

ESAS/AUSTRACLEAR NZ SYSTEM UPDATE.

This note briefly details two major system enhancements to the ESAS/Austraclear NZ Systems that will be made available to members in the next few months. More detailed information on both initiatives will be made available on the Bank's website www.rbnz.govt.nz/payment/ and at the Austraclear User Group meeting to be held in Wellington at the RBNZ on Thursday 9th November 2006.

1. Austraclear NZ -SWIFT Interface.

The Austraclear SWIFT interface will be available for use by members from 1 November 2006. This interface enables members to use SWIFT messages for trade input into Austraclear and receive subsequent return SWIFT advices and confirmations.

Details on the interface are available on the Bank's website www.rbnz.govt.nz/payment/. If members are interested in obtaining the User Guide/Specification for the interface, then they should contact the Austraclear NZ help desk at rtgshelpdesk@rbnz.govt.nz.

2. Access to ESAS/Austraclear NZ via the Internet.

To provide maximum flexibility for members and ensure continued cost effective access to the ESAS/Austraclear NZ system, the network will be enhanced to provide system access via the Internet. Members will be able to utilise their existing Internet infrastructure (if it exists) or utilise any Internet connection option (ISP dial-up, ADSL or dedicated ISP connections). The Internet access infrastructure is currently being implemented and will be made available to Australian members towards the end of this year, then NZ members in 2007.

To ensure that the access is completely secure, every access to the ESAS/Austraclear NZ system via the Internet will require the use of an RSA "secure-ID" card (the same card that is currently used for dial-up access). In addition, the connection from the member's PC to the RBNZ network will be encrypted using SSL technology.

Router based access will continue to be offered as the alternative connection option for the new ESAS/Austraclear system as it offers several advantages over Internet access and is a more cost effective option for high-end/high-demand users, namely: higher speed capability, enhanced redundancy and failover capabilities, guaranteed performance and throughput, and a "private" network delivery mechanism.

Access via the Internet will only be available for connecting to the new ESAS/Austraclear system and will not include access to the existing applications. This approach reduced system complexity and costs.

It is intended to utilise the Internet access to:

(a) Replace the current Trans-Tasman/SFE interconnection infrastructure.

It is intended to utilise the Internet as the sole method of providing access to the new ESAS/Austraclear NZ system for members in Australia. Access to the new ESAS/Austraclear NZ system via the Internet will be available to Australian members from December 2006. Members will then be able to test connectivity to the ESAS/Austraclear "Test" application via the Internet in preparation for accessing the new ESAS/Austraclear system in April 2007 when the new application will be released (with the initial client install distributed on a CD during March 2007) to members for Industry testing. Please note that it is intended to contact all Australian members individually over the next few weeks about involvement in pilot testing and member testing.

Because of compatibility and future support issues with the SFE's old and new ANNI networks, changes are required to the current configuration for members domiciled in Australia to ensure continued access.

- Members in Australia who currently use the old ANNI dial-up or old ANNI-leased line connection options are unlikely to be able to utilise either of those mechanisms to access the current system beyond the end of December 2006, although a possible extension to this date is to be negotiated with the SFE. It will therefore be necessary to implement an interim access mechanism to be used until the new system goes live (with access via the Internet), with direct NZ dial-up being the preferred option.
- Members who currently use router based connections to the new ANNI network will continue to be able to access the existing ESAS/Austraclear NZ system until the new system goes live in NZ in September/October 2007.

Note that access to the new ESAS/Austraclear NZ system from Australia will only be available via the Internet.

(b) Replace the current IPNET dial-up Infrastructure.

The current IPNET dial-up network infrastructure will not be supported by Telecom beyond December 2007, so a replacement mechanism is required and the Internet is seen as providing the most flexible and cost effective option. Current dial-up members (or router based members who would like to use the Internet for DR purposes) will be able to test access to the new ESAS/Austraclear "Test" system via the Internet from early 2007. The new ESAS/Austraclear system will be released (with the initial client install distributed on a CD during March 2007) to members in April 2007 for Industry testing.

Note that once Telecom remove IPNET, then the current dial-up access will cease to operate and NZ members must either use the Internet or router-based access.

Internet Charges.

The charges for using the Internet access have been set so that the operational costs of the infrastructure are fully recovered and are fairly allocated to the users of that infrastructure. The additional/replacement charge for using the interface will be based solely on the number

of “company logons” that utilise the interface, with a differentiation between members using the access for normal system access and those who use it for disaster recovery purposes only. Note that there is no “usage” charge at the RBNZ end. The charges (excluding GST) are:

- \$70/company logon/month (when used for normal system access).
- \$10/company logon/month (when used for DR access – applicable only to router based members who use the Internet for DR).

For example, the dial-up (or Australian) member Land-Bank who has 2 company logons LAND40NA and LAND40NB, will incur a monthly charge of $\$70 \times 2 = \140 . Note that a secure RSA card will be required when using the Internet access, but a card can be used by 1 or more company logons. For example LAND40NA and LAND40NB could both use a shared card#1 or as an alternative both could be configured to use either of two cards, card#1 and card#2.

If members have any questions relating to either of these initiatives, then they should either call the RTGS_HESK on 644-4713918 or email the help desk at rtgshelpdesk@rbnz.govt.nz.