**Information that should be included in an application for permission to operate**

**a DLT MTF, a DLT SS or a DLT TSS**

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| **Information to be submitted in accordance with Article 8(4), 9(4) and 10(4) of Regulation (EU)**  **2022/858** | **Description and/or unique reference number of the document where**  **the information can be**  **found** | **Title of the**  **document** | **Chapter or section or page**  **of the document where the**  **information is provided**  **or**  **reason why the information is not provided** |
| ***(a) The business plan of the applicant, the rules of the DLT MI and any legal terms as referred to in Article 7(1) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858*** | | | |
| ***A business plan describing how the applicant intends to carry out their services and activities.*** |  |  |  |
| *Please also provide specific information on the following aspects:* | | | |
| Description of the critical staff *This should include a description of which staff is considered critical and of their role per domain (IT, internal control, risk management etc)* |  |  |  |
| Type of clients targeted (status, geographical location |  |  |  |
| Description of the technical  aspects  *This should include a detailed description of the DLT technical implementation: supporting infrastructure (systems, networks, applications etc), third party arrangements also providing data flow and network diagrams. If any of these are cloud-based, it should also include specific information in line with ESMA cloud computing guidelines[[1]](#footnote-1).* |  |  |  |

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| Description of the use of the DLT providing details on the operation on the user side and operators’ side (e.g. how and for what purpose the system is used; the expected outcome/ advantages for users; how the users connect to the system) |  |  |  |
| Other relevant information if applicable |  |  |  |
| ***Rules defining the rights, obligations, responsibilities and liabilities of the operator of the DLT MI, as well as that of the members, participants, issuers and/or clients using the concerned DLT MI*** |  |  |  |
| *Please also provide specific information on the following aspects:* | | | |
| Criteria for participation |  |  |  |
| The governing law of the DLT MI |  |  |  |
| The pre-litigation dispute settlement mechanism |  |  |  |
| Any insolvency protection measures under Directive 98/26/EC |  |  |  |
| The jurisdiction for bringing legal action |  |  |  |
| Other relevant information if applicable |  |  |  |
| ***(b) Information regarding the functioning, services and activities of the DLT MI as referred to in Article 7(3) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858*** | | | |

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| Type of DLT Financial Instruments traded and or/settled | Indicate:  □ shares, as referred to in point (a) of Article 3(1) of  Regulation (EU) 2022/858    □ bonds, other forms of securitised debt or money market instruments, as referred to in point (b) of Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858. If ‘other form of securitised debt’, please specify:    □ UCITS, as referred to in point (c) of Article 3(1) of  Regulation (EU) 2022/858 |  |  |
| Type of DLT used | Please specify its main characteristics (multiple selection allowed):  □ permissioned[[2]](#footnote-2)    □ permissionless[[3]](#footnote-3)    □ private[[4]](#footnote-4)    □ public5    □other characteristics:  [please specify] |  |  |
| Description of how the operators carry out their functions, services and activities (including description of outsourcing arrangements if any) |  |  |  |
| Description of services provided to clients |  |  |  |

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| Description of how the performance of those functions, services and activities deviates from those performed by a multilateral trading facility or a securities settlement system that is not based on distributed ledger technology |  |  |  |
| If applicable, modality chosen to identify and differentiate the DLT functions, services and activities from those performed by a multilateral trading facility or a securities settlement system that is not based on distributed ledger technology |  |  |  |
| Other relevant information if applicable |  |  |  |
| ***(c) Information on the functioning of the DLT used, as referred to in Article 7(2) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858*** | | | |
| Information on the rules on the functioning of the DLT used |  |  |  |
| Information of the rules on accessing the distributed ledger |  |  |  |
| Information on the rules on the participation of the validating node(s) |  |  |  |
| Information on the validation process of transactions on DLT FI |  |  |  |
| Information on the rules addressing or detecting potential conflicts of interests |  |  |  |
| Information on the rules on risk management including any mitigation measures to ensure investor protection, market  integrity  and financial stability |  |  |  |
| Other relevant information if applicable |  |  |  |
| ***(d) Overall IT and cyber arrangements as referred to in Article 7(4) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858*** | | | |
| Description of controls and arrangements in place related to the use of DLT and DLT |  |  |  |

