

HKEX INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED

(A wholly-owned member of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited Group)

1 February 2017

By Email

Our Ref: MDD/17/147

To: All OMD Clients and Independent Software Vendors

Dear Sirs,

Policy Update on Independent Software Vendors (ISVs) Framework under New Arrangement

This client notice serves to inform ISVs and direct connection OMD Clients of the **new ISV arrangement which takes immediate effect** aiming to streamline the workflow for Clients to deploy a new or an upgraded software provided by ISVs to production.

We enclose the updated “Guiding Note for Independent Software Vendors for Test Service” (version 2017-02) for your information. ISVs and Clients concerned should read it carefully to fully understand their responsibilities under the new arrangement. Please find some highlights below:

Responsibilities of ISVs

An ISV is responsible for all matters related to the use of its software by Clients, including, but not limited to, provision of the suitable software version for deployment and arrangement for Clients’ proper testing etc. In the event of software changes required for whatever reasons, ISV will be responsible for (i) **completing the conformance test** as required by HKEX-IS; (ii) **declaring the readiness of the Clients** using the tested software; (iii) **co-ordinating the participation of its Clients in the test(s) conducted in the production environment**, e.g. a Market Rehearsal, arranged by HKEX-IS; (iv) **collecting the test participation forms from its Clients** for batch submission to HKEX-IS; and (v) **assisting its Clients in assessing the test results and returning the test results forms** to HKEX-IS.

Actions to be taken by ISVs – Please acknowledge the receipt of this notice by completing the enclosed “**Declaration Form for Software Versions (For ISVs)**” and returning it to IVSupport@hkex.com.hk.

Responsibilities of Clients

A Client using software provided by an ISV has to **authorise the ISV to handle all matters in relation to the development, subsequent upgrades and conformance testing of the software**. With the authorisation, HKEX-IS will contact the ISV rather than the Client for the readiness status of the software and the participation of the Client in necessary tests conducted in the production environment. **The Client should participate in the tests in the production environment as required by HKEX-IS or advised by ISV and report the test results of its own for the deployment of the software to production**. With the new arrangement, it is even more important for the Client to have close communication with its ISV and keep abreast of the status of the software it is using. **The Client should give sufficient advance notice to HKEX-IS for change or termination of the appointment of ISV**.



Actions to be taken by Clients - Please acknowledge the receipt of this notice by completing the enclosed “Declaration Form for Readiness (Using Independent Software Vendor's Software) (for Real-time Information Vendors & End-Users)” and returning it to IVSupport@hkex.com.hk.

List of relevant forms and documents are published on [HKEX's website](#) for easy reference. Should there be any queries, please email to MarketData@hkex.com.hk. For queries regarding the implementation of the new ISV arrangement, please email to IVSupport@hkex.com.hk.

Yours sincerely,

Winnie Sin
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Enclosure: Guiding Note for Independent Software Vendors for Test Service