

Execution Quality Summary Statement (EQSS)

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**Regulatory Technical Standards for the annual
publication by investment firms of information
on the identity of execution venues and on the
quality of execution**

(RTS 28)

for the year 2024

Version 7

Date: APRIL 2025



EXECUTION QUALITY

SUMMARY STATEMENT (EQSS)

for the year 2024

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SM Capital Markets Ltd

CySEC License number: 339/17

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1. Introduction

SM Capital Markets Ltd (hereinafter the "Company") is a Cyprus Investment Firm with registration number HE 346068 and LEI 549300SS5YL3DNCPHI21. The Company is authorised and licensed by the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (hereinafter the "CySEC"), under the license number 339/17.

This Execution Quality Summary Statement (hereinafter the "Statement") of the Company, has been created in accordance with the Investment Services and Activities and Regulated Markets Law 87(I)2017, which transposes the Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments ("MiFID II"). Additionally, the purpose of this document is to ensure compliance with Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/576. Pursuant to which, the Company is required to inform its Retail and Professional clients (hereinafter the "Clients"), about all the sufficient steps taken to acquire the best possible result for its clients ("Best Execution").

The Company's Best Execution obligations are applicable to all financial instruments offered to retail clients & if applicable to professional clients. The company holds all due process in place whether in normal or abnormal market conditions and reassures through internal procedures that all steps are taken to ensure the best possible results for its clients.

Following through with the Statement these steps will be identified and explained in more detail. For further information please see the "Order Execution Policy".

2. Scope of Best Execution

Best Execution is an imperative element of MiFID II, and the Company shall take all the sufficient steps to obtain the best possible result for its clients in circumstances:

- The Company in the due process of receiving and transmitting an order for execution as per the pre-set arrangements & trading conditions with the client;
- The client, in respect of that order, is within the scope of the best execution; and
- The Company is acting on the client's behalf for the purpose of best execution.

3. Services Provided

The Company is licensed to provide the following Investment Services and where applicable these services follow the Best Execution Principles:

- a) Reception and Transmission of orders in relation to one or more financial instruments,
- b) Execution of Orders on Behalf of Clients

4. Brokerage Model and Attributes Associated with Services

To comprehend the commitment towards our clients, below are key definitions to further clarify the Company's current business model and the characteristics of the products and services on offer. This Business model is designed to be in the clients' best interest and understanding these terms will allow for enhanced appreciation where Best Execution principles are applied within this brokerage model and authorized services.

➤ Straight Through Processing (STP)

Used by financial companies to speed up the transaction process. This is performed by allowing information that has been electronically entered to be transferred from one party to another in the settlement process without manually re-entering the same pieces of information repeatedly over the entire sequence of events. The goal of STP is simply to reduce the time it takes to process a transaction and will increase the likelihood that a contract or an agreement, i.e. trade, is settled on time, with consideration of price and cost to be in the best interest of the client.

➤ Over the Counter (OTC)

Trading is done directly between two parties, without the supervision of an exchange. In OTC market contacts are bilateral and like exchange traded covers all major asset classes and derivatives within such products.

➤ Contract for Difference (CFD)

Typically described as "buyer" and "seller", stipulating that the seller will pay to the buyer the difference between the current value of an asset and its value at contract time (if the difference is negative, then the buyer pays instead to the seller). In effect, CFDs are financial derivatives that allow traders to take advantage of prices moving up (long positions) or prices moving down (short positions) on underlying financial instruments. They are often used to speculating on those markets. For example, when applied to equities, such a contract is an equity derivative that allows traders to speculate on share price movements, without the need for ownership of the underlying shares.

➤ Online Trading Platform

It is a software program that can be used to place orders for financial products. Electronic trading platforms typically stream live market prices on which users can trade and may provide additional trading tools, such as charting packages. For further information on 'Trading Platforms' see the respective section on the Company's website.

5. Best Execution Arrangements

The Company has taken into consideration the provisions of the Laws and Regulations in respect to the best possible result and has re-evaluated its procedures and enhanced that the IT infrastructure is compliant and resilient with its practice of Best Execution principles. All sufficient steps have been taken to obtain the best possible results while executing clients' orders in this regard.

The company considers all execution factors when assessing the quality of execution in normal and volatile market conditions.

