



Enhancement of Settlement Arrangement for Multi-counter Eligible Securities – Adoption of Single Tranche Multiple Counter Arrangement (STMC Arrangement)

Information Package for STMC Connectivity Test

(17 May 2025)

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1. Introduction

To allow HKSCC Participants (CPs) to verify the connectivity on Saturday by mimicking the actions to be performed during post release verification¹, the Connectivity Test will be held on 17 May 2025 (Saturday).

This Information Package is designed to assist CPs in planning and preparing for the Connectivity Test. CPs should read this Information Package carefully to ensure all necessary preparations are in place before conducting the Connectivity Test. A copy of this document should also be passed to their IT support or system vendors to ensure the availability of proper technical support and operations resources before and during the Connectivity Test.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Connectivity Test are to allow CPs to verify their connectivity and perform reconciliation during post release verification by verifying the followings:

- i. CPs able to access CCASS (same environment for Practice Session)
- ii. CPs able to download ad-hoc reports and/or data files which will be available during post release verification.

3. Important Notes on Technical Arrangements

Before the Connectivity Test Day, CPs should ensure their workstations are configured according to the "HKSCC CCASS/ VaR Online/ RAP Installation Procedures" on Client Connect under Infrastructure – Settlement & Depository:

- A. Section 4.2 – configure the required Domain Name System (DNS) server IP as follows:
 - Preferred DNS: 10.243.1.1 (UDP Port 53)
 - Alternate DNS: 10.243.65.1 (UDP Port 53); and
- B. Section 4.5 – verify the Domain Name System (DNS) setup and connectivity to the Alternate Domain Name System (DNS)
- C. Section 5.3 – configure Compatibility View Settings
- D. Section 5.4 – configure Local Intranet Settings
- E. Section 5.5 – disable Certificate Revocation Check

Furthermore, CPs should note the following arrangements for the preparation and execution of the Connectivity Test:

¹ Post release verification occurs on the last Saturday immediately before the launch of STMC.

3.1 CCASS

- a) CPs should logon their existing CCASS Terminal (C3T) and/or Participant Gateway (PG) in production to access CCASS during Connectivity Test, where applicable, **at 11:00 promptly to start the Connectivity Test**. Users must use Microsoft Edge to access CCASS via C3T.
- b) The CCASS reports/data files available in the Connectivity Test are for Connectivity Test purpose only. CPs should not rely on such CCASS reports/data files for production use.
- c) The participating users must have experience in using CCASS in their daily business activities, and have the registered email address/ mobile device for receiving One-Time-Password (OTP) and regular passwords for accessing CCASS by Two-Factor-Authentication (2FA) during the Connectivity Test. Also, CPs should ensure that the participating user has completed the first time login process, please refer to Appendix C of [Information Package for Launch of 2FA](#) for the first time login arrangement.
- d) CPs should ensure that the participating users have appropriate user function access to perform the required CCASS activities during Connectivity Test. The Delegated Administrators (DAs) of CPs are encouraged NOT to change any user function access during the Connectivity Test as it will take time to take effect.
- e) **CPs are reminded to remove ALL their testing upload files and CCASS reports/data files downloaded during the Connectivity Test from their production C3Ts and PGs to avoid any mis-use upon normal CCASS operations on next business day.**
- f) CPs using PGs in the Connectivity Test should make sure that their Participant Supplied Systems (PSS) are NOT connected to their production environment during the Connectivity Test or back-up and restore procedures are already in place to clean up and resume their system back to production image after the Connectivity Test.
- g) **CPs who use BOS or PSS of PGs in the Rehearsal are reminded to do clean-up and make sure that their corresponding BOS or PSS used in the Rehearsal have been resumed to production image and ready for normal business activities on the next business day.**
- h) CPs should refer to the Checklist in [Appendix A](#) and the Schedule and Timetable listed in [Section 4.2](#) for the action items to be performed before, during and after the Connectivity Test for preparation and execution. In order to achieve the objectives, it is imperative that CPs follow the Connectivity Test checklist and rundowns. CPs should ensure their participating user is familiar with the requirements and procedures prior to participating in the Connectivity Test.
- i) **In addition, CPs are recommended to maintain a proper audit trail in respect of each transaction performed during the Connectivity Test. A responsible officer or his/her designate of each participating CPs are advised to be available during the Connectivity Test to supervise the testing process and**

to be responsible for relaying any issues arising during the Connectivity Test to HKEX. In any event, it is recommended that an internal briefing should be held by each CP prior to the Connectivity Test to ensure that (1) user involved fully understand all requirements and procedures and (2) proper arrangements have been put in place by the CP to comply with the Connectivity Test requirements.

