



# User Guide SIX x-clear Ltd

**Norway**  
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Norway

## Table of contents

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Market overview</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Settlement guide</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Settlement process	3
2.2	Handling of unmatched trades	4
2.3	Handling of unsettled trades	4
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Income and corporate action guide</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	Ex date	5
3.2	Record date	5
3.3	Pay date	5
3.4	Cancellation/Regeneration (transformation)	5
3.5	Compensation rules	5
3.6	Source tax	5
3.7	Currency	6
3.8	Buyer election	6
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Contact details</b>	<b>7</b>

# User Guide SIX x-clear Ltd

## Norway

### 1.0 Market overview

Description	Details
Settlement agent	Direct participant at VPSN
Place of settlement	VPS, VPSNNOKKXXX
Participant ID	45011
Participant name	SIX x-clear Ltd (CLRCHZZXXX)
Standard settlement instruction format	REAG/DEAG: VPSN/45011
Market deadlines (CET)	Bonds and shares, free and versus payment S 11:30

This guide is only applicable for transactions of members clearing with SIX x-clear Ltd (hereafter referred to as "SIX x-clear") on the SECOM platform. Members clearing on the CLARA platform still follow the guidelines of the market participation of former Oslo Clearing.

The trading venue is not relevant to the settlement process or the place of settlement. In general, the place of settlement is defined by the home market of the security and the trading currency.

### 2.0 Settlement guide

#### 2.1 Settlement process

SIX x-clear is a participant of SIX SIS Ltd (hereafter referred to as "SIX SIS") for post-trading activities in the Norwegian market. SIX SIS is a direct participant in the Norwegian CSD. The clearing member who is the counterparty to SIX x-clear has to set up their instructions as mentioned in the table in Section 1.0 *Market overview*.

Settlement instructions will only be allowed in data source scheme (DSS) format in future. SECOM members are therefore required to submit SIX x-clear's "Settlement standing instruction (SSI)" (Form 002C) indicating their SSI by use of the five-digit local code at VPS Oslo (DSS format). SIX x-clear cannot guarantee matching if the details in the counterparty instructions do not follow this guideline.

Both transaction types "free of payment" and "against payment" have to be matched before settlement.

At the settlement platform, the settlement information for the two instructions will be compared. Data must be identical in order to match. The only exception is the cash amount in against-payment instructions with a matching tolerance of NOK 50. The tolerance is defined by the settlement platform. The amount in the seller's instruction

# User Guide SIX x-clear Ltd

## Norway

takes precedence. Instructions exceeding the acceptable tolerance will remain unmatched.

Settlements at the Norwegian CSD against x-clear are only possible in NOK.

Any instruction which has been sent for matching in the local market remains pending until matching is successful, or upon cancellation either by the member or by the settlement platform. Matching of instructions is binding, i.e. instructions can no longer be cancelled or can only be cancelled upon request by both parties.

### 2.2 **Handling of unmatched trades**

Trades should be matched on T+1 to ensure timely settlement. SIX x-clear will monitor unmatched transactions and contact clearing members for missing/failing instructions if necessary. Clearing members are also requested to monitor unmatched trades and to ensure instructions are in place.

### 2.3 **Handling of unsettled trades**

Trades are expected to settle on the intended settlement date (ISD). SIX x-clear will not amend instructions. Cancellations and re-instructions will only be performed by SIX x-clear for instructions that are veritably incorrect or where a manual transaction split has been agreed. SIX x-clear will monitor unsettled transactions and contact clearing members for delayed transactions if necessary.

In respect of late settlement and buy-in rules, please refer to the “Late settlement and buy-in guide” of SIX x-clear.

SIX x-clear may pass on any third-party fees, including but not limited to cancellations, manual instructions, manual repairs and late settlement penalties.

### 3.0 **Income and corporate action guide**

In the Norwegian market the most common events are dividend payments, bonus issues, rights issues and spin-offs.

Dividends are usually paid annually in the Norwegian market and the typical dividend season is during the first half of the year. The decision to distribute a dividend is made at the company's annual general meeting (AGM) and the meeting date will normally be the last day to trade cum-dividend.

## User Guide SIX x-clear Ltd

### Norway

#### 3.1 **Ex date**

The ex date is the first date on which shares are traded without entitlement. The ex date is in general the first business day following the AGM of a company.

