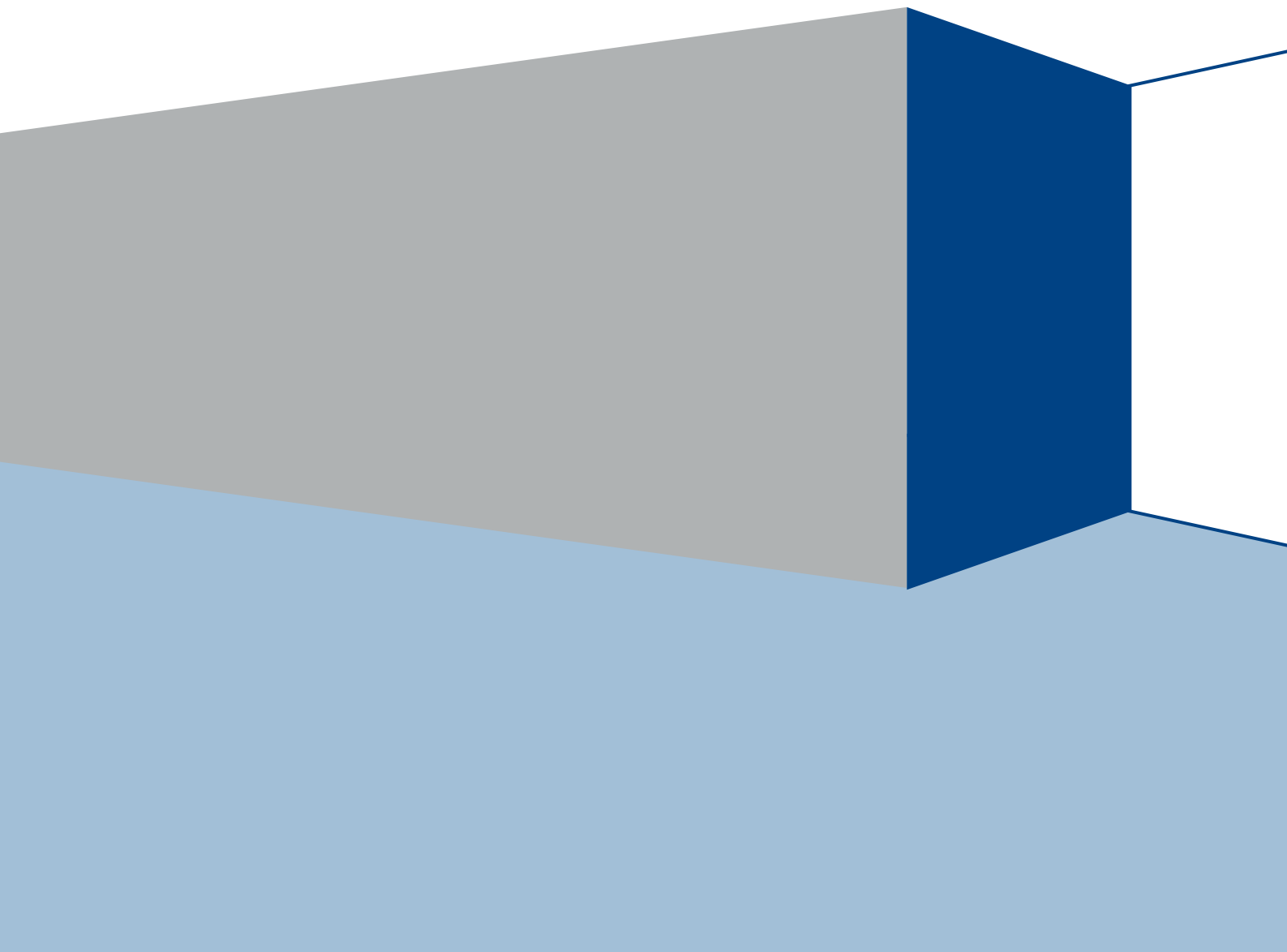




London
Stock Exchange

Guidance Notes
January 2010

Updated RNS XHTML Changes



Introduction

RNS is the leading specialist provider of regulatory disclosure distribution services to UK listed and Aim companies, releasing 190,000 announcements during 2009.

In May 2008, RNS redeveloped its technology platform to deliver improvements to the submission, receipt and display of announcement content to the market. The main change was a migration to an XHTML formatted data output which replaced the legacy ASCII format.

Following this implementation, we gathered feedback through our annual questionnaire and we now believe we have some valuable improvements which will further enhance the RNS Service.

The Exchange has completed in-house testing of these changes and conducted a successful Dress rehearsal with its RNS subscribers (those customers registered to use the S18 or P18 broadcast data channels).

Following on from this testing the Exchange is pleased to announce that these RNS enhancements will go live on **Monday 1 February 2010**.

In addition to the customer improvements the output messages now contain more detailed styling information and these changes are summarised below.

Technical Implications

Updated RNS XHTML Changes

1. Overview

As the fundamental formatting of the mark-up remains the same and the RNS XHTML Schema remains intact, there is no requirement for customers to reconform their software.