- j) CPs should ensure that they have access to the emails of the designated contact person(s) nominated in the registration in order to receive emergency messages from HKEX during the Connectivity Test.
- k) CPs should coordinate with their IT teams and/or vendors for necessary preparation for the Connectivity Test. Moreover, CPs should secure sufficient support from their IT teams and/or vendors at all times during the Connectivity Test. **Administrator accounts on the CCASS/3 Terminals should be ready to correct PC configurations for the terminals if necessary.**
- l) CPs should report any issue encounter during Connectivity Test by returning the “STMC Connectivity Test Issue Report” as set forth in [Appendix C](#) to HKEX **at or before 12:00 noon on 19 May 2025 (Monday).**
- m) CPs must confirm the test results of the Connectivity Test, along with the Practice Session one, by returning the “Connectivity Test and Practice Session Confirmation Form” as set forth in Appendix E of the Information Package for Practice Session to HKEX by 12:00 noon on 26 May 2025 (Monday).

4. Schedule and Arrangements

4.1 Overview

CPs should verify their connections with C3Ts, PGs (where applicable).

4.2 Schedule and Timetable

During the Connectivity Test, CPs should follow the schedule and timetable as follows:

Execution Date : 17 May 2025 (Saturday)
Logical Date : 29 March 2025 (Saturday)

TIME FROM	TIME TO	CONNECTIVITY TEST SCOPE	REMARKS
17 May 2025 (Saturday)			
11:00	12:00	CCASS – applicable to ALL CPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logon to CCASS via: https://www.ccass.com • Retrieve reports/data files 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CP could refer to Appendix B for available ad-hoc reports and data files during post release verification. • NO batch-settlement-run

4.3 User Profile and Password

The user profiles of CPs are based on the latest production image prior to the Connectivity Test, i.e. 16 May 2025 (Friday) day-end image.

During the Connectivity Test, if 2FA self-reset password is performed or the participating user's password has been reset by their Delegated Administrators (DAs), the users concerned should use the original password (i.e. before password reset in the Connectivity Test) for production use on the following business day, i.e. 19 May 2025 (Monday).

4.4 Connectivity Test Environment

The Connectivity Test environment will be set up with testing data as set out in [Appendix B](#). Activities performed during the Connectivity Test shall simulate the production operations of 29 March 2025 during post release verification.

4.5 Transactions to be Executed

CCASS on-line session(s) will be available in the Connectivity Test. CPs can login to the CCASS testing environment and download ad-hoc reports and data files which will be available during post release verification. CPs should refer to [section 4.2](#) and [Appendix B](#) for the detailed execution script respectively.

4.6 Report / Data File Download via CCASS

CCASS reports/data files can be retrieved via "Report Download" function via C3T and PG during the Connectivity Test.

5. Severe Weather Arrangements

In case (i) Typhoon Signal Number 8 or above has been hoisted and remains in effect and not lowered before 8:30 a.m. on Connectivity Test execution date; and/or (ii) Black Rainstorm Warning has been issued and remains in effect and not lowered before 8:30 a.m. on Connectivity Test execution date, the Connectivity Test will be cancelled. HKSCC will notify CPs the revised schedule (if applicable) of the Connectivity Test at a later date.

In case Typhoon Signal Number 8 or above is hoisted at or after 8:30 a.m. on the day, all activities will be terminated 15 minutes thereafter. In case Black Rainstorm Warning is issued during testing hours, i.e. at or after 12:30 p.m., the Connectivity Test will continue until completion.

6. Communication Channels

During the Connectivity Test, HKEX will communicate with CPs via the following channels:

- a. under normal situation, HKEX will communicate with CPs via Broadcast Messages through CCASS;
- b. in case of emergency where CPs are unable to access CCASS, HKEX will notify CPs of any ad hoc arrangements via email and/or phone calls.

CPs should ensure that their nominated person(s) for the Connectivity Test will be reachable during the prescribed time and the relevant email addresses and mobile phone numbers submitted to HKEX are accurate.

7. Help Desk

For any queries during the preparation and execution of the Connectivity Test, CPs can contact **CCASS Hotline** at **2979-7111** for assistance.

8. Confirmation on Completion

All CPs who participated in the Connectivity Test are reminded to **confirm their test results, along with the Practice Session** one, by returning the “Connectivity Test and Practice Session Confirmation Form” as set forth in Appendix E of the Information Package for Practice Session to HKEX **by 12:00 noon on 26 May 2025 (Monday)**.