Execution Factors:

- a) **Price:** ensure market validated prices for all Symbols on offer through the various platforms to be consistent across the board. The Brokerage Department is continually monitoring prices to assure accuracy,
- b) **Costs payable by the client as a result of the execution:** all costs pertaining to trading with the Company are clearly displayed and easily viewed on the websites & platforms. If any changes occur, sufficient notification is given to our clients via any approved publishing arrangements. For more information view Company's website. The ensuing cost to the company for execution of orders plays no role in the quality of the execution of client orders with selected trading venues/liquidity providers,
- c) **Speed of execution:** When prices are updating frequently and in direct contrast to the volatility of the instrument, then the speed of execution will resonate through timely execution at the requested entry or exit level. Several systems are in place to monitor and view all trades requested for execution through internal systems and maintain a close working relationship with LP to ensure our clients' Best Execution,
- d) **Likelihood of execution and settlement:** because of the strict trading parameters in place and the use of the latest technology, trades are near guaranteed to be executed when they fall within the trading hours & conditions,
- e) **Size of the transaction:** to provide 'Best Execution' Minimum and Maximum Lot sizes are allocated to each instrument or class of instruments on offer so in normal market conditions those trades are near guaranteed to be filled, as they comply within the trading conditions and agreements with LP/execution venues,
- f) **Other criteria:** if a client does not fulfil the requirements of the knowledge test, then the client's account will have changes administered to his/her trading conditions. Also, if the market is extremely volatile or instruments are illiquid, they may be suspended from trading or removed altogether from the list of available instruments in the interest of 'Best Execution'. Lastly, Futures CFDs are normally expired about one (1) week before the exchange traded asset is terminated to

assure liquidity and to continue at best service to the client.

The Company obtains its prices from third-party external reference sources such as its Liquidity Providers and has set up a quality control reporting schedule to evaluate the core elements of the Best Execution factors. Also, a contingency plan is available if one or more price providers fails to deliver live prices to one of the trading platforms due to a technical lapse. In extreme situations where prices are not available directly from the exchange then the underlying assets will also be affected.

6. Types of Orders

There are two (2) methods of execution which are offered to clients via reputed trading platforms, which allow for a high likelihood of trades to be executed within the Best Execution criteria consistently based on Execution factors already listed.

Market Execution: which means entering or exiting the market at the current market price in either a "BUY" or "SELL", also known as aggressive order.

Pending Order: which is placing an entry or exit order which can either be a "BUY STOP/LIMIT" or "SELL STOP/LIMIT" at a predetermined price level, also known as passive order.

7. Clients Categorization

Clients who as per the "Client Categorisation Notice" were classified as Retail Clients and Professional Clients are falling under the scope of the aforesaid Regulations, while Eligible Counterparties do not as per the abovementioned policy.

8. Execution Venues

During 2024, the Company has decided to add new Liquidity Providers to its existing ones and agree on new terms based within the European Union and/or low risk third country which would provide a significant secure environment to the clients due to the strong regulatory system and provisions governing European legal entities.

The Company always follows the Commission's Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1753 and CySEC's Policy Statement PS-01-2019, when selecting Liquidity Providers.

a) Execution Venues

The current execution venues are well suited for our business model, have provided a top-tier service and have fulfilled the criteria that has been set forth to evaluate such liquidity providers/execution venues. The list of execution venues can be found in the "Order Execution Policy".

The changes have been already interpreted in the Company's "Order Execution Policy".

b) Inducements related Execution Venues

The company has standard Liquidity Providers' agreements in place with all execution venues used to execute client orders which are legally binding contracts which among other content, includes all due processes in compliance and safeguarding of client's interest. Furthermore, the Company has specific arrangements in respect to the payments received and paid to the Liquidity Providers (LP) according to this agreement.

9. Conflicts and Best Execution

The Company has Conflicts of Interest Policy and procedures in place to ensure that all procedures and policies are followed as well as to examine the identified conflicts of interest. Furthermore, the Company is communicating through top-down approach with the Board how to manage all potential and existing Conflicts of Interest that arise. For any Conflicts of Interest that are not manageable, the Company shall inform its clients periodically and at least annually for the said conflicts of Interest.

The company does not have ownership of any execution venues that are used to execute client orders. Below is a relevant extract from the "Conflict of Interest Policy" regarding Best Execution.

