

Directive 6 of 2019*

Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform (Land-Based) Directive

In exercise of the power conferred by article 7(2) of the Gaming Act, 2018 (Cap. 583 of the Laws of Malta), and Part XIII of the Gaming Authorisations and Compliance Directive (Directive 3 of 2018), the Malta Gaming Authority is hereby issuing the following directive in order to delineate the applicability of the Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform (EARP) to a certain category of licensees, and the requirements thereof.

Part I – Short Title and Definitions

1. The short title of this directive is the Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform (Land-Based) Directive 2019.
2. This directive shall come into force on the date of publication.
3. (1) In this directive, save as provided in sub-article (2) of this article, all words and phrases shall have the same meaning as prescribed in the Gaming Definitions Regulations.
(2) In this directive, unless the context otherwise requires:

“casino business day” means the twenty-four hours ranging from 0800 of the preceding day to 0800 of the following day;

“casino licensee” means a B2C licensee offering gaming services within a gaming premises in possession of a concession in terms of article 11(3)(a) of the Act;

“Casino management system” means, at minimum, a method of accounting in which the entirety of the gaming transactions relating to the gaming service are determined, recorded, monitored, and retained by a central computer that is operated and maintained by the licensed operator itself, or by an entity authorised to provide critical gaming supplies;

“Directive” means this Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform (Land-Based) Directive;

“Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform” means the platform, including all related software and hardware technological elements, developed by the Authority to fulfil the aims of the reporting system mentioned in Part XIII of the Gaming Authorisations and Compliance Directive;

“essential components” has the meaning assigned to it in the Gaming Authorisations and Compliance Directive;

“key technical setup” has the meaning assigned to it in the Gaming Authorisations and Compliance Directive;

“midnight” has the same meaning assigned to it in Section 4.2.3 of the ISO 8601:2004 (E): Data Elements and Interchange formats — Information interchange — Representation of Dates and Times International Standard;

“qualifying licensee” means the category of licensees listed in article 4 of this Directive;

“regulatory data collection device” means a device owned and controlled by the Authority, which is compatible with SAS version 6.02 communication protocol or higher, and which allows for the collection, encryption and transmission of regulatory data, the specifications of which are listed in First Schedule, and which is connected to the Authority’s Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform;

“RRI” means the Regulatory Reporting Interface open standard, which comprises a standard set of defined data elements and schema;

“SAS” means Slot Accounting System, an internationally recognised communication protocol used for gaming devices; and

“Server-based gaming platform”, means a gaming and, or betting system in which a central computer executes at least one critical gaming application, and one or more gaming devices providing the games to a player by communicating with the central computer, connected so as to allow a two-way communication there between.

Part II – Scope

4. This Directive shall apply to:
 - (a) Casino licensees;
 - (b) Licensees operating controlled gaming premises; and
 - (c) Entities authorised to provide critical gaming supplies to the licensees described in (a) and (b) above.
5.
 - (a) Qualifying licensees shall integrate the Authority’s Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform in terms of articles 47, 48 and 49 of the Gaming Authorisations and Compliance Directive, according to the specifications set out in this Directive, and any other instructions provided by the Authority.
 - (b) Qualifying licensees shall be responsible and take all measures necessary to ensure that the entirety of their systems are fully connected and operational with the Authority’s Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform by 30 November 2020 at the latest.

6. Qualifying licensees shall provide all necessary assistance to the Authority for the installation and testing of regulatory data collection devices onto categories of gaming devices of an electronic, electrical or mechanical nature as may be identified by the Authority, which includes slot machines, and qualifying licensees shall not do anything to disrupt the operation of, or in any way tamper with the regulatory data collection device, and shall immediately report any malfunction or fault detected to the Authority without doing anything to compromise the integrity of the flow of data:

Provided that the Authority shall have discretion not to approve gaming devices of the above-mentioned category in terms of regulation 19 of the Gaming Authorisations Regulations (S.L. 583.05), if such gaming devices are not technically compatible with the Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform;

Provided further that with respect to gaming devices of the above-mentioned category which were previously approved by the Authority, the Authority maintains discretion to direct the qualifying licensee to remove the gaming device from operation by 30 November 2020;

Provided further that for the avoidance of doubt, a gaming device of the abovementioned category is considered to be technically incompatible with the Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform if such a gaming device does not include a second serial communication port which can be modified to a read-only configuration.

