How to join TIPS

Bobby Bashford
ECB

Overview

Decision points towards participation in TIPS

- **Same participation criteria as for T2**

There are three ways to access TIPS

1. **Participant** - owning one or more TIPS accounts
   - For any PSP: TIPS Dedicated Cash Account (TIPS DCA)
   - For any ACH: TIPS Ancillary System Account (TIPS ASTA)

2. **Reachable Party** - able to access a participant's TIPS account by entering into a contractual agreement with that participant

3. **Instructing Party** - enters into a contractual agreement with one or more participant/reachable party to instruct on their behalf
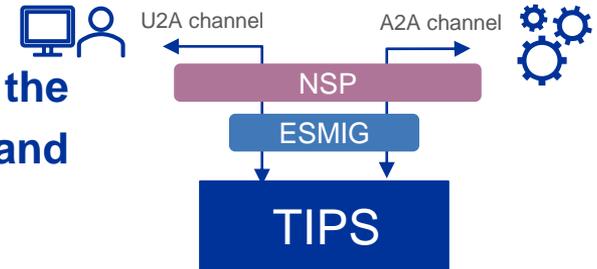
TIPS documentation (functional, technical and legal documentation)?
Publicly available on the ECB website: For professional use

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Decisions points towards participation in TIPS

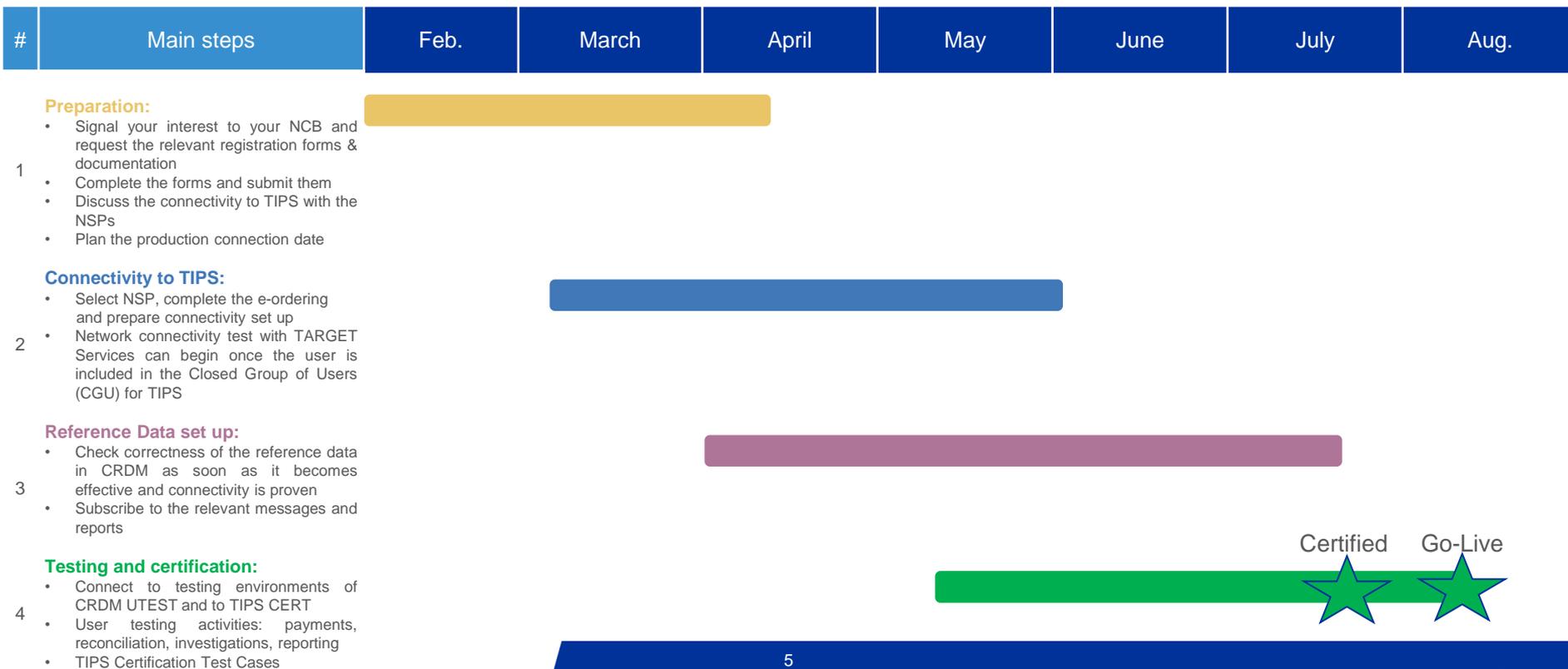- **TIPS Actors can access TIPS through two different channels**

A2A or U2A

1. **Application-to-application (A2A) channel**, that is application-oriented and allows TIPS Actors' system to interact with TIPS (relies on ISO 20022 standard XML messages, where applicable)

2. **User-to-Application (U2A) channel**, that is user-oriented and offers user-friendly application access through a Graphical User Interface (GUI)

→ **TIPS Actors access TIPS, in A2A or U2A mode, via the respective Network Service Providers (NSP) and through the ESMIG component**

