

Software Vendors Accreditation FAQs

1 What does accreditation mean for a software vendor?

Accreditation means that the relevant version/s of your software has passed JSE Trading and Information conformance tests and that you provide certain minimum services to your customers in relation to such software.

Thus you are recognized by the JSE as a provider of JSE Trading front end software for the provision of trading and/or information dissemination purposes.

However by accrediting any version of the software, the JSE is no way endorsing or warranting such software or the services provided by you, the vendor, to your customers.

2 What are the benefits of becoming accredited?

There are a number of benefits in being an accredited software vendor. These include:

- You will be included in the list of accredited vendors that is published on the JSE web site.
- You will be included in e-mail communications concerning updates and changes to the JSE trading and information environment.
- You will be included in JSE technical forums.
- You will be invited to briefings for new releases of the JSE Trading and Information dissemination software.

3 How long does accreditation last?

Accreditation is valid until one of the following events occurs, at which time the accredited version/s of your software and/or your services will have to be re-accredited:

- There is a major change to the JSE Trading and Information system.
- You make major changes to the accredited software.
- You make major changes to the service you offer your customers.

In addition, there will be an annual review of your accreditation status. If it is found that your software no longer complies with the JSE's accreditation criteria, or you are no longer providing the services contained in the JSE's then applicable accreditation criteria, the JSE may require you to reapply for accreditation.

4 What process needs to be followed in order to apply for accreditation?

In order to apply for accreditation, follow these simple steps:

- Check that your software conforms with the JSE User Specification as published by the JSE on this website.
- Sign the application form provided by the JSE.
- Obtain and sign the JSE Services Agreement (JSA).
- Submit the accreditation application form to the JSE.
- Pay the necessary testing fees to the JSE.
- Book a slot with the JSE for the testing readiness and conformance testing.
- Conduct the tests with the JSE.

5 What criteria must be met in order for your software to become accredited?

In order to become accredited, you must:

- Sign the Accreditation Application form.

- Acknowledge that in accrediting any version of your software, the JSE is no way endorsing or warranting such software and is only confirming that the version of the software has passed the relevant conformance tests and that you provide certain minimum services to your customers in relation to such software, which services the JSE also does not endorse or warrant.
- Agree to ensure that all your customers understand and agree to the above disclaimer in favour of the JSE.
- Agree to participate in relevant JSE Technical forums.
- Agree to ensure that each accredited version of the Accredited Software functions in accordance with the JSE User Specification from time to time.
- Demonstrate to the JSE from time to time that you have used your best endeavours to ensure that no viruses or errors are present in the Accredited Software.
- Agree to use the Accredited Software in compliance with the applicable South African laws and JSE rules from time to time.
- Provide your customers with a Help Desk.
- Agree to undertake training, installation and follow up with all customers / end-users.
- Agree to employ employees and sub-contractors who are competent and experienced enough to be able to carry out maintenance of the Accredited Software so as to ensure continuous access by traders to the JSE trading environment.
- Provide the JSE with information and answers to queries concerning the Accredited Software.
- Complete all administrative formalities necessary for the performance of your obligations as an Accredited Vendor.
- Agree to ensure that all versions of the software which you wish to have accredited are subjected to Conformance Testing in accordance with the requirements of the JSE from time to time, which testing will be conducted by the JSE in South Africa. *
- Allow the JSE or the JSE's agents access to your site/s, where necessary, for joint problem resolution or conformance testing.
- Acknowledge that accreditation is not transferable either in whole or in part to a third party without the prior written consent of the JSE.
- Acknowledge that the JSE has the right to audit the Accredited Software and to require any version of such software to be re-conformed if the JSE believes that changes have been made to the software that would result in a re-pass of the Conformance Testing being required.

***Note:**

The objective of Conformance Testing is to ensure that a reasonable level of satisfaction is obtained by the JSE and the Applicant that the software to be accredited performs without error and in conformity with the specifications as set out in the JSE User Specification from time to time

- Prior to conformance testing, a technical readiness test (TRT) must be passed, to ensure the ability to connect successfully to the JSE and/or the London Stock Exchange ("LSE").
- During conformance testing, the JSE will execute the standardised, JSE-specific test scripts, provided by the LSE, on the software to be accredited.

- A successful pass of conformance testing is a pre-requisite in order to obtain access to the full customer services development (CDS) environment.
- Once the JSE is satisfied that the Conformance Test criteria in respect of a conformance test have been met, the JSE will declare such test successful. However passing a Conformance Test will not disallow the JSE from re-testing the relevant functionality at a later stage if the JSE deems this to be necessary.
- A Conformance test or test phase will fail if any agreed criteria are not met or if the observed deficiencies are not acceptable to the JSE. In such case, the JSE will notify the Applicant of the relevant errors and non-conformity, and the Applicant must promptly and continuously take such action as is necessary to correct any errors and must further ensure that sufficient resources are available to assist in error correction.
- If the deviation from the relevant test script results from the failure of any software or part of the software then being tested, but the failure response is acceptable to the JSE, then the JSE may in its discretion, issue a provisional conformance certificate or declare the conformance test to have been successfully completed.