



A#:	8735
P&S#	8310
Date:	AUGUST 13, 2019
To:	ALL ACATS PARTICIPANTS
From:	ACATS PRODUCT MANAGEMENT, DTCC EQUITIES CLEARANCE
Attention:	DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, ACCOUNT TRANSFERS DEPARTMENT, MUTUAL FUND OPERATIONS, P&S DEPARTMENT
Subject:	ACATS MODERNIZATION/SHORTENED CYCLE INITIATIVE – SCHEDULE AND IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION REMINDER

This is a follow-up to Important Notice [A8672](#) (published 01/28/19). Click [here](#) for all associated ACATS Important Notices.

This notice serves as reminder of the upcoming schedule for the ACATS Modernization/Shortened ACATS initiative.

Target Dates (pending Regulatory Approval):

- Participant Services Environment (PSE) Testing – **Monday, November 4, 2019** – This is the date in which firms should be ready for testing. This will require access to the PSE U Test Region.
 - Optional Early Testing for interested firms begins on **Monday, September 9, 2019**. Firms are not obligated to test early.
 - To prepare for PSE testing, on **August 26, 2019** the PSE U region will be re-enabled so early testers can receive the new hourly reporting. At the same time, the PSE A region will be dis-enabled for all firms. If firms wish to continue testing in the A region (which supports current functionality) and/or keep your U region output turned off past this date, you will need to contact nscintegration@dtcc.com to request the applicable service changes. Additional information on U/A region is available in the Testing Implementation Guide (see documentation section of this notice).
 - PSE A Region – allows for testing of current production like functionality.
 - PSE U Region – allows for testing of new functionality.
- Production – **Monday, February 24, 2020** – This is the first day in which the new changes will be live.

- Days in Status Conversion for existing transactions (pre-migration): On Friday, February 21, 2020, ACATS will send two End of Day (EOD) Position files. The first file/report will be at its regularly scheduled time for current day activity under existing functionality. After close of business, ACATS will begin its migration to the new functionality in preparation for the Monday live date. Once this migration is complete (Friday evening), ACATS will send a second EOD Positions file with updated Days in Status field values for already pending ACATS activity. Detailed information about this conversion process can be found in the Implementation Guidelines document.

See Implementations Guidelines document (link in Documentation section of this notice) for obtaining access to the appropriate test regions and other pre-testing requirements; as well as information pertaining to impacts on active ACATS transactions after production migration.

Project Scope:

Industry Requested Enhancements:

1. Increase from five to eleven multi-cycles per day.
2. Change in “Days in Status” field calculation to report actual business day of the transfer status. (ex, Request Day 1 vs. Request Day 2, Review Day 1 vs. Review Day 2).
3. Input deadline changes for transfer initiation, transfer reject, asset input and asset adjustment transactions.
4. New functions within accelerate which will both enable fund registrations to be transmitted earlier in the day to fund companies and restrict additional adjustment activity that can add additional days to a transfer.
5. Increase in the number of ACATS Fund/SERV cycles that fund companies can receive fund registration information.
 - Note: Additional cycles in Fund/SERV will not be added until the November 4th PSE Date. Fund Companies will continue to get their transfer records (FR/018 records) in one PSE cycle until that date.
6. Remove steps in the Position Transfer Fund (PTF) process allowing fund registration (FR) records to be sent at the same time as Transfer Input (TI) and Asset Transfer (AT) records.

(See Enhancement Specification for a detailed list of requirements by accessing the link in Documentation section of this notice)

Documentation:

All documentation related to this initiative can be found at [dtcclearing.com](https://www.dtclearning.com). This includes: Enhancement Specifications, Implementation Guidelines, User Guides, Record Layouts, Test Cases and Best Practices.

<https://www.dtclearning.com/products-and-services/equities-clearing/automated-customer-account-transfer-service-acats/acats-documentation/acats-modernization.html>

Website registration is required for access to this documentation.

Working Group:

An industry working group pertaining to this initiative meets every Wednesday from 2 PM to 3 PM ET. If interested, please email Craig Gurien at cgurien@dtcc.com.

Additional Information:

A copy of this Important Notice can be obtained from the website of NSCC's parent corporation, The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, at <http://www.dtcc.com>. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact your DTCC Relationship Manager.

Craig Gurien,
Product Manager, ACATS