#### 3.2 **Record date**

The date when close of business positions are captured for entitlement to the proceeds of the corporate event. Record date is usually 1 business days after the ex date.

#### 3.3 **Pay date**

Dividends are normally credited to the beneficial owner six days after the record date. All positions are based on the holdings on record date.

#### 3.4 **Cancellation/Regeneration (transformation)**

In case of a mandatory corporate action such as splits, reverse splits, conversions, etc, VPS, the Norwegian CSD, will automatically cancel all pending settlement instructions at record date (EOD) and both SIX x-clear and the clearing member have to reinstruct the new trades according to the terms of the corporate action.

#### 3.5 **Compensation rules**

Compensation is done automatically (credit for purchases and debit for sales before ex date) three days after record date. Entitlement is based on the trade date.

If the trade has not settled on time, our custodian has the option to make a manual 'adjustment' to the entitlement in the VPS system. However, this is only possible if the trade should settle during the next 3 days after record date. Should the trade exceed these 3 days after record date, a market claim is automatically performed by SIX x-clear's custodian.

The custodian will claim the entitlement upon settlement of the underlying transaction with the counterparty.

#### 3.6 **Source tax**

The standard withholding tax rate on dividends for non-residents of Norway is currently 25%. Applications for reduced withholding rates can be filed for foreign beneficiaries whose tax domicile country has signed a double taxation treaty with Norway.

## User Guide SIX x-clear Ltd

### Norway

#### 3.7 **Currency**

In Norwegian market practice, all dividends registered in the Norwegian CSD system are to be paid in the local currency (NOK) as the CSD system is only able to pay in the local currency (bonds not included).

#### 3.8 **Buyer election**

A buyer election facility is not available at the Norwegian CSD.

SIX x-clear never takes any action on corporate actions with a choice of options. In case the buyer does not submit any preference, the default option applies. If an option other than the default option is desired, the buyer has to send its preference with a Liability Request Notice by fax to SIX x-clear's Settlement Desk by no later than 10:00 CET on the delivery date (deposit date) +1.

SIX x-clear will forward the buyer's choice with a Liability Allocation Notice to the failing seller by no later than 12:00 CET on the delivery date (deposit date) +1.

The Liability Request Notice and the Liability Allocation Notice can be downloaded from the website at [www.six-group.com](http://www.six-group.com) > Exchange Services > Go to Securities Services > Clearing > Member Information > Forms > Form 005 and Form 006.

The seller is obliged to execute the instruction and to deliver the outcome according to the buyer's choice. The cancellation of the original trade and the new instruction(s), according to the relevant corporate action terms, need to be agreed bilaterally by SIX x-clear and the counterparty. The settlement dates of the new outcome will generally be the payment date of the corporate action transaction.

A seller shall deliver the rights/shares on the deposit date at the latest. A buyer or SIX x-clear is not obliged to accept a delivery of rights/shares after such a date. Therefore the rights/ shares can be returned to the seller. The seller still has an obligation to fulfill the executable buyer's choice.

If a seller fails to deliver the rights/shares by the relevant deadlines, the seller is held liable for any charges and penalties received in connection with the failing delivery. This liability may be in the form of:

- Elections to tender
- Missed economic benefits on the onward sale of the underlying shares
- Buy-in fees imposed on our counterparty by other counterparties
- Market penalties from SIX x-clear's onward deliveries failing



## User Guide SIX x-clear Ltd

### Norway

A full description of the process is available in the Service Description for Clearing Services at [www.six-group.com](http://www.six-group.com) > Login > Securities Services Private > Clearing > Download Center > Service Description.

#### 4.0 Contact details

SIX x-clear Settlement  
c/o SIX SIS Ltd  
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Baslerstrasse 100  
CH-4600 Olten

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Fax +41 58 499 1316  
Email [sett.xclear@sisclear.com](mailto:sett.xclear@sisclear.com)  
[www.six-group.com](http://www.six-group.com)

In this context, SIX x-clear Ltd draws the Members' attention to clauses **7.1 lit. f. and 25.3** General Terms and Conditions of SIX x-clear Ltd stipulating that the Member bears responsibility for the tax requirements and consequences of clearing with x-clear pursuant to the Applicable Law and that SIX x-clear Ltd assumes no liability for any charges or other negative consequences arising in conjunction with clearing through SIX x-clear Ltd that are a result of tax laws or ordinances issued by tax authorities pursuant to the Applicable Laws.

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