Here is an example document with no content:

Current RNS

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
    "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=us-
ascii" />
<title></title>
<meta content="HTML Tidy for Windows (vers 21 March 2007), see
www.w3.org" name="generator" />
<style type="text/css">
/**]
/**/
/**/
/**/
/*]]&gt;*/
&lt;/style&gt;
&lt;/head&gt;
&lt;body class="c5"&gt;
&lt;/body&gt;
&lt;/html&gt;</pre></div><div data-bbox="494 461 553 478" data-label="Section-Header"><h4>New RNS</h4></div><div data-bbox="494 479 864 769" data-label="Text"><pre>&lt;?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?&gt;
&lt;!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
    "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd"&gt;
&lt;html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"&gt;
&lt;head&gt;
&lt;meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=us-
ascii" /&gt;
&lt;title&gt;&lt;/title&gt;
&lt;meta content="RNS" name="generator" /&gt;
&lt;style type="text/css"&gt;
/*<![CDATA[*]
/**/
/**/
/**/
/*]]&gt;*/
&lt;/style&gt;
&lt;/head&gt;
&lt;body&gt;
&lt;/body&gt;
&lt;/html&gt;</pre></div><div data-bbox="82 899 96 920" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>3</p></div><div data-bbox="299 897 380 914" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>GUIDANCE NOTES</p></div><div data-bbox="445 897 599 914" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE GROUP</p></div>
```

2. The "meta generator" tag - content attribute.

This is now set to read "RNS" instead of HTML Tidy (HTML Tidy has been upgraded and would change this anyway).

Current RNS

```
<meta content="HTML Tidy for Windows (vers 21 March 2007), see  
www.w3.org" name="generator" />
```

New RNS

```
<meta content="RNS" name="generator" />
```

3. The style tag contents

This will now contain fundamentally different content (reflecting the better quality conversion), the layout of the css markup can also be compressed to save size.

If a document is not specifically edited, the styles will be compressed.

The example below is an example from a small document:

Current RNS

```
<style type="text/css">  
/**<br/>/**/<br/>BODY.c5 {<br/>    MARGIN: 72pt 36.85pt 72pt 70.9pt; FONT-FAMILY: Times New<br/>Roman<br/>}<br/>P.c4 {<br/>    MARGIN-TOP: 0pt; FONT-SIZE: 11pt; MARGIN-BOTTOM: 0pt;<br/>PADDING-BOTTOM: 0pt; PADDING-TOP: 0pt; FONT-FAMILY: Helvetica 55<br/>Roman; TEXT-ALIGN: left<br/>}<br/>P.c3 {<br/>    MARGIN-TOP: 0pt; FONT-SIZE: 11pt; MARGIN-BOTTOM: 12pt;<br/>PADDING-BOTTOM: 0pt; MARGIN-RIGHT: 5.6pt; PADDING-TOP: 0pt; FONT-<br/>FAMILY: Helvetica 55 Roman; TEXT-ALIGN: left<br/>}<br/>SPAN.c2 {<br/>    FONT-SIZE: 10pt; FONT-FAMILY: Arial<br/>}</pre></div><div data-bbox="495 450 643 468" data-label="Section-Header"><h3>New RNS (Compressed)</h3></div><div data-bbox="495 468 876 772" data-label="Text"><pre>&lt;style type="text/css"&gt;<br/>/*<![CDATA[*<br/>/**/<br/>sup{font-size:80%}h1{margin:0cm;margin-bottom:.0001pt;font-<br/>size:11.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif";font-<br/>weight:bold;}h2{margin:0cm;margin-bottom:.0001pt;text-<br/>align:justify;line-height:200%;text-autospace:none;font-<br/>size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif";font-<br/>weight:bold;}g{size:595.3pt 841.9pt;margin:72.0pt 36.85pt 72.0pt<br/>70.9pt;}div.g{p.l{margin:0cm;margin-bottom:.0001pt;font-<br/>size:11.0pt;font-family:"Helvetica 55 Roman","sans-serif";margin-<br/>top:0cm;margin-right:5.6pt;margin-bottom:12.0pt; margin-<br/>left:0cm;text-autospace:none}span.j{font-size:10.0pt;font-family:<br/>"Arial","sans-serif"}p.a,li.a,div.a{margin:0cm;margin-<br/>bottom:.0001pt;font-size:11.0pt;font-family:"Helvetica 55<br/>Roman","sans-serif";}span.h{font-size:10.0pt;font-<br/>family:"Arial","sans-serif"}<br/>/**/<br/>/*]]&gt;*/<br/>&lt;/style&gt;</pre></div><div data-bbox="81 899 96 920" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>4</p></div><div data-bbox="299 897 380 914" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>GUIDANCE NOTES</p></div><div data-bbox="445 897 599 914" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE GROUP</p></div>
```

```

P.c1 {
    PADDING-RIGHT: 0px; PADDING-LEFT: 0px; PADDING-BOTTOM:
0px; MARGIN: 0px; PADDING-TOP: 0px
}
/**/
/**]]>*/
</style>

```

New RNS (Not Compressed - Edited in RNS)