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| financial instruments and of any data stored by those operators,  at least in respect of the following areas:   1. **– Governance and**   **strategy**: internal control and governance arrangements for the IT and information security risks, as well as IT and information security strategy   1. **– IT and information security risk management** – policies and procedures in place to identify and manage any IT and information security risk posed by the use of DLT and DLT financial instruments 2. **– Information security arrangements and controls** implemented to ensure protection, confidentiality, integrity and availability of funds, collateral and DLT financial instruments of the members, participants, issuers of clients using the DLT MI, as well as of the means of access to them, including at least on the following areas:    * logical security controls (including segregation of duties, identity and   access management, logical separation arrangements etc)   * + physical security   + IT and information security operations   + Security monitoring arrangements   + security reviews, assessment and   testing, training and awareness, and   * + IT and information security incident management policies and procedures  1. **– System development Life** |  |  |  |

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| **Cycle (SDLC), IT project and change management**: policies & procedures, governance and control arrangements   1. **– Business continuity management**: policy and procedures 2. **– Third party risk management**: policies and procedures, considering also guidance provided by ESMA   (EBA/EIOPA, depending on NCA) cloud computing guidelines (in the case of EBA: outsourcing guidelines).    **Note**: if some or all the above- mentions arrangements and  controls, are part of the firms’ global IT assurance and information security management system for which the firm has already submitted the information to the NCA, then the firm should be invited to provide and highlight the bespoke controls  implemented in relation to the use of DLT and DLT financial instruments. |  |  |  |
| Other relevant information if applicable |  |  |  |
| ***(e) Arrangements to record and protect members’, participants’, issuers’ or clients’ funds, collateral or DLT financial instruments in accordance with Article 7(5) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858*** | | | |
| Where applicable, a description of safekeeping arrangements in place to prevent the use of such assets on the operator’s own account without prior consent of the member, participant, issuer or client concerned |  |  |  |
| Information on record-keeping arrangements of, and on means of access to, such assets held by their DLT MI for their members, participants, issuers or clients |  |  |  |

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| Description of segregation arrangements for funds, collateral or DLT financial instruments, and for means to access such assets, from those of the operator as well as from those of other members, participants, issuers and clients |  |  |  |
| Other relevant information if applicable |  |  |  |
| ***(f) Investor protection measures, as referred to in Article 7(6) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858*** | | | |
| Description of the measures established to fulfil the prudential requirements provided for in Regulation (EU) No 909/2014,  Regulation (EU) 2019/2033,  Directive 2014/65/EU or Directive (EU) 2019/2034, in order to cover  the potential liabilities for damages to clients of the operator of the DLT MI as a result of any of the circumstances referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 7(6) of Regulation (EU) 2022/858 |  |  |  |
| Description of the arrangements ensuring investor protection and demonstration they are transparent and adequate |  |  |  |
| Description of the mechanisms for handling client complaints |  |  |  |
| Description of procedures for compensation or redress in case of investor loss or cessation of the business |  |  |  |
| Other relevant information if applicable |  |  |  |
| ***(g) Transition strategy*** | | | |
| Description of the transition strategy for reducing the activity of or transitioning out of, or ceasing to operate, a DLT MI as referred to in  Article 7(7) of Regulation (EU)  2022/858 |  |  |  |
| If applicable and if any, description of the arrangements concluded to take over operations, as referred to in Articles 7(8) and 7(9) of  Regulation (EU) 2022/858 |  |  |  |

1. [Final report on Guidelines on outsourcing to cloud service providers,](https://www.esma.europa.eu/sites/default/files/library/esma50-157-2403_cloud_guidelines.pdf) ESMA50-157-2403, 18 December 2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For the purposes of these guidelines, “permissioned” means a DLT network in which only certain participants can perform certain functions (e.g. validation). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. For the purposes of these guidelines, “permissionless” means a network where any participant can carry out any function. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. For the purposes of these guidelines, “private” means a DLT network that can be joined only by selected participants. 5 For the purposes of these guidelines, “public” means a DLT network which anyone can join. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)