

# **Overview of US Payroll Tax Configuration**



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## **Agenda** About Aspire HR Expectations Overview of SAP's US Payroll Tax Design Tax related Employee Master Data Wage Type Configuration Tax Model Components BSI Tax Factory Researching Errors Helpful tools Questions Wrap-Up

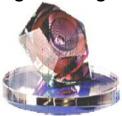
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#### **Expectations**

- What you should NOT expect:
  - This webinar will be all there is to know about US Payroll Tax configuration.
  - I will cover every configuration option or piece of functionality.
  - You should be able to configure US taxes at the end of the webinar.
- What you should expect:
  - An overview and understanding of how the US Payroll Tax calculation is designed in SAP.
  - An understanding of the different elements that make the calculation work.
  - The ability to begin analysis of tax calculation issues

#### **Payroll Tax Design**



- The payroll schema takes into account employee master data, wage type configuration, and the tax model.
- This data is compiled and then fed to Tax Factory to calculate the tax
- The tax data is sent to pay results

#### **Employee Master Data: Regular Tax Infotypes**

- IT0207 Residence Tax Area assigns the tax authorities that are relevant to where the employee lives (e.g. School Tax). The lowest relevant level should be selected and all superior authorities will also be selected including Federal.
- IT0208 Work Tax Area is an optional\* infotype that assigns all tax authorities relevant to where an employee works (e.g. Occupational Tax). The lowest relevant level should be selected and all superior authorities will be selected EXCEPT Federal. An employee can have percentage allocations to multiple areas as long as the total never exceeds 100%.
- IT0209 Unemployment State represents where the employee's unemployment contributions will be paid. This is typically the employee's work state. The employee's physical worksite is also located here. The worksite list is determined by Tax Company and State.
- IT0210 W4/W5 represents the employee's withholding elections. This is used for Federal and for the states where permitted.

<sup>\*</sup>Residence Tax Area will be used as work.

#### **Employee Master Data: Special Tax Infotypes**

- IT0161 IRS Overrides are rare and only used with direct notification from the IRS to override an employee's elected withholding.
- IT0234 Additional Withholding Info US is used to assign a tax override group (used to create special calculations and reciprocity overrides) and override amounts/percentages for deduction.
- IT0235 Other Taxes US allows the user to exempt an employee from certain taxes by tax type (except withholding). This is most common with foreign nationals that are exempt from Social Security and Medicare.

#### Wage Type Configuration: Tax Wage Types Structure

- Tax wage types are named intelligently with a /XYY structure
- /X Describes the nature of the tax wage type
  - /3XX = Taxable Gross (TG) represents all wages eligible for that tax type and authority
  - /6XX = Taxable Base (TB) represents TG less all pretax deductions
  - /7XX = Reportable Earnings (RE) represents the TB with limits applied
  - /4XX = Tax (TX) represents the actual tax
  - /QXX = Taxable but not taxed (TNTD) represents wages eligible for taxation but not actually taxed
  - Many more...
- YY Describes the tax type
  - 01 = Withholding
  - 03 = EE Social Security
  - 04 = ER Social Security
  - 10 = Unemployment
  - Many more...

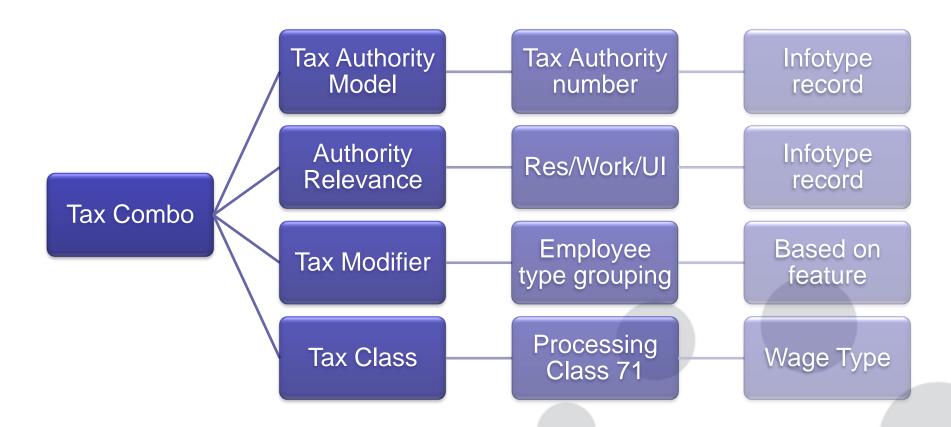
#### Wage Type Configuration: Important Processing Classes

