

ALERT

EFFECTIVE POST-TRADE OPERATIONS

BEGIN WITH ALERT[®],

THE GLOBAL DATABASE AND STANDARD

FOR THE COMMUNICATION OF

DELIVERY AND ACCOUNT

INSTRUCTIONS



Facilitates true straight through processing

Use ALERT to electronically send and receive new or updated account and delivery instructions among investment managers, broker/dealers and custodian banks. ALERT seamlessly integrates with your existing internal systems to move you closer to straight through processing (STP).

Promotes cross-border trading

Access comprehensive global information for cross-border trading using the largest database of its kind. Actively populated since 1984, ALERT contains settlement models from over 245 countries/regions, 39 clearing methods and 18 security types.

Provides greater accuracy

Ensure precise and complete communication of account and delivery instructions with standardized formats. Information is transmitted among trading partners exactly as entered, eliminating transcription and translation errors.

Reduces costs

Eliminate costly errors inherent in manual and verbal communications such as phone calls, faxes and telexes. Cut out duplication of effort from maintaining internal databases, and minimize administrative overhead and processing costs.

Unparalleled global acceptance

Participate in a global community of users. The ALERT Working Party provides a forum for ALERT users to agree among themselves on how to use the service and to advise on changing requirements and best practices. The ALERT Working Party has developed the ALERT Code of Practice for global users, promoting consistency of data entry and the move towards a clear, single global industry standard for the communication of delivery and account instructions.

THOMSON

ELECTRONIC SETTLEMENTS GROUP





Integrated Services: Automated Success

Use ALERT to automate your trading environment in one of four ways:

Via a PC workstation

ALERT can be accessed on a PC workstation through an easy-to-use interface.


Via file transfer

Files containing ALERT information can be periodically provided to your host system.

Integrated with your third-party system

ALERT is integrated with a number of third-party systems, including broker/dealer back office systems and custodian bank databases. Our integration team is also available to develop an interface with your system, further facilitating straight through processing.

ALERTDirect

ALERTDirect connects directly with your host system, automatically and immediately transferring information from ALERT to your in-house system, improving the efficiency and accuracy of trade communications. 

SYSTEM RELIABILITY

System Environment

ALERT runs in both a client-server and host-to-host environment. The ALERT host is a SUN/Unix system running SYBASE, while the client portion of the system is a PC application running on PC workstations. All communications are routed to the host system in Boston and are facilitated by privately controlled networks. Access to ALERT is password-protected.

Data Protection

The ALERT server is run with a high degree of fault tolerance, utilizing automatic transfer to standby components for hardware and system software backup. In addition, all on-line data is protected by multiple daily and weekly backups, with backup tapes archived off-site.



How ALERT

Works for

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

With ALERT you electronically receive updates to custodian bank settlement models, update your own account and delivery instructions, and notify broker/dealers affected by the changes with a single electronic 'Alert'. Once created, delivery instruction templates reduce the effort required to maintain accounts. Investment managers enter delivery instructions based on country/region, security type and clearing method. Account instructions in ALERT consist of such standard information as account name, account type, tax identification number, etc.

ALERT allows you to retrieve your broker/dealer's delivery instructions on-line to ensure accurate communications and up-to-date information. With ALERT, you can also restrict account access to only those broker/dealers with whom you trade. In addition, ALERT includes electronic mail and a report function that generates standard and custom reports.

When ALERT is used with OASYS Global™, the worldwide electronic trade allocation and confirmation service, your delivery instructions can be automatically appended to your allocation message. ALERT can also be used with OASYS™, the leading electronic trade allocation and acceptance service.

How ALERT

Works for

BROKER / DEALERS

With ALERT you electronically receive updates to settlement models from custodian banks and delivery instructions from investment managers and other broker/dealers via a single electronic 'Alert', or you can retrieve delivery instructions on a trade-by-trade basis. In each case you are assured of

receiving the most up-to-date settlement information. To further expedite processing, your broker internal account numbers (BIAs) can be cross-referenced with investment manager account names, allowing you to retrieve only those Alerts that pertain to your accounts. With ALERT, you can also enter and maintain your own delivery instructions (BDIs), and in turn notify all parties affected by the change with a single Alert.

ALERT also provides you with electronic mail and a report function that generates standard and custom reports.

How ALERT Works for CUSTODIAN BANKS

ALERT allows you to electronically enter and update settlement models, and notify those affected by the change with a single electronic 'Alert.' Settlement models are entered based on country/region, security type and clearing method.

ALERT's *Delivery Alert Report* feature provides you with an accurate historical record of when Alerts were or were not accepted by the investment manager. In addition, you can retrieve broker/dealer and investment manager delivery instructions on-line to ensure accurate communications and the most up-to-date information. Other important tools include electronic mail, which allows you to pass on additional comments with your Alerts, and a report function that generates standard and custom reports.

A unique code for each Investment Manager account in ALERT provides simplified customer account maintenance.

Date when new account was created or existing account was last revised.

An Investment Manager Delivery Instruction can be based upon a Custodian Bank Settlement Model or created by the Investment Manager.

Select from Country/Region, Security Type and Clearing Method to create a Settlement Model for Investment Managers and Broker/Dealers.