CPs should report any issue encountered during Connectivity Test by returning the “STMC Connectivity Test Issue Report” as set forth in [Appendix C](#) to HKEX by 12:00 noon on 19 May 2025 (Monday).

APPENDIX A: Connectivity Test Checklist

ITEMS TO BE CHECKED		✓
(A) Before the Connectivity Test		
1	Have you read and understood this document?	
2	Have you passed this document to your internal IT support team or system vendor and ensured that they would take follow-up actions (if necessary)?	
3	Should the designated contact person(s) be changed, have you submitted the updated contact details (Email address and telephone number(s)) to HKEX?	
4	Have you arranged access for your designated contact person(s) to receive HKEX's communication via email and/or CCASS's Broadcast Messages before and during the Connectivity Test?	
5	Have you ensured that the participating users have access to CCASS functions to be tested in the Connectivity Test and their OTP channel (i.e. email address or mobile device) is accessible?	
6	If you would use your BOS in the Connectivity Test, have you developed proper procedures to restore your BOS upon completion of the Connectivity Test and verification control to ensure system readiness for normal business operations on the following Monday?	
7	If you are PG users, have you ensured that proper procedures are developed to switch to testing environment without affecting the existing production PSS, and that a restore procedure is in place?	
8	Have you created a new directory for downloading the testing CCASS reports/data files during the PS?	
9	Have you configured and verified Alternate Domain Name Servers (DNS) on workstations for access CCASS according to Section 4.2 and 4.5 of the Technical Guide?	
10	Have you arranged IT and/ or system vendor support with appropriate system administration ID during the Connectivity Test in case there is any technical problem?	
(B) After the Connectivity Test		
1	Have you cleaned up or removed the testing data or upload files or downloaded reports/data files from the production C3T, PG and/or BOS after the Connectivity Test?	
2	Have you restored the BOS or PSS of PG to production image and ensured they are ready for production use on the next business day?	
3	Have you submitted the "STMC Connectivity Test Issue Report" (Appendix C) to HKEX before 12:00 noon, 19 May 2025 if you have encountered any issue during the Connectivity Test?	

APPENDIX B: Recommended Executions for CPs

Details		Scope		
Execution Date		17 May 2025		
Execution Time		11:00 - 12:00		
Logical Date		29 March 2025		
Systems		<p>CCASS – applicable to ALL CPs</p> <p>Able to download reports/data files via CCASS.</p>		
<p>Retrieval of Reports/Data Files: CPs should retrieve the following CCASS reports/data files to facilitate the data verification:</p>				
(A) Report date of 27 March 2025 and 28 March 2025 – Simulate the last two normal business days immediately before migration.				
#	Report ID	Report Name	Report File Availability	Report Data File Availability
1	CCLTN04	Provision Clearing Statement	Yes	Yes
2	CCLTN05	Final Clearing Statement	Yes	Yes
3	CSEOP01	Next Settlement Day Due/Overdue Position Report	Yes	Yes
4	CSESB01	Daily Stock Balance Report	Yes	Yes
5	CSESM01	Statement of Stock movement (By Stock) Report	Yes	Yes
6	CSESM02	Statement of Stock movement (By Account) Report	Yes	Yes
7	CCLSI01	SI Status Report	Yes	Yes
8	CCLSI02	SI Activity Report	Yes	Yes
9	CIPSI01	ISI Status Report	Yes	Yes
10	CIPSI02	ISI Activity Report	Yes	Yes
11	CCMCA02	Collateral Account Balance Report	Yes	No
12	CCMDS01	Statement of Collateral Account (Report)	Yes	Yes
13	CCMMV01	Collateral Account Movement Report	Yes	No
14	CCNPT01	Nominee Functions Input Activities Report	Yes	No
15	CCNPT02	Entitlement Statement	Yes	Yes
16	CCDCM02	Multi-counter Settlement Mapping Data Download File	No	Yes (28 March Only)

(B) Report date of 29 March 2025 (Saturday) – Simulate migration. Ad hoc reports will be available during post release verification only. The layout will remain consistent with the reports / data files available on normal business days