- Processing Class 68 (Payment type for tax calculation) This setting tells BSI what rate type should apply to the wages. For example, Regular (W4 rate), Supplemental, Vacation, and Gross-up
- Processing Class 69 (Taxable earning or non-taxable contribution) –
   This setting allows for special options without creating a new tax class like TNTD
- Processing Class 71 (Wage Type Tax Classification) This setting ties directly into the tax model configuration as the Tax Class

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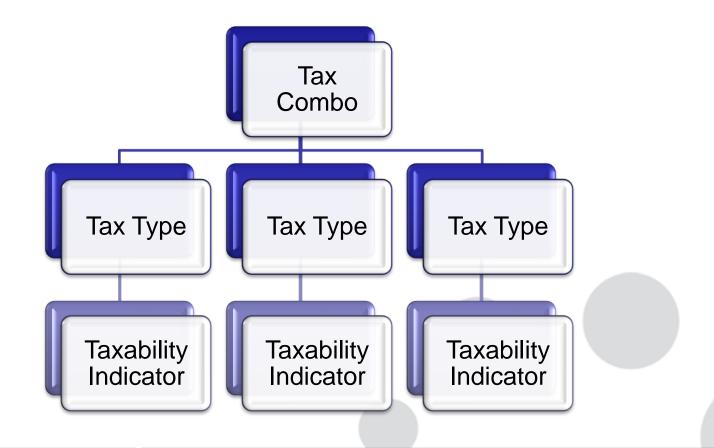
#### Tax Models: Overview

The Tax Model pulls data from multiple sources, maps it to specific values and then finally results in the determination of the tax combo.



#### Tax Models: Tax Combos

■ The Tax Combo determine which tax types apply to a specific wage type for that person in that specific authority. The tax types in that combination are also assigned a taxability indicator (taxable, reportable only, or neither).

