

SCOREBOARD

Billing Processes - H2 2024

Austrian NSG

Background

Since publication of the Collateral Management Harmonisation Report in December 2017, the Advisory Group on Market Infrastructures for Securities and Collateral (AMI-SeCo) has made a number of significant breakthroughs in its ambition to create a Single Collateral Management Rulebook for Europe (SCoRE).

What is SCoRE?

SCoRE defines common rules for managing collateral in Europe. These rules will replace the fragmented legacy standards, structural constraints and complex and diverse market practices that exist across Europe today. Implementation of SCoRE should remove operational impediments to the availability, usage and mobility of collateral. Market participants in AMI-SeCo have committed to implementing the SCoRE Rulebook, with the first set of rules due to be implemented by November 2024. Their implementation efforts are regularly monitored by AMI-SeCo which facilitates an active dialogue with market participants on issues related to the clearing and settlement of securities and to collateral management.

National stakeholder groups (NSGs) are coordination forums that have been established in the markets covered by the AMI-SeCo to support the implementation of the Single Collateral Management Rulebook for Europe (SCoRE).

The Single Collateral Management Rulebook for Europe contains 4 Standards related to billing processes (published as the SCoRE Standards for Billing Processes). Implementation progress is monitored twice per year.

Introduction

This summary report presents the results of the H2 2024 monitoring exercise conducted by the Austrian NSG with the involvement among the following stakeholders:

- 6 entities are monitored in the Austrian market
- 1 CSD OeKB CSD
- 5 Custodians

In this monitoring exercise, participants were expected to have achieved all the milestones up to Milestone 11 inclusive "Internal testing Complete for SCoRE" (with

a deadline of 22 May 2023) inclusive, as described in section 3 below. The findings of the monitoring exercise reflect the Milestones roadmap in place by the time the survey closed (i.e., 13 September 2024) and do not yet consider the AMI-SeCo reflections on the rescheduling of the existing SCoRE Standards implementation deadline from 18 November 2024 to 16 June 2025.

Section 1 presents the key takeaways per Entity Type i.e., CSD, TPA, Custodian etc. Section 2 depicts the compliance status with the standards by each entity type. Section 3 focuses on the progress against the individual milestones and Section 4 provides concluding remarks.

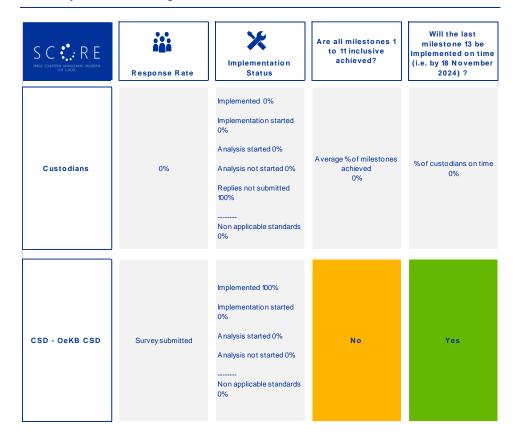
1 Key takeaways

Timely implementation of ISO20022 considered as the main challenge in the Austrian market

Of the Austrian market participants, OeKB CSD responded to the survey.

This section presents the current situation of the Austrian market regarding the implementation of the SCoRE standards. Austrian banks see and agree on the need to implement the standards, but there are concerns regarding the implementation of ISO 20022. This implementation is seen as the biggest challenge in complying with these standards. The fulfilment of regulatory obligations consumes most of the available resources. In particular, the implementation of regulatory requirements (SRD, SFTR, etc.), which are tied to deadlines, is currently the main focus of the Austrian market.

Figure 1
Summary of the monitoring exercise



CSD - OeKB CSD

CSD is set to implement Standards on time.

OeKB CSD has already implemented all required standards. Three of the milestones (10, 11, 12) are still open and will be achieved on time.

Custodians

No update provided by custodians

No custodian provided an update in this reporting period.

NCB

Oesterreichische Nationalbank is committed to promote the adoption of the SCoRE Standards

For the widespread adoption of the SCoRE standards for corporate actions, the Oesterreichische Nationalbank is heavily dependent on the progress of the market as a whole. However, the OeNB is committed to acting as a catalyst to promote the implementation of the SCoRE standards beyond the first wave.

2 Compliance level with the standards

This section provides an overview of the current status of compliance with the billing processes standards. CSDs and TPAs are monitored on an individual basis and are assigned a colour-code status in accordance with the methodology outlined in Figure 2 below. Custodians are too many to represent individually. Thus, the replies of custodians from the AMI-SeCo community participating in the monitoring are presented on an aggregated basis per market and assigned a percentage representing their compliance status.

Figure 2
Standards implementation status as defined in the AMI-SeCo framework document



- The Standard has been implemented
- Implementation of the Standard is on schedule (based on the agreed milestones)
- Implementation is behind schedule (based on the agreed milestones)
- Implementation has not started

Table 1Compliance level with the standards by each entity type

STANDARD	Custodians	CSD - Oe KB CSD
1: ISO 20022 messaging	0%	В
2: Billing cycles	0%	В
3: Cut-off date		В
4: Dates for payments fees		В

Notes:

- For CSDs and TPAs the colour-code reflects the current implementation status of each Standard in accordance with the methodology outlined in Box 1 above.
- For custodians, the % indicates the percentage of custodians which have implemented the standard or have the standard under development and implementation
- Percentages are calculated on the basis of expected respondents, i.e. number of entities monitored in the market.

