NEW TYPE 13 REGULATED ACTIVITY FOR CUSTODIANS AND TRUSTEES OF AUTHORIZED FUNDS

FOR HONG KONG TRUSTEE ASSOCIATION

5:30-6:30 P.M., 19 OCTOBER 2020

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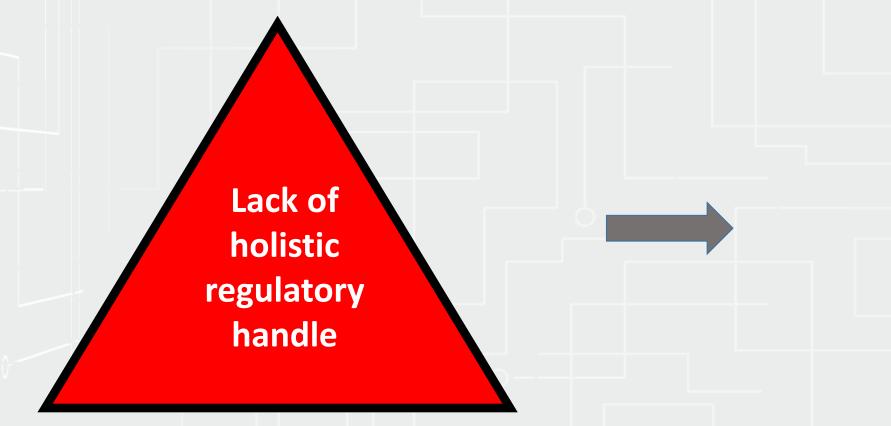
- Background: SFC's consultation paper
 Proposed licensing framework for RA13
- 02
- Who needs to be licensed for RA 13?
- What is the scope of regulated functions under RA 13?
- Conduct requirements
- What a trustee/custodian can do/prepare for migrating into the new licensing regime?
 - Migration
 - Personnel, compliance infrastructure and substantial shareholder
 - Timeline
 - Key take-away



Background SFC Consultation Paper



Background and objective





Background and objective



International standards

Market credibility and practices

Investor protection



Proposed Licensing Framework For RA 13



Which type of CIS is in scope?

Is the collective investment scheme authorized by the SFC?

Yes SFC-authorized unit trusts, mutual fund companies, real estate investment trusts, pooled retirement funds and open-ended fund companies** No Other SFC-authorized CIS** "Pure" MPF products Yes in scope → "Relevant CIS" Not in scope



Who needs to be licensed?

An entity which

- operates in HK
- as the top-level trustee or custodian
- of a Relevant CIS



RA 13 "Depositary"



Who needs to be licensed?

Unit trust

Person appointed as the trustee pursuant to the trust deed

Other than unit trust

Person appointed to perform the functions of a custodian pursuant to a written agreement between the person and the CIS



Regulated functions

Custody operations

Fund accounting and valuation

Monitoring of investment and borrowing restrictions

Monitoring of subscriptions and redemptions





Financial resources requirements

Securities and Futures (Financial Resources) Rules:

- Minimum paid-up share capital HK\$10 million* and
- Minimum liquid capital of HK\$3 million#

Professional indemnity insurance

 Maintain professional indemnity insurance to provide adequate coverage for claims for liability arising from breaches of duty in the course of carrying on RA 13 business ^



Regulatory framework

- SFO
- Code of Conduct for Persons Licensed by or Registered with the SFC ("Code of Conduct")
- Management, Supervision, and Internal Control Guidelines for Persons Licensed by or Registered with the SFC
- Applicable Product Codes: UT Code, REIT Code, PRF Code, OFC Code



Code of Conduct

RA 13 depositary is required to comply with the Code of Conduct:

- Main body of the Code of Conduct
- Schedule 11 (new)

REIT Code

PRF Code

UT Code

(OFC Code)*



Code of Conduct – UT Code / PRF Code

- 1. Delegation
- 2. ManCo communication and oversight
- 3. Operational control & oversight of relevant operators
- 4. Custody and safeguarding of assets
 - Similarity to Ch. 4.5 and Appendix G in UT Code



1. Delegation

Depositary may delegate their functions to third parties



Responsibility may not be delegated



Exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence in the selection and monitoring of delegates