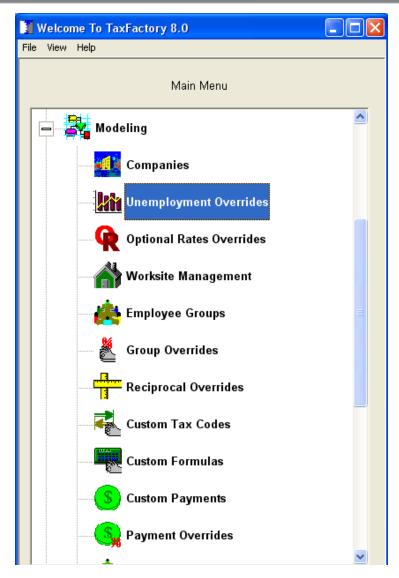


### **BSI TaxFactory: Overview**



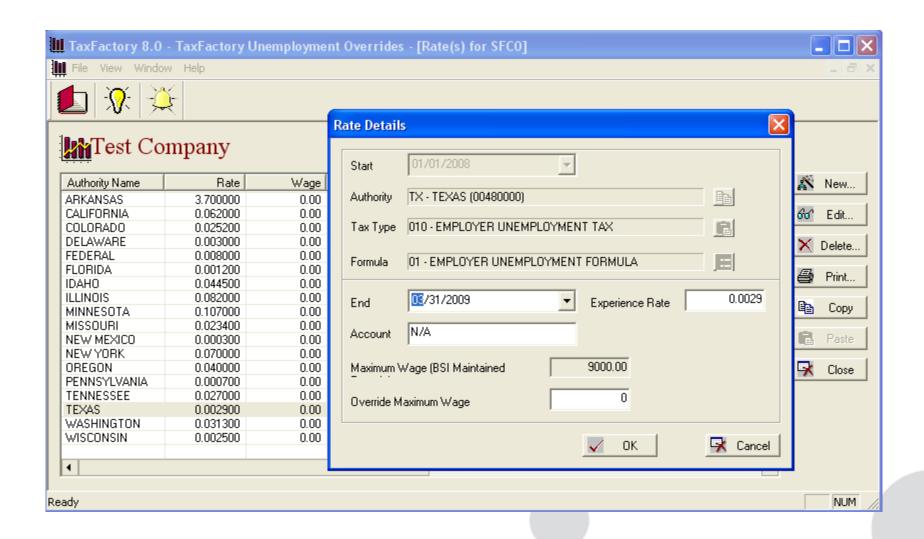
- Tax Factory has many useful tools:
  - Links to the BSI website to download bulletins and the latest software
  - Manage messages generated through payroll runs
  - Apply regulatory bulletins (tax updates)
  - Determine which tax authorities are relevant to a person based on their address
  - Test sample tax scenarios
  - Entering custom or experience tax rates
  - Read descriptions of exactly how TaxFactory calculates certain taxes
  - Create backups/restore

#### **BSI TaxFactory – Entering Experience Rates**



- Companies option lets you setup your Tax Companies in BSI.
- Unemployment Overrides let you add in your company's UI experience rates
  - Company experience rates must be mirrored in SAP table BTXRATE (v\_BTXRATE)

#### **BSI TaxFactory – UI Experience Rates**



#### **BSI TaxFactory: Important Notes**

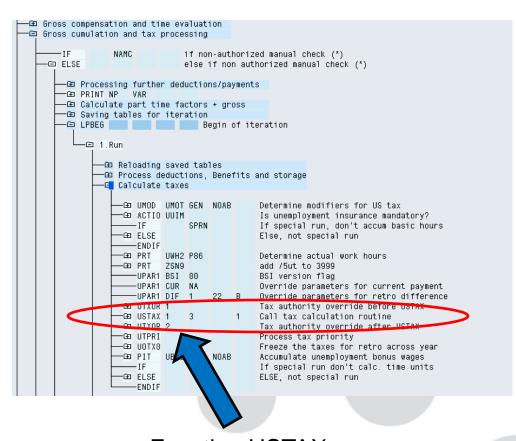
- TaxFactory is a separate system on a separate database from a separate vendor!
- Due to the fact that TaxFactory and BSI are separate, there is some redundant data entry and occasional connection failures.
- When connection failures occur:
  - Rerun the employee again. Many times the connection failures are only temporary especially on global networks.
  - Run program RPUBTCU0 to test the connection (see OSS note 215728).
  - Ask the basis team to recheck the RFC connection (transaction SM59).

#### **Researching Errors**

- Where do I start? It depends on what is wrong...
  - Tax bases (/3s, /6s, and /7s) are correct but the tax amounts (/4s) are wrong.
    - Employee Master Data like IT0207, IT0208, IT0209, IT0210, IT0234, IT0235, etc
    - Check Wage Type processing class 68 for tax rate (W4 or supplemental
  - Tax bases are incorrect.
    - Check wage type processing class 71 and confirm the associated tax model is correct
  - Still not sure or something else?
    - Review the payroll log and payroll results
    - Check the tax factory message log

#### **Researching Errors: Payroll Log**

- US payroll taxes are calculated in the SAP standard subschema UTX0.
- Numerous options are set in the schema and can influence the calculation.
- Function USTAX displays the details of the call to TaxFactory and can be useful in resolving problems.



