

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

GUIDANCE NOTE FOR CUSTOMERS USING ACCREDITED SOFTWARE

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1 Introduction

The London Stock Exchange, in consultation with its customers, has introduced a formal Accreditation Policy. This policy will give customers visibility of the accreditation status of their chosen software solution, and reduce mandatory testing requirements for customers using accredited solutions to receive Exchange services.

1.1 Readership

This document provides guidance to customers who wish to use the accredited product of a software house. It is a supplement to the 'Accreditation Policy for Software Houses', where this policy is documented in greater detail.

http://www.londonstockexchange.com/techlib/techdoc_testacc.asp

1.2 Timescales

This policy is in place at the date of this document. Customers who use software that was accredited as part of the Extranex migration activities will not be required to perform any additional testing. Software Houses that have been accredited to date will not be required to re-accredit until updates are made to their software.

2 Guidance

2.1 What does accreditation mean?

The Exchange will accredit software solutions that have proven functional and technical components. This provides confidence to the Exchange and to the Software House's customers that the software solution interacts appropriately with the Exchange's systems in Live Service.

In choosing to use an accredited solution, the Exchange's mandatory testing requirements for customers are reduced. This is due to the higher level of confidence in the solution that has already been achieved. As a general principle, customers using the software will only be required to test their network infrastructure and hardware, and not repeat mandatory software testing that has been carried out by a Software House already.

2.2 What solutions does accreditation apply to?

This policy applies to Customers using the following solutions that have been developed and accredited by Software Houses:

- **Trading and INFOLECT Host to Host;** a complete solution where trading access and information feeds are taken direct from the Exchange via dedicated Extranex links to the customer
- **Trading only;** trading access is direct to the Exchange, whilst a third party provides the information feed. (This category also includes the solutions that were previously known as Market Access Workstations (MAWs))
- **INFOLECT only;** INFOLECT feed taken directly from the Exchange, no trading access is required

- **Vendor Access Network (VAN);** a network external to the Exchange is maintained by a Vendor Access Provider (VAP). VAP's provide access via the VAN for Vendor Access Customers (VAC). The VACs themselves do not maintain independent links to the Exchange
- **Retail Service Provider Gateway (RSPG) solution;** provides access to the RSP Gateway for Retail Service Providers and Brokers.

2.3 Is a software solution accredited?

Once a software solution has gained accreditation status, the details of that solution are published on the Exchange's website.

http://www.londonstockexchange.com/techlib/techdoc_testacc.asp

On the website, the accredited version number will be given, as well as details of the Trading Services and Broadcast Data Groups that the solution supports. This information can be used by customers to help select an appropriate solution, and to confirm that the software they have been given is accredited.

2.4 What happens if software is not accredited?

If the customer finds that the software version they have been provided with is not accredited according to the Exchange Website, or if they choose not to use an accredited solution:

- The customer is no longer eligible for reduced testing requirements
- The customer will be required to perform all testing that is mandatory for an In House software solution.

Note: If the accreditation status is revoked after the customer is live, appropriate measures will be taken if it is thought that the software may have adverse effects on the production systems.

2.5 What testing is required – new accredited solution?

Two tests are mandatory for customers who are using a new accredited solution for the first time:

- **High Volumes Service (HVS);** this test is mandatory for all solutions with an INFOLECT feed. This ensures that the customers network can support the high volumes of data that may be produced
- **Live Connectivity Testing (LCON);** to ensure, as far as possible, that there are no issues with the customers live enablement, and that they are ready for Live Service.

2.6 What testing is required – existing accredited solution?

Where:

- The customer is already using the Software House's solution
- No changes have been made to the customers enablement
- The customer receives updated and re-accredited software from their Software House

No testing is required. It should be noted that some release specific changes may require mandatory testing for all customers.

2.7 What charges will the customer incur?

No changes have been made to the customer testing charges. However, the number of mandatory tests has been reduced where accredited software is used which should reduce mandatory testing costs.

The customer will incur the following charges (as currently):

- A set charge for each supported test session required to pass all mandatory testing
- Charges for any supported optional testing that is performed
- Charges for any unsupported optional testing that is performed, dependent on whether this is via a continuous access enablement, or a booked session.

2.8 How is accreditation maintained?

Customers should be aware that it is the responsibility of the Software House to maintain the accreditation status of their software as set out in the 'Accreditation Policy for Software Houses' document. Failure to do this may result in the accreditation status being revoked. This may impact the customer as stated in section 2.4.

2.9 Further information

For further information about the Accreditation Policy please contact your Technical Account Manager.

Note, This document does not include specific details of the testing that is required. The Customer Testing documentation should be used as reference for details regarding specific test cycles. Detailed guidance on the different testing services is covered in testing specifications documents. Links are provided to these documents below:

SETS Conformance testing Specifications issue 7(STS 101)
http://www.londonstockexchange.com/techlib/sets/cts_index.asp

SETS post-live customer testing issue 5 (STS103)
<http://www.londonstockexchange.com/techlib/pdfs/sets/plct.pdf>

SETS post-live customer testing document issue 7 (STS104)

<http://www.londonstockexchange.com/techlib/pdfs/sets/STS104.pdf>

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The Exchange makes no warranties or representations of any kind whether express or implied either by operation of law, statutory or otherwise including warranties as to the quality or fitness for purpose of any third party software which are hereby excluded to the maximum extent permitted by law.

No representations are made that the software will remain accredited. If the accreditation status is revoked after the customer is live, the customer may be suspended from live service in accordance with the terms of its contract with the Exchange (usually where the Exchange has grounds to believe that the customer's use of the software is causing or is likely to cause technical problems for the Exchange or the service).

This guidance note may be amended from time to time without notice and you should check the London Stock Exchange website
http://www.londonstockexchange.com/techlib/techdoc_testacc.asp
for any updates.

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