

SFC Introduces Next Generation Digital Online Portal

Of particular interest to: All SFC Licensees

In brief

The SFC launched its updated WINGS platform on 3 January 2022. The updated WINGS platform replaces the SFC's Online Portal and all electronic forms for licence applications, annual returns, notifications and regulatory filings (including Financial Resources Returns) are to be submitted through the new WINGS platform. The WINGS platform allows for advisory firms such as Optima to assist clients to make filings and notifications.

Optima has prepared a User Guide on navigating and setting up the new WINGS Platform which will be distributed to its clients. We are also primed to assist our clients in managing the transition and ongoing management of the WINGS platform to ensure accurate and efficient communication with the Commission.

Summary

The updated WINGS platform allows for fully digitalised communications with the SFC and allows for electronic submissions of licence applications and ongoing notifications to the Commission.

Key functional highlights of the WINGS platform include the ability to:

- prepare, electronically sign and submit licensing forms;
- track the progress of licence applications;
- pay licensing fees;
- communicate directly with the SFC via "WINGS Mail";
- prepare notifications for the corporation, its licensed persons and substantial shareholders; and
- submit periodic SFC questionnaires and surveys.

Notably, the WINGS platform will allow licensed entities and persons to delegate the management of their account to advisory firms such as Optima. To efficiently manage the transition to this new platform, Optima will be working with its clients to set up and manage the ongoing communications with the regulator. We have prepared a proprietary User Guide based off our experience with the WINGS Platform and will share this Guide with our clients. For prospective clients or other interested persons, please contact Katrina Banh, Partner at katrina.banh@optima-partners.com, and Justin Kai, Associate at justin.kai@optima-partners.com should you be interested in obtaining this User Guide.

The SFC will continue to accept paper forms for corporate applications until 31 March 2021. In addition, a companion mobile app, WINGS Mobile App, will be available for download on Google Play and the Apple App Store in late January 2022.



Useful Links

WINGS Platform - https://wings.sfc.hk/main/#/en/

SFC Circular re: WINGS -

https://apps.sfc.hk/edistributionWeb/gateway/EN/circular/doc?refNo=21EC66

Please contact Katrina Banh, Partner at katrina.banh@optima-partners.com, or Justin Kai, Associate at justin.kai@optima-partners.com, if you have any questions.