Function USTAX

#### **Researching Errors: Payroll Log**

- Actual script sent to BSI TaxFactory
- Includes:
  - General personal information
  - Tax Authority
  - Tax Type
  - Period Wages
  - Hours
  - YTD Wages
  - Non-exempt amounts
  - Much More!

```
BSI interface
ATC ET: 4
IPC EC: 00000126 EN: " Brian May " CC: "MFI0" GC: "EG99"
                52
                     CD: 01-02-2009 PT: REG
         YP: 0 PH: 168.00
         GU: 0
         BD: 12-03-1955 RS: NY
     ADC TC: FED NR: 0 RP: 0
     HUD TT: 01 FN: 1 PW: 171.00 MS: 01 NE: 00 PI: 1
     ADD TE: 0 RN: 0 PW: 1.00
     SDC SM: 9 BW: 180.00
     ADC TC: FED NR: 0 RP: 0
     HUD TT: 03 FN: 1 PW: 180.00 MS: 01 NE: 00 PI: 0
     ADD TE: 0 RN: 0 PW: 1.00
     SDC SM: 9 BW: 180.00
     ADC TC: FED NR: 0 RP: 0
     HUD TT: 04 FN: 1 PW: 180.00 MS: 01 NE: 00 PI: 0
     ADD TE: 0 RN: 0 PW: 1.00
     SDC SM: 9 BW: 180.00
     ADC TC: FED NR: 0 RP: 0
     HUD TT: 05 FN: 1 PW: 180.00 MS: 01 NE: 00 PI: 0
     ADD TE: 0 RN: 0 PW: 1.00
     SDC SM: 9 BW: 180.00
     ADC TC: FED NR: 0 RP: 0
     HUD TT: 06 FN: 1 PW: 180.00 MS: 01 NE: 00 PI: 0
     ADD TE: 0 RN: 0 PW: 1.00
     SDC SM: 9 BW: 180.00
```

#### **Researching Errors: Payroll Log**

- Easy to read view of the results of the tax calculation
- Payroll Log could include multiple sections like this
  - Regular
  - Supplemental
  - Gross-up
  - Cumulative

Tax authority FED Federal MFIO						
Tax Category		Tax.inc	Tax-free	Inc.Declare	Tax.earning	Tax
01 Withholding Tax	(REG)	180.00	9.00	171.00	171.00	12.00
03 Employee Social Security Tax	(REG)	180.00	0.00	180.00	180.00	11.16
04 Employer Social Security Tax	(REG)	180.00	0.00	180.00	180.00	11.16
05 Employee Medicare Tax	(REG)	180.00	0.00	180.00	180.00	2.61
96 Employer Medicare Tax	(REG)	180.00	0.00	180.00	180.00	2.61
10 Employer Unemployment Tax	(REG)	180.00	9.00	171.00	171.00	1.37
Tax authority NY New York MFIO						
Tax Category		Tax.inc	Tax-free	Inc.Declare	Tax.earning	Tax
01 Withholding Tax	(REG)	180.00	9.00	171.00	171.00	1.47
10 Employer Unemployment Tax	(REG)	180.00	9.00	171.00	171.00	16.25
14 Er Re-emplmt Placemt Tx	(REG)	180.00	9.00	171.00	171.00	0.13

#### **Helpful Tools: Employee Tax Examiner**

- Easy to read view of summary of employee tax data
- Provides a quick view of potential issues prior to the payroll run.

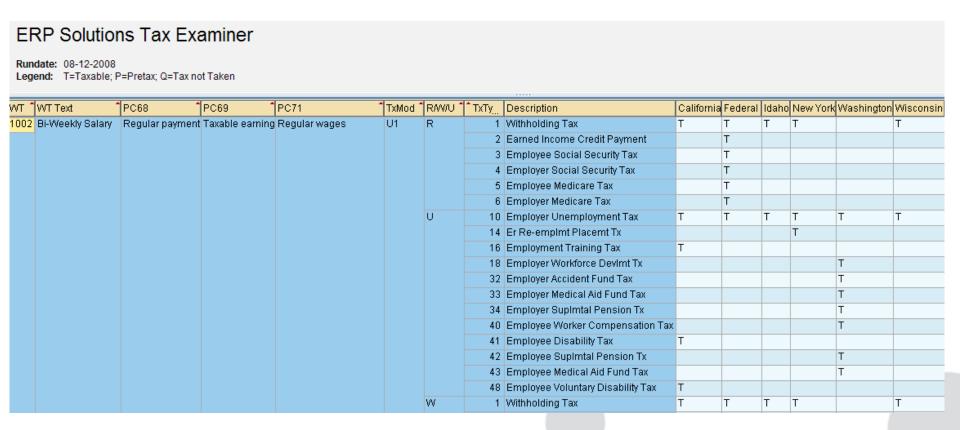
#### ERP Solutions Employee Tax Examiner ®