CUSTODIAN BANK Settlement Model

Clearing Method Detail

Country: ARGENTINA
 Security Type: EQUITIES
 Clearing Method: SUB AGENT
 Eff Date: 1-10-98
 Rev Date: 1-10-98

Custodian: ABC BANK
 SWIFT Bic: ABCBUS33XXX
 Address: 1163 RJR STREET
 NEW YORK, NY 10004
 ATTN: JOHN SMITH
 Ref: TFS PEN #00123
 Registration:

Sub Agent: ABC ARGENTINA
 Address: CONGALLO 401,
 1104 BUENOS AIRES
 SWIFT Bic: ABCAAR32XXX
 Payment Currency: ARGENTINE PESO
 SECURITY A/C: 01887
 CASH A/C:
 Settler Contact: MARIA LOPEZ

CORRESPONDENT
 Name: ARGENTINA LOCAL BANK
 Address: RECONQUISTA 500
 1029 BUENOS AIRES
 SWIFT Bic: LOBAAR33XXX
 Cash A/C: 2935688

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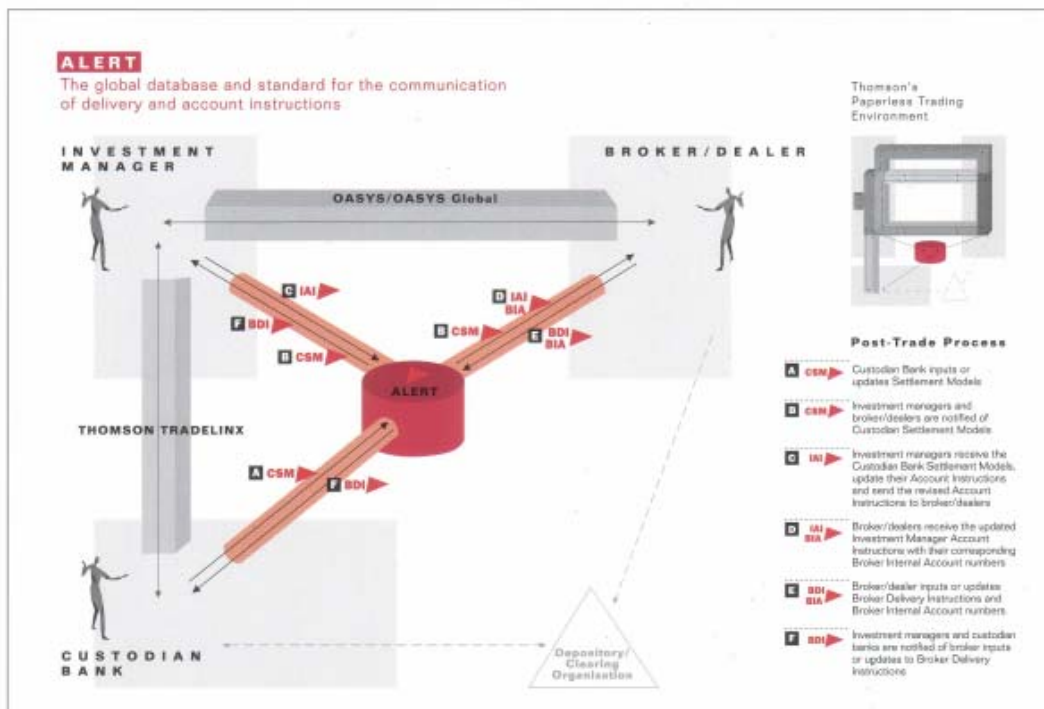
ALERT allows investment managers, broker/dealers and custodian banks to communicate accurate delivery and account instructions worldwide, significantly reducing trade failure. ALERT is used in 19 countries and is populated with more than 2.3 million broker internal account numbers (BIAs) and 116,000 investment manager accounts. ALERT subscribers include over 1,270 investment managers, broker/dealers and custodian banks worldwide.

ALERT:

- uses standardized formats to ensure precise, complete information, as recommended by the industry-developed ALERT Code of Practice, which promotes consistency of data entry and the move towards a single

industry standard for the communication of delivery instructions

- eliminates time-zone delays and language barriers inherent in global communications
- captures data at its source; eliminates re-keying, faxes, telexes, lengthy phone calls and transcription errors
- ensures timely transmission and receipt of updates to investment manager and broker/dealer delivery instructions and custodian bank settlement models
- provides reliability, with more than a decade of experience and superior service



ALERT is supported by an experienced team of client-focused systems and business professionals committed to working with you to maximize the benefits of post-trade automation.






Thomson Electronic Settlements Group
Automating the World's Post-Trade Operations

ALERT® is part of the complete solution offered by Thomson Electronic Settlements Group (Thomson ESG). Use ALERT in conjunction with OASYS™, the leading electronic trade allocation and acceptance service, or OASYS Global™, the worldwide electronic trade allocation and confirmation service. Link with custodian banks using THOMSON TRADELINX™, the global electronic service for communicating settlement instructions.

Thomson ESG is the worldwide leader in providing paperless trading solutions for the automation of post-trade operations in the global securities market. Thomson ESG has gained market leadership through innovative technology, open systems based on financial industry standards and superior client support.

Thomson ESG services are used in 23 countries for domestic and cross-border trading. Thomson ESG supports approximately 2,200 clients from 12 offices located in major financial centers across the globe.

Thomson ESG is a part of Thomson Financial Services (TFS), a leading provider of quality financial information, research, analysis and software products to the global investment and corporate communities. Part of The Thomson Corporation, a \$7.5 billion company based in Toronto, TFS employs more than 4,500 people in 40 offices worldwide.

For more information on how ALERT and Thomson ESG can help automate your post-trade operations, call an account executive at one of the locations below. 

THOMSON

ELECTRONIC SETTLEMENTS GROUP

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