Possible Conflict	Procedures and measures
The Company or a relevant person has an interest in the outcome of a service provided to the Client or of a transaction carried out on behalf of the Client, which is distinct from the Client's interest in that outcome;	<p>The Company has taken pre-cautionary measures in order to prevent such conflict of Interest. The Employees are warned during the training that they are not allowed to act dishonest and not on the best interest of the Client.</p> <p>The Company has in place disciplinary procedures, in the event that this conflict occurs, to be mitigated and managed. Moreover, the disciplinary procedures prevent the employees from not acting on the best interest of the client.</p>
Maximizing of the trading volumes in order to increase receivable brokerage commission, which may directly conflict with the Client's interest, if that interest is in minimizing the volume of trades they perform.	The Company has in place an Order Execution Policy and put all its efforts in order to prevent such an event. The employees are not allowed to provide such information/instruction to the Clients at all times.

Receive commissions and/or other inducements from its Liquidity provider for the transmission of Client Orders.	The Company is in the process of minimizing all its Inducements paid or received. However, the Company has certain procedures in order to act on the best interest of its Clients.
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10. Our Commitment

The Company's Best Execution mandate is an ongoing process that is echoed down through the Board of Directors and management to all pertinent employees to stay diligent and informed of best industry practices and how they apply to the Company's business model. Additionally, to fully comprehend that safeguarding 'Best Execution' standards is of great importance without exception and must continually deliver fair results to our clients.

11. Amendments

The Company reserves the right to review and/or amend its Order Execution Policy as well as this Statement. If the Company makes a material change of its Policy and/or this Statement, its client will be informed, and an updated version of the said policy and Statement will be available on the Company's website.

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COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2017/576

of 8 June 2016 Supplementing Directive 2014/65/EU

Regulatory technical standards for the annual publication by investment firms of information on the identity of execution venues and on the quality of execution

➤ **Table 1: Retail Clients**

Class of Instrument		Contract for Difference (CFDs) & Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) CFDs*			
Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year		N			
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order)	Proportion of volume (lots) traded as a percentage of total in that class	Proportion of orders (number of trades) executed as percentage of total in that class	Percentage of passive orders	Percentage of aggressive orders	Percentage of directed orders
RS Global Ltd (LEI: 213800XNZIUUPVI38X36)	91.45%	9145%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
StoneX Europe Ltd (LEI: 5493000TJZHQRMOY79)	7.57%	7.57%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
CMC Markets Germany GmbH (LEI: 213800FU9DEQ1T881Q48)	0.97%	0.97%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

26 Degrees Global Markets Pty Ltd (LEI: 549300OREYLNWD2E9Y62)	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Class of Instrument	Transferable Securities (Physical Stocks) & Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)*				
Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year	Y				
*No trades in 2024	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

➤ **Table 2: Professional Clients**

Class of Instrument	Contract for Difference (CFDs) & Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) CFDs*				
Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year	N				
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order)	Proportion of volume (lots) traded as a percentage of total in that class	Proportion of orders (number of trades) executed as percentage of total in that class	Percentage of passive orders	Percentage of aggressive orders	Percentage of directed orders
RS Global Ltd (LEI: 213800XNZIUUPVI38X36)	99.75%	99.75%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
CMC Markets Germany GmbH (LEI: 213800FU9DEQ1T881Q48)	0.25%	0.25%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Class of Instrument		Transferable Securities (Physical Stocks) & Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)*				
Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year		N				
CGS International Securities Singapore Pte. Ltd (LEI: 213800SKEP4JH8FNE L05)	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Report Explanation (%):

- ECB exchange rates used as of the day trade was realized in 2024.
- All calculations in 'EUR'.
- RTS 28 report reflects all closed trades as of 01.01.2024 to 31.12.2024.
- All Data reflects Retail and Professional Clients.
- The Company's business model is Straight Through Process (STP) Broker.
- Nominal Value was used to generate proportion by percentage for Class of Instrument.

Key Definitions under RTS 28:

- passive order means an order entered onto the order book that provided liquidity,
- aggressive order means an order entered onto the order book that took liquidity,
- directed order means an order where a specific execution venue was specified by the client prior to the execution of the order,
- "Retail Client" is a client who is not a Professional Client by default and is afforded with the highest level of protection.