

15 December 2021

Circular to intermediaries

Launch of fully digitalised licensing functions on WINGS

Fully digitalised licensing functions will be available on WINGS starting from 3 January 2022. To facilitate a paperless licensing process, the digitalised functions will include web-based licensing forms with auto-fill and pre-set validation features, electronic signatures, expanded administration capabilities and more electronic payment methods. WINGS Mail, a new, secure two-way communication channel, will allow the industry to conveniently interact with the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC).

In addition, a companion mobile app, WINGS Mobile App, will be available for download on Google Play and the Apple App Store in late January 2022.

To ensure a smooth transition to WINGS, the SFC Online Portal will be closed at 6:00pm on 30 December 2021. Certain licensing applications, annual returns and notifications submitted via the Online Portal will be available on WINGS, but draft applications and submissions stored on the Online Portal will not be transferred to WINGS. Therefore, users should review their records and documents currently stored on the Online Portal and, if needed, keep a copy of them before the system is closed.

Licensed corporations and individuals whose annual returns become due between 30 December 2021 and 2 January 2022 are reminded to submit their annual returns via the Online Portal before 6:00pm on 30 December 2021.

Intermediaries and advisory firms which have created or activated WINGS accounts are recommended to carefully set up or review their account administration arrangements, such as account delegation and permissions, after the launch of the fully digitalised licensing functions on WINGS on 3 January 2022.

The SFC understands that the industry may need time to become familiar with the new functions and will continue to accept paper corporate application forms until 31 March 2022.

A [video](#), [user guides](#) and [online demo clips](#)¹ are available on the [SFC website](#) to help the industry understand the new features.

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this circular, please contact your case officer.

Licensing Department
Intermediaries Division
Securities and Futures Commission

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¹ User guides and demo clips for the new functions on WINGS will be available from 3 January 2022.