

## [ESMA provides standards on supervisory cooperation for market abuse investigations](#)

ESMA's ITS clarify how national competent authorities (NCAs) and ESMA should cooperate with each other as well as with other EU authorities, entities and public bodies in the field of market abuse.

Market abuse can take many forms and concern different markets at the same time. As markets' integration is increasing further, smooth cooperation between authorities, entities and public bodies is paramount in order to track down on abusive behaviour. Therefore, ESMA's ITS set out procedures and forms for NCAs and ESMA to facilitate those exchanges of information and assistance.

ESMA submits its ITS today for endorsement to the European Commission, which has three months to do so. Once fully implemented, these ITS will contribute to delivering a regulatory rule-book for securities markets.

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## [EUIPO's new back office will be rolled out on the weekend of 24-25 February](#)

February 06, 2018 [Website](#)

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During the roll out scheduled for the weekend of 24-25 February, all the online filing applications of the EUIPO website will remain accessible and users will be able to proceed normally with their applications. EUIPO's customer service, technical, communication and operations teams will remain on hold to deal with any issues that may arise during and after the release.

All communications will be channelled via the website and the Office's Twitter account, [@EU\\_IPO](#).

The release is part of the Office's [Strategic Plan](#) and aims at the integration of all the IT systems used for managing EUIPO's trade mark and design registration services. The ultimate outcome is to support all IP processes at the Office on a single platform in order to gain agility and flexibility and to form the backbone of a fully-fledged e-organisation. More than 400 examiners of the Office will benefit from this weekend's release covering EUTM examination, opposition and Registered Community Design (RCD) invalidity.

The IP Tool programme started in 2016. The first phases involved recordals, renewals and EUTM cancellation process. Later in 2018 the next phase will integrate all Madrid processes as well as RCD examination. The integration of appeal and litigation proceedings later in 2019 will bring the programme to a close.

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# Press release: Major flood exercise from the source of the Trent to the Humber

A major exercise is taking place this week that will test the response to a large flooding incident along the whole of the River Trent, the third longest river in the country.

The scenario will test how the Environment Agency, emergency services, councils, government departments, utility companies, the Met office and the military exchange information, provide aid and test local and regional emergency plans.

The exercise is based on a long period of wet weather that has saturated the region, followed by an intense storm which causes significant flooding.

Local Resilience Forums from Staffordshire to Humberside will be involved alongside Strategic and Tactical co-ordination groups, with the Environment Agency injecting scenarios along the way to keep everyone focused and ensure it challenges those involved.

Paul Lockhart, East Midlands Flood Risk Manager at the Environment Agency said:

We don't get second chances during a major flooding incident so it is essential that we test our response through exercises like this one, to make sure every organisation can work together to do everything possible for communities when we are faced with the real thing.

We appreciate that major flooding events don't take place regularly and therefore many people often don't think about the potential consequences. It is great for the public to know that so many organisations will be looking out for them if the worst happened, but whilst we can reduce the risk of flooding, major weather events do occur which test flood defences.

Flooding is dangerous and can happen very quickly. The effects can be devastating. There are a number of things you can do to prepare for flooding to keep yourself and your family safe. Find out if your home is at risk, sign up for flood warnings and be ready to take action. Visit [www.gov.uk/flood](http://www.gov.uk/flood) or call Floodline on 0345 988 1188.

Learning from the exercise will be used to shape how organisations respond to a major flooding incident on the River Trent in the future.

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## [100 years on, the fight for true equality for all continues](#)

Today marks the 100th anniversary of the UK Parliament passing the Representation of the People Act, which first gave women the right to vote.

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