```

<style type="text/css">
/**![CDATA[*/
/**/
SUP {
    FONT-SIZE: 80%
}
H1 {
    FONT-WEIGHT: bold; FONT-SIZE: 11pt; MARGIN: 0cm 0cm 0pt;
FONT-FAMILY: "Times New Roman","serif"
}
H2 {
    FONT-WEIGHT: bold; FONT-SIZE: 12pt; MARGIN: 0cm 0cm 0pt;
LINE-HEIGHT: 200%; FONT-FAMILY: "Times New Roman","serif"; TEXT-
ALIGN: justify
}
.g {
    MARGIN: 72pt 36.85pt 72pt 70.9pt; size: 595.3pt 841.9pt
}
DIV.g {
}
P.1 {
    MARGIN: 0cm 5.6pt 12pt 0cm; FONT-FAMILY: "Helvetica 55
Roman","sans-serif"; FONT-SIZE: 11pt
}
SPAN.j {
    FONT-FAMILY: "Arial","sans-serif"; FONT-SIZE: 10pt
}
P.a {
    MARGIN: 0cm 0cm 0pt; FONT-FAMILY: "Helvetica 55
Roman","sans-serif"; FONT-SIZE: 11pt
}
LI.a {
    MARGIN: 0cm 0cm 0pt; FONT-FAMILY: "Helvetica 55
Roman","sans-serif"; FONT-SIZE: 11pt
}
DIV.a {
    MARGIN: 0cm 0cm 0pt; FONT-FAMILY: "Helvetica 55
Roman","sans-serif"; FONT-SIZE: 11pt
}
SPAN.h {
    FONT-FAMILY: "Arial","sans-serif"; FONT-SIZE: 10pt
}
/**/
/**]]>*/
</style>

```

4. The body tag

The body tag will contain fundamentally different output due to the new quality of conversion. The main difference technically is however the use of a style on the body tag itself.

The only other thing worth mentioning is the heavy use of spans reflecting the source Word's internal "run markup" which is no longer present in the new RNS.

Current RNS

```
<body class="c5">
<p class="c1"><br /></p>
<p class="c1"><br /></p>
<p class="c3"><span class="c2">This notification relates to a transaction to be notified in accordance with XXX</span></p>
<p class="c4"><span class="c2">On</span><span class="c2">X</span><span class="c2">X</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">9</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">the following share transaction</span><span class="c2">s</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">w</span><span class="c2">ere</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">completed by</span><span class="c2">a</span><span class="c2">director of XXX. XXX was informed of the transaction</span><span class="c2">s</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">on th</span><span class="c2">e same day.</span></p>
<p class="c1"><br /></p>
<p class="c4"><span class="c2">XXX:</span></p>
<p class="c1"><br /></p>
<p class="c4"><span class="c2">Acquisition of 133,164</span><span class="c2">ordinary</span><span class="c2">y shares of 3 3/7 US cents each at nil consideration</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">on the vesting of share awards under the XXX Performance Share Plan.</span></p>
<p class="c4"><span class="c2">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="c4"><span class="c2">Shares sold:</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">54,734</span><span class="c2">ordi</span><span class="c2">nary shares at a price of</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">282.975</span><span class="c2">pence</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">per share.</span></p>
<p class="c1"><br /></p>
<p class="c4"><span class="c2">Following the above transaction</span><span class="c2">s</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">XXX is deemed to be interested in a total of</span><span class="c2">&#160;</span><span class="c2">4,709,245</span><span class="c2">XXX pl</span><span class="c2">c</span><span class="c2">ordinary shares</span><span class="c2">. </span><span class="c2">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="c1"><br /></p>
<p class="c1"><br /></p>
<p class="c4"><span class="c2">&#160;</span></p>
</body>
```

New RNS

```
<body>
<div class="g">
<p class="l"><span class="j">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="l"><span class="j">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="l"><span class="j">This notification relates to a transaction to be notified in accordance with XXX</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">On XXX the following share transactions were completed by a director of XXX. XXX was informed of the transactions on the same day.</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">XXX:</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">Acquisition of 133,164 ordinary shares of 3 3/7 US cents each at nil consideration on the vesting of share awards under the XXX Performance Share Plan.</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">Shares sold:</span><span class="h">&#160;</span><span class="h">54,734 ordinary shares at a price of 282.975 pence per share.</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">Following the above transactions XXX is deemed to be interested in a total of 4,709,245 XXX ordinary shares.</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">&#160;</span></p>
<p class="a"><span class="h">&#160;</span></p>
</div>
</body>
```

Associated Technical Specification Publications

This document should be used in conjunction with the London Stock Exchange Group's technical specifications documents:

TradElect and Infolect Service Description (Ref: TIS101)

Interface Specification (Ref: TIS102)

Network Specification (Ref: TIS103)

Data Formats (Ref: TIS104)

The documents are also available in electronic form at the following address:
<http://www.londonstockexchange.com/techlibrary>

For further information in relation to technical queries, please contact your Technical Account Manager or the Technical Information Desk on +44 (0)20 7797 3939. Alternatively, please e-mail the Client Technology Group on ctgroup@londonstockexchange.com.



London
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