

ESMA publishes ESEF conformance suite

The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), the EU securities markets regulator, has published today the ESEF Conformance Suite to facilitate implementation of the ESEF Regulation.

The ESEF Regulation requires that, starting in 2020, all issuers with securities listed on an EU regulated market shall prepare their annual financial reports in xHTML and mark-up the IFRS consolidated financial statements contained therein using XBRL tags and the iXBRL technology.

The ESEF Conformance Suite is aimed primarily at a technical audience (i.e. XBRL software developers), as a way to test and provide assurance on whether software tools are able to create and / or consume filings which are in line with all ESEF requirements. In particular, the Conformance Suite permits to determine if a software is able to detect and flag infringements to the ESEF requirements contained in a filing.

The Conformance Suite builds on the rules and guidance set out by the ESEF Regulation and the ESEF Reporting Manual. It consists of [157 XBRL report packages](#), grouped into 60 tests, packaged in a zip file. It is accompanied by an [Excel file](#) which describes the rules and guidelines and the test cases, together with the expected error codes in case of incompliance. For each identified rule and guideline there is at least one valid and one invalid test case.