follows:
Valid value: one to three alphanumeric characters or blank
- vi. On page 30, Appendix B-1, under the Single-field Data Validation Rules column, the rows for I.12 RR Milepost Suffix was updated as follows:
Valid value: one to three alphanumeric characters or blank
- vii. All references to XSurface will be changed to XSurfaceIDs to reflect the correct database field name
- viii. On page 30, Appendix B-1, under the Cross-field Data Validation Rules column, for I.17 TypeXing, the validation rule was updated.
- ix. On page 46, Appendix B-1, under the Cross-field Data Validation Rules column, for IV.5 XSurfaceIDs, the validation rule will be changed:
From: “If Crossing Surface (XSURFACE) code is 9(Other), then Description of Crossing Surface (XSUROTHR) must not be blank”
To: “If Crossing Surface (XSurfaceIDs) code is 20 (Other), then Description of Crossing Surface (XSUROTHR) must not be blank”
- x. On page 46, Appendix B-1, under the Cross-field Data Validation Rules column, for IV.5 XSurOthr, the validation rule will be changed:
From: “If Crossing Surface Code is ‘9’ (Other), then “XSUROTHR” must not be blank”
To: “If Crossing Surface Code is ‘20’ (Other), then “XSUROTHR” must not be blank”
- xi. On page 46, Appendix B-1, under the Single-field Data Validation Rules column, for IV.5 XSurfaceIDs, the following additional text was added:
Specify all codes that apply if there are multiple main line tracks which have different type of surface.
Note: XSurfaceIDs only applies to II.4 Main (and not Siding, Yard, Transit, and Industry)
- xii. In Appendix C on page 55 - 65, the table was updated to list the fields that are required, optional, or conditional broken down into the following categories:
 - Railroad: Public and Private
 - State: Public and Private
 - Grade-Separated
- xiii. The table in Appendix C was updated to reflect the table located in Appendix B-1 to B-4 of the Guide for Preparing U.S. DOT Crossing Inventory Forms



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d. GCIS Data Migration Strategy

- i. On page 17, XSURFACE was changed to XSURFACEIDS
- ii. On page 17, under the Migration Strategy column for XSURFACE (which was changed to XSURFACEIDS), the labels/text will be updated as follows to include the numeric value in front of the text description:
 - 11 = 1. Timber
 - 12 = 2. Asphalt
 - 13 = 3. Asphalt and Timber
 - 14 = 4. Concrete
 - 15 = 5. Concrete and Rubber
 - 16 = 6. Rubber
 - 17 = 7. Metal
 - 18 = 8. Unconsolidated
 - 19 = 9. Composite
 - 20 = 10. Other (specify)

e. GCIS Web User Guide

- i. On page 36, Figure 36 was updated to reflect the 2 different FRA Approved Excel Template that will be available for Railroad users.
- ii. On page 36, Figure 37 was updated to reflect the updated FRA Approved Excel Template that will be available for State users.
- iii. On page 37 – 42, Figures 38 – 43 was updated to reflect the same changes that were made as noted for item i and ii above.
- iv. On page 56, Figure 61 was updated to reflect the 2 different FRA Approved Excel Template that will be available for Railroad users.
- v. On page 58, Figure 63 was updated to now show the Privacy Policy and Contact Us link in the footer.

7. External Test Environment

- a. Users will now have the ability to utilize the GCIS External Test Environment to test their submissions using the web front-end user interface (UI), File Upload, or Secure API. The links to the Test environments are provided below:
 - Web UI (including the File Upload): <https://stage.fra.dot.gov/Gcis/>
 - Public API: <https://stage.fra.dot.gov/MasterWebService/publicapi>
 - Secure API: <https://stage.fra.dot.gov/MasterWebService/secureapi>

Note: All current registered users of the GCIS Production Environment will have access to the External Test environment as of 10/02. Any new user account requests submitted and approved after 10/02 will not have access to the test environment, unless a request was specifically submitted from the Test site.