
Operational Notice

08 April 2021
ON_24/2021

Survey - CR-722: incompatibility with Citrix Terminal Server

For the attention of:

DCPs

Re:

Survey - CR-722: incompatibility with Citrix Terminal Server

Dear Client,

Within the scope of T2S release 5.2, Change Request 722 "Upgrade of non-repudiation service for U2A" will be included, and released in the pre-production environment (UTEST) on September 24, 2021 and active in Production, at the same time as release 5.2, starting from November 22 (ref. ON 16/2021 of March 10, 2021).

The functional change consists in the transition from the current implementation of NRO¹ for U2A, based on IBM Java Applet, to the Ascertia Desktop Signing Services (ADSS - Go>Sign Desktop) solution already in use in TARGET2-Internet Access. This solution is also expected to be the only solution adopted by ESMIG for T2, T2S and TIPS. It should be noted that the solution will be active in TIPS from June 2021 with release 3.1.

Ongoing testing by Eurosystem on the CR-722 has shown that, for institutions connecting to T2S via Citrix:

- Citrix Virtual Desktop is capable of supporting both solutions, i.e. Ascertia Go>Sign Desktop and Ascertia applet
- Citrix Terminal Server, on the other hand only supports Ascertia applet. Ascertia Go-Sign Desktop is not compatible with a Citrix Terminal Server configuration.

Therefore, starting from Release 5.2, institutions using Citrix Terminal Server and planning to transition to Ascertia Go-Sign Desktop (and not use the Ascertia applet) would not be able to sign, as is required, transaction actions in U2A that involve NRO in T2S.

¹ The Non Repudiation of Origin functionality, in this case, provides the recipient with an assurance of "non-repudiation" of a U2A instruction by the originator.

Proof of origin is generated by the originator through a digital signature mechanism, and is retained by the recipient.

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As of Release 6.0, scheduled to enter Production in June 2022, given the current plan to disable the Ascertia applet with the start of connectivity via ESMIG, the inability to sign U2A actions would affect all institutions using Citrix Terminal Server to connect to T2S.

A plan to resolve this issue is being considered by the T2S governance technical groups (CRG, PMG, and OMG). In this regard, in order to promptly assess the extent and urgency of the problem, we ask you to indicate whether the above affects your institution by answering the following questions:

1. Does your institution use Citrix Terminal Server to connect to T2S?
2. If so, does your institution plan to use Ascertia Go>Sign Desktop (and not the Ascertia applet) prior to launching Release 6.0?
3. If so, as of what date?

We would ask you to bring this information to the attention of the relevant technical staff² and forward your responses via email to MT-T2S-Test@lseg.com by April 14 next.

²Previous updates on ASCERTIA application configurations have been published with our ONs 03/2021 dated 19/01/2021 and 09/2021 dated 05/02/2021