2. Communication and oversight

Communications with ManCo:

 report on actual / possible material breaches & other key issues regarding discharge of functions*

Oversight:

- ManCo has managed in accordance with the constitutive documents[#]
- "Relevant operators"



3. Oversight of relevant operators

Oversight of relevant operators with respect to:

- Subscription and redemption processes*
- Valuation / price / NAV calculation*
 - Methodology, accuracy, fair value adjustment, escalation mechanism, proper records
- Cash flow*
- Distribution payment timely, complete, accurate
- Investment investment and borrowing restrictions, broker list, margin requirements
- Connected party transactions arm's length, best interest
- Fair treatment for different classes of investors



4. Custody

- Register in the name of or to the order of Depositary
- Segregate assets from ManCo, investment delegate, Depositary, nominee, agent, delegate, other CIS and other clients (unless omnibus client account)
- Verification of ownership
- Payments and asset transfers (or oversight thereof)



Modifications for Depositary of REIT

- a. Cash flow monitoring and cash reconciliation
 - → Depositary to oversee ManCo
- b. Custody and safeguarding of assets
 - → Safe custody of all title documents
- c. Connected party transactions
 - → Compliance with REIT Code



What a trustee/custodian can do for migrating into the new licensing regime?

Migration

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Not regulated



SFC approval process

Regulated



Whether your company is (or will be)

a trustee / custodian of:

- MPFs (and their constituent funds
- Approved pooled investment funds (APIFs) offered only to professional investors, employers, MPFs, ORS and pooling arrangements.

Top level

trustee / custodian

SFC authorised

unit trusts + mutual fund companies

Real estate investment trusts (REITS)

retirement funds and open-ended fund

companies

Pooled

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In-scope

How this will impact on you?

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Substantial shareholders

Personnel

Organizational Structure +

Systems and Controls

Personnel





Who will perform a regulated function?



- Identify at least 2 Responsible Officers (RO)
- Others who perform a regulated function can be a Licensed Representative



Personnel: Competence requirements

Licensed Representative

Academic /Professional qualification

Passing of local regulatory exam

- Degree in the designated subjects: Accounting,
 Business Administration, Economics, Finance or Law
 OR other degree with passes in at least 2 of the designated subjects
- Hong Kong Securities and Investment Institute (HKSI)
 exams: Existing Paper 1 (for Licensed Representative) and
 possibly new paper (for Responsible Officer)
- Experience: Experience relating to the "regulated function" of RA 13 + People management experience

Grandfathering arrangements

 Not required to pass local regulatory exams, but need to complete a course of not less than 5 hours on legal and regulatory framework of RA 13 within 12 months after obtaining licences.



Responsible Officer

Academic/Professional qualification

Passing of local regulatory framework exam

At least 3 years out of the past 6 years of experience in relation to the regulated function

At least 2 years of people management experience

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Organisational structure



Circular to Licensed Corporations Regarding Measures for Augmenting the Accountability of Senior Management

Issued on 16 December 2016

8 core functions

- Overall Management Oversight
- 2. Key Business Line
- 3. Operational Controls and Review
- 4. Risk Management
- 5. Compliance
- 6. AML and CTF
- 7. Information Technology
- 8. Finance and Accounts

8 core functions





Overall management oversight

- Responsible for directing and overseeing the effective management of the overall operations of the company on a day-to-day basis
- Developing the company's business and associated objectives, strategies, organizational structure, controls and policies
- Developing and promoting sound corporate governance practices, culture and ethics
- Executing and monitoring the implementation of board-approved business objectives, strategies and plans, and the effectiveness of the organizational structure and controls

Key Business Line

- To oversee and manage the company's regulated activities including supervising relevant staff and monitoring the company's adherence to applicable regulatory requirements in relation to the asset management business
- To supervise the performance of investment activities
- To provide overall direction for the investment functions within company's policies, guidelines and procedures

8 core functions



Operational Control and Review

- Establishing and maintaining adequate and effective systems of controls over the company's operations
- Reviewing the adherence to, and the adequacy and effectiveness of, the company's internal control systems

