Implementing SRDII 2018/1212 and automating proxy voting processing

Amidst increased regulatory scrutiny and need for transparency, the deadline for the European Commission’s implementation of regulation 2018/1212 for Shareholder Rights Directive II (SRDII) gets closer by the day; with firms operating as financial intermediaries focused on planning for compliance.

Without technology intervention, the transition from a discretionary service using current manual processes to a mandatory service with elaborate electronic mechanisms and ISO 20022 based messaging, is likely to add unmanageable burden on financial intermediaries’ operations. Additionally, the newly introduced shareholders identification disclosure flow will add multi-fold volumes for operations. The regulatory definitions of “without delay” will place onerous obligations on the teams managing these requests.

IMProxy standardizes and automates the processing of meetings, proxy voting and shareholder identification disclosure procedures for financial institutions that provide proxy services to their clients; in accordance with the European Commission’s regulation.

- Leverages contemporary technology and the latest proxy voting and shareholders identification disclosure ISO standards to support end-to-end processes.
- Offers flexible configuration options to support each unique market, while seeking to create common services to optimize efficiency and minimize risk.
- Enables operations staff to capture and transpose meetings and agenda data in a structured format.
- A decoupled messaging model allows custodians and intermediaries to notify clients using desired messaging channels like SWIFT, e-mails or an XML.
- Operations staff can easily view and prioritize tasks via user-friendly management dashboards that provide real time risk profiles of upcoming tasks.
End client voting portal
IMProxy encompasses a web-based self-service application that enables financial institutions to provide a seamless interface to their clients, who can directly review the information on meeting agenda and provide voting instructions via the portal.

Automated processing
These instructions are structured as ISO messages and sent to the back-office where they are processed without any manual intervention. Automated processing of the voting instructions and beneficiary details save considerable effort from operations staff in readiness and attendance of the actual meeting.

Increased efficiency
Operational efficiency is enhanced due to standardization of flows for shareholder identification disclosure, meetings data and voting instructions.

A hosted solution
IMProxy is available on our hosted service, enabling customers to optimize infrastructure and minimize costs; while benefiting from a strategic, security-centric, SOC-certified solution. This highly-available fault-tolerant service is built on layers of technology that delivers scalability and security requirements to meet the needs of our customers. The service includes management of all hardware infrastructure and software stack, proactive monitoring and alerting, and data replication and backup.

Manage operational risk
Manage increasingly burdensome volumes for transition from a discretionary service to a mandatory one.

Lowering longer term TCO
Single code base solution shared across customers to deliver a more cost-effective solution over time.

Meeting and Disclosure announcements
— Collect announcement information
— Cleansed and consolidated data

Positions & voting eligibility
— Determination of affected investors
— Calculate eligible “voteable” positions

Notifications
— Notify investors of meeting and agenda information
— Forward disclosure requests to intermediary accounts
— Respond to disclosure response recipients

Voting instructions & proxy
— Capture voting instructions in electronic formats, via voting portal
— Register participation, appointment of proxy, block or register securities

Voting execution, meeting attendance & meeting results
— Facilitate management of request for meeting attendance cards, confirmation of deposits
— Confirm the status and execution of a vote
— Report on the results of the meeting

For more information about IMProxy, please visit: ihsmarkit.com/informationmosaic

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