

## Numerics Initiative: Terminology Updates for VAU Reporting to Support Eight-Digit BINs

Global | Acquirers, Issuers, Processors

Visa Network



**Overview:** Effective with the April 2021 VisaNet Business Enhancements release, Visa will enhance Visa Account Updater (VAU) reporting to support the new terms “issuing Bank Identification Number (BIN)” and “Acquiring Identifier,” which have replaced the term “BIN.”

As announced previously, **effective with the April 2022 VisaNet Business Enhancements release**, Visa will only assign eight-digit issuing BINs for new requests; six-digit BINs will no longer be assigned. Visa clarified in April 2019 that issuers have the discretion to convert any or all of their six-digit issuing BINs to eight digits, as well as to set their own timelines for expansion.

As announced in the 1 August 2019 edition of the *Visa Business News*, to support the industry migration to an eight-digit BIN standard, Visa updated the VAU application for issuers to support eight-digit BINs while continuing to support six-digit BINs.

Visa will update the VAU terminology in the optional VAU monthly reports referencing “BINs” **effective with the April 2021 VisaNet Business Enhancements release**. These reports are flat files and pipe-delimited; they can also be viewed in Excel. Terminology changes include replacing the term “BIN” with “issuing BIN” or “Acquiring Identifier” for issuers and acquirers respectively. In some reports, the changes were made in the column header or response codes where there is a reference to “BIN.” In other reports the change is to the report name. Additionally, there are changes within the VAU application on Visa Online to reflect the changes to the report names, where “BIN” has been replaced with “Issuing BIN.”

As an example, the current reference “Issuer Month-End Report 03—Monthly List of Participating BINs” will be changed to “Issuer Month-End Report 03—Monthly List of Participating Issuing BINs.”

These changes will be reflected in the VAU application on Visa Online and in the monthly reports starting with April 2021 reporting, which will be available in early May.

**Note:** Daily files and reports that do not contain BIN information are not impacted.

Issuers and issuer processors will not see any changes to month-end reports until they start migrating to the eight-digit BIN standard. Daily reports are not impacted.

Visa’s VAU guides will be updated with the terminology changes after the production release of the reports or during the bi-annual guides update, in June 2021.

Sample reports are available for clients to test. Please contact your account managers or client service representatives for information on how to get the sample reports.

#### For More Information

Merchants and third party agents should contact their acquirer.

© Visa. All Rights Reserved.