Risk Management

 Responsible for the identification, assessment, monitoring and reporting of risks arising from the company's operations

Finance and Accounting

 Responsible for ensuring the timely and accurate financial reporting and analyses of the operational results and financial positions of the company

8 core functions



Information Technology

 Responsible for the design, development, operation and maintenance of the computer systems of the company

Compliance

- Setting the policies and procedures for adherence to legal and regulatory requirements in the jurisdiction(s) where the company operates
- Monitoring the company's compliance with the established policies and procedures;
- Reporting on compliance matters to the board and senior management

AML and CTF

 Responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control procedures to safeguard the company against involvement in money laundering activities or terrorist financing

Systems and Controls

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Corporate Governance

Risk Management **Operational Control and**

Managing conflicts of interest

Safeguarding of Client **Assets**

> **AML** and **CTF**

KYC and Client onboarding



What exactly will be required?





Part II: Corporate Governance			<u>Yes</u>	<u>No*</u>	<u>N/A</u> #
1	-	you have any written policies and control procedures to ensure that your board of ctors			
	a)	establish a management structure which includes the roles, responsibilities, accountability and reporting lines of your senior management;			
	b)	oversee the appointment of your senior management;			
	c)	establish systems and controls to supervise your senior management and supervisory staff members who act under the delegated authority by your board of directors;			
	d)	establish systems and controls to monitor and regularly evaluate the performance of your senior management in their respective areas of responsibility; and			
	e)	establish policies to ensure that the senior management have access to regular training to maintain and enhance their competencies and to keep themselves updated on industry and regulatory developments relevant to their respective areas of responsibility?			
2		often will your board of directors evaluate the performance of your senior agement in their respective areas of responsibility?			

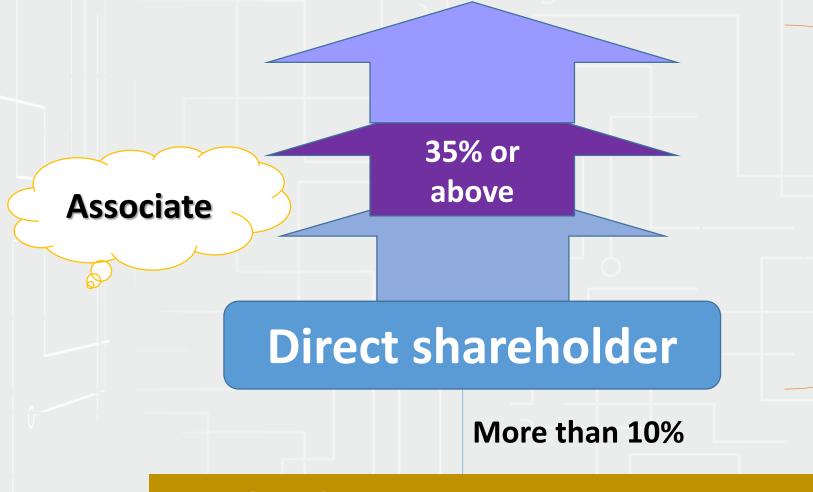


What exactly will be required?

3	Do you have any written policies and control procedures to ensure that your senior management						
	a)	have a sound understanding of your business activities and their associated risks;					
	b)	oversee the development and implementation of risk management policies and control procedures to ensure that your risks can be identified, monitored and controlled and that financial and management information is reliable, timely and complete;					
	c)	establish policies to ensure that your risk management, compliance, operational control and review functions are properly positioned, staffed and resourced and carry out their responsibilities independently, objectively and effectively; and					
	d)	review and update regularly your risk management measures to ensure that they remain adequate and consistent with your operating environment, and are able to support business expansion?					

Substantial shareholders





Require SFC approval

SFC licensed entity



Implementation timeline

Consultation paper Sept 2019

Gazettal notice to amend SFO

Implementation of RA 13 regime

12 – 18 months

Consultation conclusion (Q4 2020?)

Applicants expected to submit application within 2 months



Key take-away



Review existing business to confirm whether you are inscope



Identify who perform a regulated function and so require SFC licences



Build-up compliance infrastructure



Thank you for your participation!

ANY QUESTIONS?

