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Sales Bulletin: Reply® WorldWide (WW) API Updates And Current OCX Version

One of our goals at Fleetwood is to offer quality, easy to use programming toolkits to organizations making the commitment to develop polling software for use with our interactive keypad products. In an effort to continue achieving this goal, we occasionally modify API components (i.e., OCXs) and their associated documentation. We then release updated versions of the APIs, notifying developer-dealers of their availability. This is one such notice.

It is widely accepted in industry that software is a product that is subject to incremental improvement. Improvements may include feature enhancements, bug fixes, and other evolutionary changes. Obviously, since API components are an underlying structural item in polling software, they should also be included in any application change process. Unfortunately, end users (and we) sometimes discover they are not.

When API components are not kept current in software applications, problems occasionally arise. For example, if a user has more than one polling application from more than one vendor, and if the applications use different versions of the same OCX, then performance issues could appear. Those issues could be caused by conflicting or overwriting OCX installation and registration, and the result could affect one or all of the applications. These issues might be as simple as an error message or an inaccessible function. They could be more serious, too, depending on the application's construction.

Customers deserve a quality experience with our products. Organizations that develop software with our APIs are in a special position to help both themselves and their industry peers ensure a level of consistency in software applications for Reply® products. **Therefore, we strongly encourage our API customers to test and incorporate OCX revisions in their software – regardless if that software is a commercially offered solution or a customized end user program.**

The current Reply API that is applicable to Reply WorldWide (a/k/a WW, a current product), Standard Reply (a/k/a SR, a discontinued product), and Reply Export (a/k/a EU, a discontinued product) is now at Version 6.0.11. If you still have an earlier API version, please contact your Fleetwood Sales Representative to make arrangements to receive an updated version.

For your information, below is a history of Reply WW/SR/EU API revisions:

Version 6.0.11

- *Changed version and name of this document to reflect that of the OCX itself.*

Version 6.0.10

- *Improved detection of non-Reply serial devices.*

Version 6.0.9

- *Fixed bug reading large numbers of timestamps and serial numbers.*

Version 6.0.8

- *Fixed filtering on KeypadList for keypad notification and softkey events.*

Version 6.0.7

- *Expanded support for COM ports 1-99*
- *Added Reply model AutoDetect capability*
- *Added detection of lost base connection during non-polling periods.*

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- *Added blocking for read of BaseVersion property.
(version is read before Connect method returns and Connected property reads True).*

Version 6.0.2

- *Fixed bug with BaseVersion property.*

In the future, all API revisions will be communicated through an official Sales Bulletin indicating the changes and the process for upgrades. Please visit www.replysystems.com/api for this information. Also, please remember that support for software development using our APIs may be reached through email at replyapi@fleetwoodgroup.com.

Thank you for your commitment to quality software development!

Your Reply® Sales Team