Rundate: 08-12-2008 System: RD1/234

Pers. No.	Name	SSN	EG	ESG	PA	PSA	PArea	IT6	IT207	IT208	IT209	IT210	All. %	FED EI	ST EI	FED Ex	ST Ex	Count	Message
41	EASTWOOD, CLINT	384273789	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	CA	CA	CA	CA	CA	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
44	NICHOLSON, JACK	377323777	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	WI	WI	WI	WI	VVI	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
45	FREEMAN, MORGAN	363423754	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
47	BACALL, LAUREN	314773672	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	DE	DE	DE		DE	100.00					1	Infotype 209 Unemployment State missing
	BACALL, LAUREN	314773672	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	DE	DE	DE		DE	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
49	PFEIFFER, MICHELLE	307823660	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
50	PITT, BRAD	305244824	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	WI	WI	NY	WI	NY	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
	PITT, BRAD	305244824	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	WI	WI	NY	WI	NY	100.00					1	Resident Tax State does not match Work Tax
	PITT, BRAD	305244824	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	WI	WI	NY	WI	NY	100.00					1	Warning - Multiple Infotype 208 Work Area four
	PITT, BRAD	305244824	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	WI	WI	NY	WI	NY	100.00					1	Warning - Multiple Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE
	PITT, BRAD	305244824	1	10	SF00	N000	SB	WI	WI	NY	WI	NY	100.00					1	Work Tax State does not match Unemployme
72	FREEMAN, MORGAN	999999999	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
	FREEMAN, MORGAN	999999999	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Warning - Multiple Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE
	FREEMAN, MORGAN	999999999	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Work Tax State does not match W4/W5 State
73	LAURIE, HUGH	22222222	1	10	SF01	N000	SB						0.00					1	No Tax Infotypes exist
74	COWELL, SIMON	333333333	1	10	SF01	N000	SB						0.00					1	No Tax Infotypes exist
80	BARKER, BOB	999999876	1	01	SF00	N000	SB	NY	NY	WI	WI	NY	100.00					1	Resident Tax State does not match Work Tax
	BARKER, BOB	999999876	1	01	SF00	N000	SB	NY	NY	WI	WI	NY	100.00					1	Work Tax State does not match W4/W5 State
85	FREHLEY, ACE	116116116	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
86	HEALY, HEATH	309281877	1	10	SF08	N000	SB						0.00					1	No Tax Infotypes exist
87	ADAMS, SAMUEL	999999999	1	10	SF22	N000	SB	CA	CA	CA	CA	VVI	100.00					1	Work Tax State does not match W4/W5 State
89	ICECUBE, SAL	345667744	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
96	MARION, CORP	876443322	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found
97	TRUEGROSS, TEST	987668899	1	10	SF01	N000	SB	NY	NY	NY	NY	NY	100.00					1	Optional Infotype 210 W4/W5 STATE found

#### **Helpful Tools: Payroll Tax Examiner**

- Easy to read view of the tax configuration (tax model combined with wage type).
- Provides a quick view of the taxability by wage type to easily spot problems.
- Also provides a great requirements gathering tool for support analysts.



#### **Key Take-Aways**

- Proper tax setup is a combination of employee master data, wage type configuration, tax model configuration, and TaxFactory setup.
- The most important wage type configuration items are processing classes 68, 69, and 71.
- Tax models consist of multiple elements that are combined to determine the tax combo which, in turn, determine the actual tax types.
- BSI TaxFactory is a separate application and does the actual tax calculation.
- The payroll log is a powerful aid in the resolution of payroll tax problems.
- Aspire HR's Tax Examiner reports are critical aids in preventing and solving tax calculation problems.

Questions?

#### **How to Reach Us**

- We want to partner with you for success
- For more information, we can be reached at:
  - Todd Hall <u>thall@aspirehr.com</u>
  - Jeremy Amos <u>jamos@aspirehr.com</u>

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