

Title (mandatory by originator) *Issues with ISRA Archiving***Description of Change** (mandatory by originator)

The ISRA Archive and Restore (IAR) facility is designed to remove redundant files and database records from the Live ISR system. It is essentially a deletion tool, and removes data relating to a Settlement Date which is at least two years old and has had a Final Reconciliation run successfully performed. To date, however, the facility has not been used to remove data from the Live system.

In April 2000 the ISR Agent performed a series of tests on the archiving system. During this testing a number of problems were encountered. These were recorded by Cap Gemini in an ISRA Archive Test Report. The problems can be summarised as follows:

1. The deletion of Unix files is not recorded.
2. The deletion of database records is recorded, but only for those tables that are audited.
3. Database entries for files recorded with a status of deleted are not removed.
4. Exception Reports from failed file loads are not cleared down by the archive.
5. A number of database tables are not updated during an archive.
6. A number of input data files, which do not relate to particular Settlement Dates, are not deleted by IAR. These include Line Loss Factors, Regression Equations, Profile Data, Pool Market Domain Data and Sunset Data.
7. Settlement Dates for pre-market start-up (1st January 1998 to 26th July 1998) have not had Final Reconciliation runs performed and therefore do not match the archive criteria. This problem is being dealt with separately to the above problems and an SQL script has been developed to artificially give these dates a Final Reconciliation run.

The problems with the IAR system mean that to date the ISR Agent has not used the Archive facility to clear down data that meets the Archive criteria. As such, all data since market start up is currently being held on the Live system. Obviously, with such a large amount of data, existing disk space at Cap Gemini is becoming short. There is therefore good cause to solve the problems so that the ISR Agent can begin archiving of obsolete data from the Live system.

Benefits/Beneficiaries of resolving the Settlement Issue (mandatory by originator):

By ensuring that the problems with the IAR facility are removed the system can be used as an effective method of housekeeping and will allow the ISRA system to continue performing effectively, thereby ensuring the integrity of Settlement.

Risk assessment of Settlement Issue (optional by originator or CCC):

Ignoring the problems with the IAR system is not viable in the long term if it means that the facility will not be used. Currently the Live ISRA system is holding all data since market start up and the sheer volume is affecting the performance of the system. A fully functional IAR facility can be used to reduce the amount of data on the system, thereby improving its performance.

If this issue is not addressed the amount of available disk space will decrease with time unless new memory is installed. There has been a noticeable increase in back-up times over the last few months, with weekly full system backups now taking of the order of 24 hours. By reducing the online volume of data through archiving, backup times and the performance of the ISR system as a whole will be improved.

The time taken for weekly backups also places risks on the implementation of software upgrades. Upgrades currently planned to take place on a weekend cannot begin until the backup started on Friday evening is complete. Consequently, software upgrades cannot begin until late on Saturday. This reduces contingency time for any problems, and may threaten the feasibility of future upgrades being completed within a weekend.

If the IAR system were used in its current state obsolete records remaining after archiving would have to be removed manually. This activity contains a high degree of risk and a thorough understanding of the system is required to ensure that data is not incorrectly removed. By correcting the IAR facility and fully automating the process, this risk is removed and the entire process can be run through the front end functionality of the system.

Care must be taken to ensure that data required for the current Disputes runs is not prematurely removed from the Live system by a fully functioning IAR system.

Related issues and/or projects (mandatory by CCC):

Logica is to assess whether solutions to the above issues could be found and to estimate the amount of work that this would require. Logica have indicated that the problems can be solved, some with minimal change to the current system.

Proposed Solution(s) (mandatory by originator)

To be specified.

Justification for Change (mandatory by originator)

Other Configurable Items Potentially Affected by Proposed Solution(s) (optional by BSCCo)

Impact on Core Industry Documents (optional by originator)

Related Changes and/or Projects (mandatory by BSCCo)

CP659 (raised from SIR R3002)

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<p>Originator's Details:</p> <p>BCA Name.....<i>Colin Berry</i>.....</p> <p>Organisation.....</p> <p>Email Address.....</p> <p>Date.....</p> <p>[BSC Panel Representative].....</p> <p>Organisation.....</p>	
<p>Attachments: N* (If Yes, No. of Pages attached:.....) <i>(delete as appropriate)</i></p>	