U2A channel   A2A channel

NSP

ESMIG

TIPS

Main steps towards participation in TIPS

#	Main steps	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.
1	**Preparation:** • Signal your interest to your NCB and request the relevant registration forms & documentation • Complete the forms and submit them • Discuss the connectivity to TIPS with the NSPs • Plan the production connection date							
2	**Connectivity to TIPS:** • Select NSP, complete the e-ordering and prepare connectivity set up • Network connectivity test with TARGET Services can begin once the user is included in the Closed Group of Users (CGU) for TIPS							
3	**Reference Data set up:** • Check correctness of the reference data in CRDM as soon as it becomes effective and connectivity is proven • Subscribe to the relevant messages and reports							
4	**Testing and certification:** • Connect to testing environments of CRDM UTEST and to TIPS CERT • User testing activities: payments, reconciliation, investigations, reporting • TIPS Certification Test Cases					Certified	Go-Live	

Overview

Connectivity to TIPS

- A new TIPS participant **must bilaterally define a relationship with one or more selected NSPs** for the purpose of getting connected to TIPS

    – The NSP offers several functionalities: Technical Sender Authentication, Closed Group of Users (CGU), non-repudiation, encryption, NSP protocol transformation into and from DEP/MEPT protocol

→ How to establish a technical connection to TIPS and the selection of the NSP >> **TARGET Services Connectivity Guide**

→ Registration forms >> **from the National Central Bank**

→ Registration at the NSP >> **TIPS Guide for Onboarding of New Customers**

→ The NCB and the TIPS Service Desk will assist all new TIPS participants in relation to connectivity issues

Connectivity to TIPS

- Connection with **Nexi-Colt (formerly SIA-Colt)** consists of five main phases:

1. **User registration**
   - o Once the contractual relationship is established, Nexi-Colt registers the Customer in SIAnet.XS Portal

2. **Domain joining: subscription to the TIPS Closed Group of Users (CGUs)**
   - o As part of this phase, the TIPS Actor defines and provides its Business User address, i.e. the Technical Address used for exchange of A2A messages

3. **Configuration phase**

4. **Certificates management**

5. **LAU Key management**
   - o This is the configuration of the security keys used to secure the communication between Customer message interface and SIAnet.XS Network Gateway

Connectivity to TIPS

- TIPS registration at Swift consists of two steps:

1. **Participant registers its user Distinguished Name (DNs) in TIPS static data in CRDM (via your NCB)**

2. **Participant registers with Swift to enable access to TIPS** (using an e-order page on www.swift.com):
   - To complete and to submit the relevant e-order on swift.com
   - Listed under "Order Products and Services" > "Eurosystem Single Market Infrastructure Gateway (ESMIG)"

- There are different forms to subscribe to TIPS CERT environment (for testing purposes) and to TIPS PROD environment (live usage): for every submitted order, Swift automatically requests approval from the NCB and from the TIPS Operator. Afterwards, Swift activates the participant on the network.

Overview

Reference Data Set-Up

- **Aim: to set up users, access rights, etc. on the production environment**

1. The relevant NSD will set up the participants reference data in the Common Reference Data Management (CRDM) and TIPS in accordance with the Registration Form

2. The **Roles** required by the TIPS participant must be included in the form

3. The participant will have further reference data to set-up in terms of **message subscription** and **report configuration**

   o Example: the TIPS Directory is available to TIPS participants from the moment they are registered in TIPS. The directory can be received in push or pull mode and in a full or delta version

   → Consult the **User Handbook (UHB)** and the **Reference Data Guide**

4. All questions related to reference data setup should be addressed to the **NSD**

Overview

Testing and certification

- The Eurosystem offers test instances of **CRDM** and **TIPS** → participants can prepare for go-live and perform release testing after go-live:
  - All participants must connect to the testing environments of CRDM UTEST and to TIPS CERT

- Participants can consult the **TIPS User Testing Terms of Reference (TOR) document** which lays out the rules for testing and suggests the test approach

- TIPS **TOR**: covers further topics such as the roles of all actors, defect management and testing with the **other TARGET Services**

- The participants will be able to test in production-like conditions (including with a counter-party simulator) and the Eurosystem can request testing partners for cross-border payments

Testing and certification

- **Certification Testing**

Participant must be certified by the responsible NCB in order to access TIPS and CRDM production

- The participant must perform the **TIPS Certification Test Cases** in order to be certified to go-live in production:
  - o The **test cases are designed to cover the main functionality of the system** to ensure that the participant is able to correctly interact with the platform
  - o The **NSD will assist in all queries** in relation to the certification tests
  - o **Participants need only perform the test cases related to their form of participation**
  - o The **NSD may complement the suite of test cases with national authorisation test cases**

Overview

Relevant Documentation

- All the below documents are available on the [ECB website](#) → **For professional use**

  - **TARGET Services Connectivity Guide**

  - **TIPS Guide for Onboarding of New Customers**

  - **TIPS User Testing Terms of Reference (TOR)**

  - **User Defined Functional Specifications (UDFS)**

  - **Reference Data Guide**

  - **User Handbook (UHB)**

  - **TIPS Certification Test cases**