Project description: MTC Outreach to Taxpayers and Practitioners
V 2.0 (Approved by MTC Strategic Planning Steering Committee 12-10-15)

This project will involve development of a systematic process of regular outreach to taxpayers and practitioners that facilitates the Commission's awareness of tax compliance issues of concern to taxpayers. The project will also include development of recommended processes for addressing identified taxpayer concerns.

Problem: The MTC's vision includes the following element: "By 2019, the MTC will be recognized as the leading resource for ensuring equitable tax compliance." The MTC's current tax compliance activities are focused on issues of concern to the states. The MTC does not regularly reach out to taxpayers or practitioners in the state and local tax community to identify compliance issues that are of concern to taxpayers.

Risks: Taxpayers, practitioners and the public are unlikely to view the MTC as the leading resource for ensuring equitable tax compliance if the MTC does not actively seek information from taxpayers and practitioners about issues of concern to those groups.

Issues for review:

- Identify ways that states can provide information about tax compliance issues that they hear of from taxpayers and practitioners
- Identify ways that MTC Committees can provide information about tax compliance issues that they hear of from taxpayers and practitioners
- Identify ways that taxpayers and practitioners can more easily raise issues of concern through MTC staff
- Develop a process for determining which issues can be addressed, and how to address them

Expected outcomes from the project:

- Recommended process for actively soliciting taxpayer and practitioner compliance concerns
- Recommended process for addressing issues identified by taxpayers and practitioners

Who should be involved in the project:

- Taxpayer representative – John Allan, attorney (Jones, Day)
- SALT practitioner – Shirley Sicilian
- MTC staff – Thomas Shimkin
- MTC Strategic Planning Steering Committee (project sponsor) – Rich Jackson (ID), MTC Vice Chair
- MTC Executive Committee member – Steve Cordi
- MTC Committee chairperson – Wood Miller, Uniformity Committee