

***Appendix D:  
HealthCollect Secure Data  
Exchange Web Service  
—Practice notes for  
VINAH data submissions***

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# Introduction

Appendix D provides information on the HealthCollect Secure Data Exchange (SDE) Web Service now available for vendor implementation. The functionality of the web service automates the existing process of manually updating the VINAH files and is available for submission of VINAH 3 format data only. Data for VINAH v1 (05/06) and VINAH v2 (06/07) must be transmitted manually.

Use of the HealthCollect Secure Data Exchange Web Service is optional and the existing manual submission process is not affected.

## Changes in this section

The following update has been made to Appendix D:

- Inclusion of value to select for Content Type field.
- 1/10/2007 - Removed references to Test site
- 19/03/2009 - Changed Web Service URL
- 19/03/2009 - Changed 'ContextID' to 22

## HealthCollect - SDE Web Service

The process of uploading VINAH submissions and receiving feedback reports can now be integrated into Health Service extract software by accessing the DHS HealthCollect Secure Data Exchange (SDE) Web Service. This functionality automates the existing process of users being able to upload files through the HealthCollect Portal.

The web service site is located at: <https://www.healthcollect.vic.gov.au/healthcollectsde/>

A full list of functions are available at the above URL.

Notes:

- The web service must *only* be accessed across a Secure Socket Layer (SSL) using the HTTPS prefix.
- The only functions that should be implemented for VINAH operations are: DeleteFile, GetFileList, GetFile, TransferFile. Other functions that are listed in the WSDL are not relevant to VINAH and should not be addressed.
- Usernames should be passed as per the account issued for the portal.
- Clear text passwords cannot be used, rather the encrypted token associated with the account. This hashed value is viewable in the user's 'My Account' section.
- For parameter 'ContextID', the number 22 should be used as this value.
- The 'ForOwner' parameter is required for TransferFile functions; it should be set to the value 'VINAHSys' for the submission of data. If a user would like to test the transfer without sending the file to the VINAH System account, they may specify their own username.
- The submission contents shall be a Base64 UTF-8 encoded string. The same encoding should be used for uploading and downloading of files.
- The ContentType field in the TransferFile function should be set to the value 'application/octet\_stream'.
- To check if the VINAH System has received and/or processed the submission, use the GetFileList function to check for the existence of reports in the users download section. If

files exist, they will have a FileID value, which can be passed to the GetFile function to fetch the contents of the file.

- After reports have been downloaded and read successfully using the GetFile functions, it is strongly recommended that the files be deleted from the portal using the DeleteFile function.
- The Web Service URL should be parameterized in the configuration settings accessible to the user, as it will change for submissions to the live environment:  
Test site: <https://test.healthcollect.vic.gov.au/healthcollectsde/>  
Live site: <https://www.healthcollect.vic.gov.au/healthcollectsde/>  
*Please note that the default must be the test site. Users are not to utilise the live site under any circumstances unless formally advised in writing to do so by HDSS.*
- Once a file is uploaded, it is forwarded to the VINAH system for processing, and cannot be deleted/removed without manual intervention.
- If a receipt file is not received from the VINAH System within 1 hour, an event may be triggered advising the user to contact the HDSS Helpdesk.
- The web service definitions and specifications may be subject to change.

For more information about the use of the web service, please contact the HDSS Helpdesk at [hdss.helpdesk@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:hdss.helpdesk@dhs.vic.gov.au).