

DOTS FastTax

ONLINE HOSTED SALES & USE TAX RATE INFORMATION

OVERVIEW

Service Objects' DOTS FastTax is a hosted, programmable XML Web Service that allows you to lookup sales and use tax rate information for every U.S. and Canadian tax jurisdiction. DOTS FastTax allows you to integrate sales and use tax rate information lookup into your applications, business processes, and Web sites.

DOTS FastTax is a multi-database Web Service designed to provide the most accurate and up-to-date tax rate information available. DOTS FastTax is compatible with existing application development technologies, and is based on industry standards such as XML, SOAP, and WSDL.

FEATURES

- Tax rate information updated quarterly.
- Find current and correct tax rates by postal code, city/region, or exact street address.
- Provides all U.S. and Canadian tax rates at the component level (state, county, city), and includes a combined rate value.
- Tax rates are determined securely in real-time via an SSL connection.

BENEFITS

- Enables a quick, simple, and accurate way to calculate sales and use tax.
- Fully and easily integrates into any e-commerce Web site.
- No CD-ROMs to install.
- No database to administer.
- Completely Web based.
- Only pennies per transaction.

HOW IT'S USED

Calculating tax rates from state to state can be both time consuming and confusing. Every state has its own tax rates and rules which can vary greatly from one area to the next.

Generally, companies selling over the Internet are subject to the same sales tax collection requirements as any other retailer. The amount of tax charged depends upon many factors - including the identity of the seller, the type of item purchased, and the destination of the shipment. In accordance with state tax laws, tax is generally calculated on the total selling price of each individual item.

If an item is purchased online it is then subject to sales tax in the state where the order is shipped to, not where it was purchased from. To further complicate things, some states do not charge sales tax for freight (shipping) and handling (labor), while others do.

Service Objects' DOTS FastTaxSM uncomplicates the issues associated with online sales tax by compiling tax rates and regulations for every state in the U.S., for every province in Canada, and hosts the information on our own data servers. DOTS FastTax users simply integrate our service into their applications, business processes, and/or Web sites, and Service Objects does the work for them.

OPERATIONS

DOTS FastTax offers five unique operations to suit the versatile inputs and informational needs of its users.

1. GetTaxInfoByCityCountyState

Returns tax information for a given tax type, city, state, and county.

2. GetCanadianTaxInfoByProvince

Returns Canadian tax information by Province.

3. GetTaxInfoByZip_V2

Returns tax information for a given tax type and 5-digit zip code.

4. GetTaxInfoByAddress

Returns tax information for a given tax type and street address.

5. GetTaxInfoByCityState

Returns tax information for a given tax type and City/State.

HOW IT WORKS

Service Objects' DOTS FastTax is a hosted, programmable XML Web Service that quickly and easily integrates sales and use tax rate information into your applications, business processes, and Web sites. The service contains the sales and use tax rates by postal code for all U.S. states and Canadian territories - updated quarterly. DOTS FastTax will help your company save money by allowing you to focus on company goals, rather than trying to keep up with continuous state tax rate and postal code changes.

Accurate tax calculations require accurate addresses. We utilize our own address validation service to standardize and verify full-street addresses to the ZIP+4 level.

XML RESPONSE EXAMPLE

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
- <TaxInfo xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://www.serviceobjects.com/">
  <Zip>93101</Zip>
  <City>SANTA BARBARA</City>
  <County>SANTA BARBARA</County>
  <CountyFIPS>083</CountyFIPS>
  <StateName>CALIFORNIA</StateName>
  <StateAbbreviation>CA</StateAbbreviation>
  <TotalTaxRate>0.0775</TotalTaxRate>
  <TotalTaxExempt>LABOR/FREIGHT/SERVICES</TotalTaxExempt>
  <StateRate>0.0625</StateRate>
  <CityRate>0</CityRate>
  <CountyRate>0.010</CountyRate>
  <CountyDistrictRate>0.005</CountyDistrictRate>
  <CityDistrictRate>0</CityDistrictRate>
</TaxInfo>
```

This is a sample of the XML Response generated from our DOTS FastTax Web Service. Simply specify the type of tax rate you are looking for (i.e. "Sales" or "Use") along with any location in the United States or Canada, and DOTS FastTax will return that area's total tax rate broken down by city, city district, state, county, and county district, along with tax exemptions and general location information such as the county FIPS.

DATA

Service Objects' DOTS FastTax uses six different types of tax rate procedures when calculating a given tax rate, and returns the following information:

1. Total Tax Rate

The total applicable taxes for the given location.

2. State Rate

The applicable state tax rates for the given location.

3. County Rate

County-wide tax rate determined by the county.

4. County District Rate

An additional, locality-specific tax rate imposed by the county.

5. City Rate

A city-wide tax rate determined by the city.

6. City District Rate

An additional, locality-specific tax rate imposed by the city.

METROPOLITAN COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT RATE

The MCTD is an additional, locality-specific tax rate imposed by the county. The only locations that will return the MCTD rate are those located in counties encompassed by New York City. These counties include the Bronx, Kings (Brooklyn), New York (Manhattan), Queens, and Richmond (Staten Island). For locations outside of New York City, the MCTD rate will appear as a "County District Rate". Some counties and cities also apply an additional tax rate to specific locations

(or "localities") within their domain. We classify these additional rates as "District Rates". This is an unofficial naming convention that we use to classify additional rates that cannot be classified under the general county or city rates. Often these additional rates are charged to fund locality-specific programs or facilities that do not necessarily benefit others within the city or county, (schools and public transportation systems for example).

SECURITY & AVAILABILITY

- HTTPS encrypts sensitive data sent to and from the DOTS FastTax users.
- All data is protected by an internal privacy policy and security guarantee.
- No customer data is retained or stored.
- A 99.995% Service Level Agreement is provided.
- Third Party Sentry testing immediately notifies Service Objects' technicians of issues.
- Primary and backup data centers on opposite coasts.
- Fully redundant, load-balanced hardware and Internet connections are used.

INTEGRATION & SUPPORT

Standard integration of DOTS FastTax is very straight-forward and takes a developer only days to implement. Almost any language can integrate with DOTS Web Services, allowing users to program their applications in the language of their choice. Service Objects also offers a developer's guide and sample code for most programming environments. Service Objects' expert developers are ready to help with your integration process and can even write custom sample code for you. They are also available to discuss integration quality and verify that it is fully robust.

Once fully integrated, the Service Objects support team is always ready to answer questions and help you with any issues that may arise. In the event of a problem with the service, a support ticket will be created immediately and a member of the support team will contact you within 90 minutes.

EMERGENCY SUPPORT

Emergency support is available 24/7, should you need to speak with an engineer immediately.

NEXT STEP

To try an online demo, signup for a Free 30-day Trial; or, to learn more about DOTS FastTax please visit:

www.serviceobjects.com/products/commerce/fasttax

Service Objects also offers free presentations and demo batches. Please call 800.694.6269 or email info@serviceobjects.com for more information.