Circular



17 December 2021

Circular to licensed corporations

Revised financial return form and new electronic submission platform

The Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) today published a revised version of the financial return form which is required to be submitted by licensed corporations (LCs) under section 56 of the Securities and Futures (Financial Resources) Rules (FRR). The form is available on the <u>SFC website</u>.

A Gazette notice (see Annex) was published today to specify that, with effect from 1 February 2022, the electronic version of the revised form shall be used for submitting a return in respect of any period ending on or after 24 January 2022¹ and it supersedes the electronic form in the notice gazetted on 29 March 2019 (G.N.2198). However, the SFC will accept financial returns submitted by LCs using the superseded form for periods ending on or before 7 January 2022¹.

With effect from 1 February 2022, the electronic submission of financial returns will migrate to WINGS². Pursuant to section 58(8) of the FRR, the SFC now publishes the following directions and instructions for this purpose:

- (a) An LC's submission of a return which is required under section 56 of the FRR shall be made via WINGS and signed by attaching an electronic signature of a responsible officer or another officer of the LC approved under section 58(5)(e) of the FRR;
- (b) To submit a return via WINGS, the responsible officer or approved officer signing the return on behalf of the LC shall first register and log in to his or her individual account on WINGS (to upload the return); and then register and log in to his or her account using the WINGS mobile app³ (to sign the return electronically); and
- (c) The responsible officer or approved officer can electronically sign the return by using the WINGS mobile app to scan the QR code which will be displayed on WINGS when the return is successfully uploaded.

A user guide for the electronic submission of financial returns via WINGS will be published on the SFC website in due course.

¹ According to section 56(4) of the FRR, LCs may elect to submit financial returns in respect of an accounting period ending not more than seven days before or after the calendar month-end.

² WINGS is a common platform for making electronic submissions to the SFC.

³ The WINGS mobile app that supports the e-signing function will be available for downloading in late January 2022.



Should you have any questions regarding the contents of this circular, please contact the case officers in charge.

Intermediaries Supervision Department Intermediaries Division Securities and Futures Commission

End

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