

## The SmartStream Reference Data Utility (RDU)

Build your business on a strong foundation by sourcing high quality reference data to drive your customers' experience, your trading effectiveness and your operational efficiency

High quality reference data is ever more critical to your business:

- ▶ Your customers increasingly trade everything electronically and expect perfect execution
- ▶ Your trading business needs to buy and sell new securities and contracts from the start of the first trading day
- ▶ Your trading operations are more and more automated but there are far too many exceptions that require manual processing
- ▶ And the regulators expect perfection, but how accurate is your regulatory reporting, really?

Financial institutions spend millions of dollars to ensure data is good enough, to manage trade breaks and to handle manual exceptions, fixing issues after the event. Better to avoid issues by using the RDU – a simple solution to complex reference data needs.

The RDU provides a high quality Security Master built using industry best practices. A proven solution that can remove 70 – 80% of data quality issues – the data is easy to consume, customisable for your business and integrates without difficulty into existing business applications.

### Our Approach

The capital markets are data driven. The financial products that we trade are very rarely physical. They are defined by data, held in a database and traded by being moved from one database to another, with ownership transferred electronically between individuals, firms and geographies. So, given how critically important it is to have precise definitions of the financial products that you are trading, why is it so hard to source and maintain a complete, accurate

### Why is it so hard to maintain an accurate and timely security master?

- Data standards are not precise enough
- Data originates from 1000s of different sources, exchanges, issuers, bilateral counterparties
- A variety of identifiers are used across financial products
- Attributes are represented differently
- Classification schemes vary considerably
- Different identifiers are used for market participants whether they are legal entities or individuals
- Data is fluid with frequent new issues, contracts expiring and constant corporate actions
- No single data source is good enough

and timely set of security reference data to underpin your business?

Across the industry, financial institutions spend hundreds of millions of dollars sourcing, aggregating, validating, gap filling, correcting and maintaining securities reference data, often ineffectively and often manually. Every organisation does this. The duplication across the industry is horrendous.

The impact of poor quality data is even worse. In today's highly automated business world, with massive trading volumes, firms are constantly dealing with trading breaks, process exceptions and clearing / settlement issues. Investigations and manual reprocessing are very costly, but the worst consequences are trading losses, reputational damage and regulatory risk.

The Reference Data Utility (RDU) transforms this landscape delivering complete, accurate and timely securities reference data, maintained to the highest quality standards using best practice processes built in collaboration with the industry. The RDU combines a sophisticated data management platform with a 24\*7 managed service staffed by reference data experts and delivers the data that you need to populate

your security master before the start of the trading day. You no longer need to maintain fragile data loaders, complex aggregation rules or fluid data transformations. You no longer need to obsess about vendor or exchange feed change notifications. The RDU makes the complex easy by sourcing, aggregating, quality checking and, where necessary, customising the data for you.

## The Proposition

The RDU provides a 24\*7 managed service that offers:

- ▶ The best futures and options reference data on the market sourced from 100+ exchanges with extensive attribute coverage at both product and contract level; completely cross-referenced with all key market identifiers; fully maintained underliers and demonstrably better data quality.
- ▶ A full MIFID II regulatory data set to support pre-trade price transparency, post-trade reporting and transaction reporting; normalised to an instrument level for easy integration into the trade workflow.
- ▶ Comprehensive support for OTC Derivatives with intraday APIs; full support for ToTV; ANNA integration and integrated counterparty role determination e.g. Central Bank, SI, MIF.
- ▶ The Systematic Internaliser Registry, a unique data set -sourced from 100+ systematic internalisers (SIs) in collaboration with the APA community - that offers a highly granular listing of the services SIs offer.
- ▶ Vendor sourced equities, fully cross-referenced with all key market identifiers and with corporate actions reliably applied, are available by the start of the trading day.
- ▶ Vendor sourced fixed income, fully cross-referenced and with corporate actions reliably applied, will be available next year.

## Best in Class Data Quality

The RDU takes data quality seriously. In fact, we dedicate a lot of effort to making sure the data that flows into the RDU flows out at the highest quality form possible. Whether from direct sources or from vendors, all data goes through our PEARLS of Data Quality™ approach:

- ▶ **Persistence** - Design validation rules to capture issues across the lifetime of each record, starting with acquisition and ending only when the record is inactivated.
- ▶ **Early Detection** - Fix data at loading, or as close to loading as possible, to remove the need to capture errors downstream or as the data is distributed.
- ▶ **Automation** - Automate as many quality rules as possible to eliminate additional manual errors.
- ▶ **Review** - Re-examine, continuously, any quality rules that are developed to ensure they remain valid.
- ▶ **Listen** - monitor trends in data issues to catch hidden problems.
- ▶ **Skills** - Use skilled analysts - who understand the data content as well as the mapping rules - to on board any feeds, with data quality analysts validating the mapping as well.

At every stage of the process, from design and mapping to acquisition and distribution, our focus is on producing high quality data without the resource and budget restraints faced by many financial firms. Ensuring the quality of the reference data you need to run your business is our business.

Transform your business today with complete, accurate and timely security master data from the RDU, the reference data specialists.

## About The SmartStream Reference Data Utility (RDU)

Financial institutions are critically dependent on high quality reference data to ensure that they can successfully trade electronically, automate their operations and report accurately to regulators. Large institutions spend millions of dollars to improve data quality, fix data issues and manage the exceptions that occur due to bad data.

The SmartStream RDU offers a simple solution to satisfy those complex reference data needs, by providing a high quality security master built using industry best practises. The RDU is the product of an initiative developed in close association with demanding global institutions and has been proven to deliver dramatically better quality data.

For more information visit:  
[smartstreamrdu.com](http://smartstreamrdu.com)