3 Progress towards the milestones

This section tracks market stakeholders progress in implementing the Standards against the 13 set milestones identified by AMI-SeCo.

The milestones facilitate consistent implementation across markets (given the long-term efforts that are needed) and avoids issues remaining undetected until the deadline to achieve compliance and implementation of the standards.

Table 2
Milestones identified by AMI-SeCo

Milestone	Description	Date
W1	Analysis Started: Have you commenced an in-depth analysis of all applicable SCoRE Standards in order to identify and document all the changes required to internal processes and procedures in order to comply with the SCoRE Standards?	
W12	Initial Communication: Has initial high-level communication with external stakeholders on the changes introduced by SCoRE commenced?	01/03/2021
M3	Analysis Completed: Have you completed an in-depth analysis of all applicable SCoRE Standards?	31/07/2021
W14	Documentation Completed: Have you documented all the internal processes and procedures which need to be adapted in order to comply with the SCoRE Standards?	31/12/2021
M5	Detailed External Communication: Has detailed communication started regarding (i) upcoming changes in business processes, (ii) messaging formats and usage guidelines (in the case of new messages based on non-registered latest drafts by SWIFT) and (iii) planned testing activities been provided to users?	31/12/2021
M6	SCORE Adaptation Started: Have you started to adapt/develop the processes and procedures in order to comply with the SCORE Standards?	01/01/2022
M7	SCORE Adaptation Complete: Have you completed the necessary adaptations/developments for the processes and procedures in order to comply with the SCORE Standards?	30/06/2022
M8	Internal Testing Started for SCoRE: Have you started to test the changes to your internal processes and procedures which have been introduced in order to comply with the SCoRE Standards?	01/07/2022
М9	Internal Testing Complete for SCoRE: Have you completed the necessary internal testing?	10/03/2023
M10	External Testing Started for SCoRE: Are you in a position to test the changes introduced in order to comply with the SCoRE Standards with your user community (i.e. CSD participants / Collateral Givers and Collateral Takers in the context of the Standards applicable to TPAs)?	22/05/2023
M11	Final External Communication on SCoRE: has final communication to users been provided (i.e. updated user guide to reflect the changes implemented, final message usage guidelines for A2A communication) related to the SCoRE Standards?	22/05/2023
M12	External Testing Completed for SCoRE: Is the testing of the changes introduced in order to comply with the SCoRE Standards with your user community completed (i.e. CSD participants / Collateral Givers and Collateral Takers in the context of the Standards applicable to TPAs)?	20/09/2024
VI13	SCORE Standards Implemented: have the SCoRE Standards been implemented?	18/11/2024

The current H2 2024 monitoring exercise focuses on milestones 1 to 11 given that Milestone 11 "Final external communication on SCoRE"" (with a deadline of 22 May 2023) was meant to have been achieved by the time the survey closed. The findings of the monitoring exercise reflect the Milestones roadmap in place by the time the survey closed (i.e., 13 September 2024) and do not yet consider the AMI-SeCo reflections on the rescheduling of the existing SCoRE Standards implementation deadline from 18 November 2024 to 16 June 2025.

In each survey round, all the entities are asked to confirm (on a yes/no basis) whether the milestones will be met by the set milestones dates. If it is not the case, they are also asked the expected date for when the milestone will be reached.

For the milestones which had to be achieved by the time the survey closed the blue colour code is assigned to those milestones that have been successfully achieved. Milestones that will only be achieved later than their set deadline are assigned a yellow status with indication of the likely date of achievement.

For the milestones that are only due to be achieved after the current reporting cycle: the green colour code indicates that the entity anticipates achieving that future milestone on time. A yellow status indicates that the milestone is foreseen to be met later than the set milestone date. In this case, the date of achievement anticipated is also indicated in the table.

 Table 3

 Expectation of achieving the milestones at the set dates

	Custodians	CSD - OeKB CSD
Milestone 1 June 2020	0%	Yes
Milestone 2 March 2021	0%	Yes
Milestone 3 July 2021	0%	Yes
Milestone 4 December 2021	0%	Yes
Milestone 5 December 2021	0%	Yes
Milestone 6 January 2022	0%	Yes
Milestone 7 June 2022	0%	Yes
Milestone 8 July 2022	0%	Yes
Milestone 9 March 2023	0%	Yes
Milestone 10 May 2023	0%	Yes
Milestone 11 May 2023	0%	10/24
Milestone 12 September 2024	0%	Yes
Milestone 13 November 2024	0%	Yes

4 Concluding remarks

There is a common understanding among Austrian banks that timely implementation of the standards is crucial. However, reservations about the timeliness of the ISO 20022 implementation date still exist and will have an impact on overall compliance with the standards. In particular, ISO messaging (Standard 1) is seen as the main challenge for the Austrian market.

The implementation of regulatory requirements (SRD, SFTR, etc.), supported by legal acts and with tight mandatory deadlines, is crucial and in the focus of Austrian market participants. Therefore, resources for the implementation of SCoRE are limited.

Nevertheless, Austrian custodians have made progress in implementing the settlement standards. OeKB CSD's implementation plan remains on track.

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For specific terminology please refer to the ECB glossary (available in English only).