7. Notwithstanding the data collected via the regulatory data collection device, qualifying licensees shall generate electronic reports directly from the data located on their key technical setup, which for the avoidance of doubt, includes the qualifying licensee's central wagering system, casino management system, or a server-based gaming platform.
8. Qualifying licensees shall ensure that the reports contain authentic, non-tampered data pertaining to the category of gaming devices identified in article 6 above, as well as data held or generated via the systems located on the qualifying licensee's key technical setup, including but not limited to the casino management system, including data relating to gaming tables, and any server-based gaming platform.
9. Qualifying licensees shall maintain a reporting server, the location and specifications of which shall be subject to the Authority's approval, which reporting server shall always contain the reports referred to in articles 7 and 8 above, and be connected, at all times, to the Authority's Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform, so as to allow access and transfer functionality to the Authority.

The reporting server and the data therein shall be available and operational at all times and whenever required by the Authority. The reporting server shall have as close to a 100% uptime as possible. Any downtime should be reported to the Authority via an incident report in the format required by the Authority, and failure by the Authority to extract data from the reporting server due to technical problems emanating from the status or configuration of the reporting server may be deemed to be a breach of this Directive.

10. Qualifying licensees shall, on a daily basis and at midnight of each day, for data pertaining to the previous day, generate each of the following reports according to the Game Types offered by the qualifying licensee, according to the data reporting standard for each report, as listed in Schedules 2, 3 and 4 of this Directive:
- (a) B2B Type 1 Summary Compliance Report – Second Schedule;
 - (b) B2B Type 2 Summary Compliance Report – Third Schedule;
 - (c) B2B Type 3 Summary Compliance Report – Fourth Schedule; and
 - (d) B2B Type 1 Tables Summary Compliance Report – Fifth Schedule (applicable only to casino licensees).

Provided that a qualifying licensee shall store each report on their reporting server for a minimum of 2 years from the day it was generated.

Provided further that for casino licensees, 'previous day' shall refer to the immediately preceding last full casino business day.

11. Qualifying licensees shall, on a daily basis and at midnight of each day, for data pertaining to the previous day, generate the B2C Summary Compliance Report, according to the data reporting standard for the report, as listed in Sixth Schedule of this Directive:

Provided that a qualifying licensee shall keep available for the Authority each report on their reporting server for a minimum of 2 years from the day it represents. After such period, the reports can be archived offline for a period of 10 years from the day it represents.

Provided further that for casino licensees, 'previous day' shall refer to the preceding casino business day.

12. Qualifying licensees shall ensure that any jackpots, including any community or networked jackpots which, for technical and security reasons, cannot be automatically reflected in realtime onto the casino management system, are manually included in the casino management system at least once weekly.

13. The filename for each report must conform to the format designated in Seventh Schedule of the Directive. In cases where the report is re-generated to correct any data, then the new report must be saved with same filename format but incrementing the version number by one.

14. The Enhanced Automated Reporting Platform shall connect to each reporting server through Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) at any given time to access and evaluate the reports stored on the reporting servers.

15. Each report shall automatically generate a [SHA256 Hash](#) at the exact time the report was generated. The Hash must be stored in the same location together with the associated file using the designated file name format as designated in Seventh Schedule of the Directive. In case of multiple report versions multiple Hash must be generated and stored for each version.

16. Qualifying licensees hosting reporting servers shall ensure that the IT and network infrastructure is subject to a high level of protection which is subject to the Authority's satisfaction, to ensure the integrity and security of the data therein, with documented policies, including but not limited to:
- (a) Information Security Policy;
 - (b) Incident Response Policy;
 - (c) User Management Policy;
 - (d) System Access Control;
 - (e) Business Continuity Plan & Disaster Recovery; and (f) Back-up Procedure.
- Provided that failure to abide by the policies submitted to the Authority may be deemed to be a breach of this Directive.
17. Qualifying licensees shall ensure that the processes set out in this Directive are reflected in their data protection compliance framework, including the qualifying licensees' privacy policy made available to players.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Regulatory Data Collection Device Data Specifications

The Regulatory Data Collection Device shall be calibrated to store, collect and process and transmit all data points as set out in the SAS protocol.

SECOND SCHEDULE

B2B Type 1 Summary Compliance Report

[B2Btype1SmryCompliance.zip](#)

THIRD SCHEDULE

B2B Type 2 Summary Compliance Report

[B2Btype2SmryCompliance.zip](#)

FOURTH SCHEDULE

B2B Type 3 Summary Compliance Report

[B2Btype3SmryCompliance.zip](#)



FIFTH SCHEDULE

B2B Type 1 Tables Summary Compliance Report

[SmryLiveTables.zip](#)

SIXTH SCHEDULE

B2C Summary Compliance Report

[B2CsmryCompliance.zip](#)

SEVENTH SCHEDULE

File Name Formatting

Each report generated shall comply with the following formatting:

LicenceNumber _Year_Month_Day_Hour_Minute_Second_ReportType_Version.XML

Example: 1234_2019_03_07_15_56_05_B2BType1SmryCompliance_v1.XML