LETTER OF ANNOUNCEMENT
Release 1.5 of the EU Hub

Dear all,

EMVO is contacting you to provide further information on EU Hub Release 1.5 and to inform you that the delivery timeline has changed. The documentation for Release 1.5 did not meet EMVO Quality expectations, and in order to ensure this, the release has been postponed. In addition, it is necessary to align release planning in the EMVS eco system. As such, and following further consultation with our suppliers, Release 1.5 will now be available in IQE in the first half of July, and in PRD in the first half of August.

As has been previously stated, the new release of the EU Hub will include several functionality changes for OBPs;

- The Product Master Data Report is enhanced and will report the data as uploaded by the OBP. The new information contained in the Product Master Data Reports is:
    - Product Data Information
    - Version Data – Basic Product Data per Version
    - Market Data per Market and Version

- The serial number randomisation test will be simplified. Currently there are three randomisation tests which are performed by the EU Hub:
    - The random guess chance test. This simply asks if the range of possible serial numbers is greater than the number of packs by at least a factor of ten thousand.
    - The NIST frequency (monobit) test. If the serial numbers are expressed as a sequence of 1s and 0s (binary) is the proportion of 1s to 0s roughly equal, as would be expected by a random sequence of 1s and 0s.
    - The NIST runs test. Given that the frequency (monobit) test is passed are the numbers of runs of 1 proportionate to the total number of digits. E.g. 11110000 has an equal number of 1s and 0s but is obviously not randomly distributed, there are too few runs of 1 (in this case just 1). Likewise, 10101010 has an equal number of 1s and 0s but is also not randomly distributed, there are too many runs of 1 (in this case 4).

When any of these randomisation tests fail the OBP receives a warning, although the upload of Product Pack Data (PPD) is continued. From Release 1.5 only the random guess chance test will be performed. This is because the current tests raise too many warnings, it is not certain that the NIST frequency (monobit) test and NIST runs test always give a correct result, and some

Quality Assurance officers of OBPs prohibit the upload of PPD when the warning is received by the OBP.

- Bulk activity for sample packs will be enabled. From Release 1.5, OBPs can change the pack status of 'free sample' and 'sample' packs in bulk, whereas it is currently only possible to do so for individual packs.
- In countries which require a national code to be included in Product Master Data, it will now be mandatory to do so from Release 1.5. This change is relevant to; Portugal, Austria, Germany, and Spain.
- Release 1.5 will provide more distinctive descriptions of the 'O1 System Not Available' messages. The EU Hub will provide more information on the real exception behind these exceptions. Currently, when the EU Hub responds to a situation with an 'O1' message the only description which is being provided is 'system not available'. The O1 messages are raised for different circumstances, and there is a need to provide different error descriptions to better explain the issue which has occurred. This change will allow for better analysis of causes which trigger an O1-exception. In a later release, separate codes will be implemented with a 1:1 relation to the description (so each exception code will then have its own unique description).

Further detailed information on these changes can be found in the technical documentation associated with this release, which we will make available next week.

Please let us assure you that we will be providing updates about Release 1.5, and when it is deployed in ITE, IQE, and PRD environments. We will communicate on the EVI on the current status of the deployment and will, of course, provide a more concrete delivery date in good time.

In the event of any question or uncertainty, please do not hesitate to contact our Helpdesk:

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