

Chapter 2

Interpreting the Handbook

Designated investment exchanges

Introduction

1. A *designated investment exchange* is an exchange appearing in the list of such exchanges in the *Glossary*.

Benefits of designation

2. Under certain *rules*, *firms* may treat transactions effected on a *designated investment exchange* in the same way as transactions on *RIEs* (for example, see [CASS 2](#)).

Criteria for inclusion in the list of designated investment exchanges

3. Before adding an investment exchange to the list of *designated investment exchanges* in the *Handbook*, the *FCA* will comply with all the requirements imposed by the *Act* in relation to the exercise of its rule-making powers. This will include consulting on the proposed amendment to the list.
4. In considering compatibility of the proposed addition with the *statutory objectives*, the *FCA* will determine whether the investment exchange provides an appropriate degree of protection for *consumers* having regard in particular to:
(1) the relevant law and practice, including the regulatory framework in which the investment exchange operates, in the country or territory in which the investment exchange's head office is situated and any other relevant country or territory; and
(2) the rules and practices of the investment exchange.
5. Only investment exchanges which do not carry on a *regulated activity* in the *United Kingdom* and are not *regulated markets* may be added to the list. This is because an investment exchange carrying on a *regulated activity* in the *United Kingdom* will need to apply for recognition as an *RIE*, or authorisation, and because a regulated market is usually treated in the same way as an *RIE* in the *rules*.

Applications to be added to the list of designated investment exchanges

6. An application to be added to the list should be in writing and delivered to the *FCA* by:
(1) post to:
The Financial Conduct Authority
12 Endeavour Square
London
E20 1JN; or
(2) leaving the application at that address.
7. In support of the application, an investment exchange should provide information on the questions set out in the table below.
8. An application will not be considered by the *FCA* until the application fee has been paid. See [FEES 3.2](#)

Designated investment exchange questionnaire

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | In what way are members subject to formal supervision by the exchange or another supervisory or regulatory body? Describe how capital resources of members are monitored on an ongoing basis and how this is related to business done. |
|---|--|

Designated investment exchange questionnaire	
2	What powers does the exchange or any other supervisory or regulatory body have to intervene in a member's business in the event of misconduct, financial difficulties or otherwise?
3	What are the clearing arrangements of the exchange? How does the exchange ensure performance of a contract between its members? If relevant, what type of contract guarantee is available?
4	How is price information in respect of contracts effected on the exchange disseminated to investors, particularly those investors in the <i>United Kingdom</i> ?
5	What are the exchange's arrangements for reporting and recording of transactions effected on the exchange? Please describe.
6	Does the exchange, or any other supervisory or regulatory body, require members to segregate the money and assets of the member's <i>clients</i> from the money and assets of the member? If so, please describe in outline how this operates. If not, are investors protected in any other way in the event of the insolvency of a member or the exchange?
7	Does the exchange have procedures for the investigation of complaints? Please describe what they are.
8	Does the exchange classify the different contracts traded on it in terms of liquidity? Is it possible to identify certain contracts which are more liquid than others and in which a ready market might be considered to exist?