# (Rev. December 2008)

Department of the Treasury

Internal Revenue Service

IRS e-file Electronic Funds Withdrawal **Authorization for Form 7004** 

▶See instructions. Do not send to the IRS. Keep for your records.

OMB No. 1545-1927

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Form 8878-A (Rev. 12-2008) Page **2** 

### **Purpose of Form**



Form 8878-A is not an application for an extension of time to file. Taxpayers must file Form 7004,

Application for Automatic Extension of Time To File Certain Business Income Tax, Information, and Other Returns.

A person authorized to sign an electronic funds withdrawal authorization and an electronic return originator (ERO) use Form 8878-A to use a personal identification number (PIN) to authorize an electronic funds withdrawal of the balance due on an electronic Form 7004.

**Do not send this form to the IRS.** The ERO must retain Form 8878-A.

#### **ERO Responsibilities**

The ERO will:

- Enter the name and identifying number of the taxpayer at the top of the form;
- Complete Part I using the amounts (zeros may be entered when appropriate) from the taxpayer's Form 7004:
- Enter on the authorization line in Part II the ERO firm name (not the name of the individual preparing the return) if the ERO is authorized to enter the authorized person's PIN;
- Give the authorized person Form 8878-A for completion and review—this can be done by hand delivery, U.S. mail, private delivery service, email, or Internet website; and
- Complete Part III including a signature and date.



You must receive the completed and signed Form 8878-A from the authorized person before an electronic Form 7004 with an electronic

funds withdrawal authorization is transmitted (or released for transmission).

# Authorized Person Responsibilities

The authorized person will:

- Check the appropriate box in Part II to either authorize the ERO to enter the authorized person's PIN or to choose to enter it in person;
- Indicate or verify his or her PIN when authorizing the ERO to enter it (the PIN must be *five* numbers other than all zeros);
- Sign, date, and enter his or her title in Part II; and
- Return the completed Form 8878-A to the ERO by hand delivery, U.S. mail, private delivery service, or fax.

The taxpayer's Form 7004 with an electronic funds withdrawal authorization will not be transmitted to the IRS until the ERO receives the signed Form 8878-A.

## Important Notes for EROs

- Do not send Form 8878-A to the IRS unless requested to do so. Retain the completed Form 8878-A for 3 years from the return due date or IRS received date, whichever is later. Form 8878-A can be retained electronically in accordance with the recordkeeping guidelines in Rev. Proc. 97-22, which is on page 9 of Internal Revenue Bulletin 1997-13 at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-irbs/irb97-13.pdf.
- You should confirm the identity of the authorized person. For additional guidance, see Pub. 3112, IRS e-file Application and Participation.
- Enter the authorized person's PIN on the input screen only if that person has authorized you to do so.
- Provide the authorized person with a copy of the signed Form 8878-A upon request.
- Provide the authorized person with a corrected copy of Form 8878-A if changes are made to Form 7004 (for example, based on the authorized person's review).

• See Pub. 3112 and Pub. 4163 for more information. Also, go to www.irs.gov/efile and select Tax Professionals.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by Internal Revenue Code section 6103.

The time needed to complete this form will vary depending on individual circumstances.

The estimated average time is:

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to Internal Revenue Service, Tax Products Coordinating Committee, SE:W:CAR:MP:T:T:SP, 1111 Constitution Ave. NW, IR-6526, Washington, DC 20224.

Do not send the form to this address. Instead, keep it for your records.