#	Report ID	Report Name	Report File Availability	Report Data File Availability
1	CSEOP01	Next Settlement Day Due/Overdue Position Report	Yes	Yes
2	CSESB01	Daily Stock Balance Report	Yes	Yes
3	CSESM01	Statement of Stock movement (By Stock) Report	Yes	Yes
4	CSESM02	Statement of Stock movement (By Account) Report	Yes	Yes
5	CCLSI01	SI Status Report	Yes	Yes
6	CCLSI02	SI Activity Report	Yes	Yes
7	CIPSI01	ISI Status Report	Yes	Yes
8	CIPSI02	ISI Activity Report	Yes	Yes
9	CCMCA02	Collateral Account Balance Report	Yes	No
10	CCMDS01	Statement of Collateral Account (Report)	Yes	Yes
11	CCMMV01	Collateral Account Movement Report	Yes	No
12	CCNPT01	Nominee Functions Input Activities Report	Yes	No
13	CCNPT02	Entitlement Statement	Yes	Yes

CPs are recommended to change the download directories and/or the file names when performing report/data file download during the Connectivity Test by changing (i) the directory(ies) at “SAVE TO DIRECTORY” or (ii) the file name(s) at “SAVE TO” input fields for specific market or global reports. Otherwise, the reports/data files retrieved during the Connectivity Test might replace your production CCASS reports/data files in your defaulted report directory(ies).

APPENDIX C: STMC Connectivity Test Issue Report

To : Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited

Email: STMC_FormSubmission@hkex.com.hk

Date: _____

CCASS Participant Information

Name

Participant ID

**Participating User
(Name and Signature)**

Tel:

CCASS Authorised Signatory(ies)

Name and Signature

**(with company chop, ONLY applicable if it forms part of your
signing instruction)**

S.V.

Clearing Participants should complete this form and email to HKEX by 12:00 noon on 19 May 2025 (Monday) if you have encountered any issue during the Connectivity Test. The form should be completed by the individual(s) who took part in the Connectivity Test and reviewed by a responsible officer.

We encounter issues during the Connectivity Test as follows:

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By returning this form, we consent to the processing of personal data in accordance with the Privacy Policy Statement included in this form.

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If you have any questions about this Privacy Policy Statement or how we use your personal data, please contact us through one of the communication channels set out in the "Contact Us" section below.

We will take all practicable steps to ensure the security of the personal data and to avoid unauthorised or accidental access, erasure or other use. This includes physical, technical and procedural security methods, where appropriate, to ensure that the personal data may only be accessed by authorised personnel.

Please note that if you do not provide us with your personal data (or relevant personal data relating to persons appointed by you to act on your behalf) we may not be able to provide the information, products or services you have asked for or process your requests, applications, subscriptions or registrations, and may not be able to perform or discharge the Regulatory Functions (defined below).

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3. to provide you with our products and services and administer your account in relation to such products and services;
4. to conduct research and statistical analysis;
5. to process your application for employment or engagement within HKEX to assess your suitability as a candidate for such position and to conduct reference checks with your previous employers; and
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If you do not wish to receive any promotional and direct marketing materials from us or do not wish to receive particular types of promotional and direct marketing materials or do not wish to receive such materials through any particular means of communication, please contact us through one of the communication channels set out in the "Contact Us" section below. To ensure that your request can be processed quickly please provide your full name, email address, log in name and details of the product and/or service you have subscribed.

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We may also collect your identity card number and process this as required under applicable law or regulation, as required by any regulator having authority over us and, subject to the PDPO, for the purpose of identifying you where it is reasonable for your identity card number to be used for this purpose.

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2. supplied to any agent, contractor or third party who provides administrative,

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3. other parties as notified to you at the time of collection.

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Under the PDPO, you have the right to ascertain whether we hold your personal data, to obtain a copy of the data, and to correct any data that is inaccurate. You may also request us to inform you of the type of personal data held by us. All data access requests shall be made using the form prescribed by the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data ("Privacy Commissioner") which may be found on the official website of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner or via this link <https://www.pcpd.org.hk/english/publications/files/Dforme.pdf>.

Requests for access and correction of personal data or for information regarding policies and practices and kinds of data held by us should be addressed in writing and sent by post to us (see the "Contact Us" section below).

A reasonable fee may be charged to offset our administrative and actual costs incurred in complying with your data access requests.

Termination or cancellation

Should your account or relationship with us be cancelled or terminated at any time, we shall cease processing your personal data as soon as reasonably practicable following such cancellation or termination, provided that we may keep copies of your data as is reasonably required for archival purposes, for use in relation to any actual or potential dispute, for the purpose of compliance with applicable laws and regulations and for the purpose of enforcing any agreement we have with you, for protecting our rights, property or safety, or the rights, property or safety of our employees, and for performing or discharging our functions, obligations and responsibilities.

General

If there is any inconsistency or conflict between the English and Chinese versions of this Privacy Policy Statement, the English version shall prevail.

Contact us

By Post:
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