

Banknote recycling: reporting of data to the central bank

An overview of the information that cash recyclers now need to submit to the Banque de France on either a six-monthly or, for sites handling large volumes, monthly basis.

Under Article 11 of European Central Bank decision 2010/14 on “the authenticity and fitness checking and recirculation of euro banknotes”, which came into force on 1 January 2011, professional cash handlers are required to submit certain information to their national central bank at least every six months. For sites that recycle euro banknotes in particular, this information comprises master data (civil status, contacts, equipment used, etc.) along with operational data, which are predominantly statistical (volume of banknotes recycled, number of cash dispensers, etc.).

Implementation of the decision

Decision 2011-02 of the Governor of the Banque de France “on the recycling of euro banknotes”, dated 7 September 2011, sets out the procedures for implementing this ECB decision at national level. The frequency of reporting and type of data to be submitted are specified in the appended agreements:

Type of operator	Type of agreement	Type of declaration
Credit or payment institutions	Distribution agreement (Article 5)	Master data on: 1) individual handling offices 2) service providers handling banknotes on behalf of credit institutions Operational data consisting solely of the number of machines operated by the credit or payment institution and the number of banknotes they distribute.
	Handling agreement for credit institutions (Art. 7)	Master data Operational data
Service providers to credit institutions	Handling agreement for service providers to credit institutions (Art. 6 and 7)	Master data Operational data

This data gathering allows the Banque de France to check that signatories are complying with the provisions of their recycling agreements, and to

monitor the evolution of banknote recycling in the cash industry and its associated impacts.

The information collected is also aggregated and fed into a six-monthly report which the Banque de France then sends to the European Central Bank.

Activity statistics

With regard to the submission of master data, already required under the previous guidelines, little has changed, with the exception of the reporting frequency which is now six-monthly.

Reporting of operational data (activity statistics), on the other hand, became mandatory as of January 2012. The table below provides a summary of the activity statistics operators are expected to submit along with the reporting frequency, depending on the site where recycling activities are carried out:

Type of operator	Credit institution		Service providers to credit institutions	
Type of site	Handling office	Main cash centre	Retail outlet	Vault (cash-in-transit company)
Banknotes to declare	Only banknotes recirculated via cash dispensers	All banknotes that have been processed automatically	Only banknotes recirculated via cash dispensers	All banknotes that have been processed automatically
Data to declare	1) Total number of banknotes handled by machine 2) of which, number of banknotes classified as unfit 3) of which, number of banknotes recirculated via cash dispensers	1) Total number of banknotes handled by machine 2) of which, number of banknotes classified as unfit and/or suspect 3) of which, number of banknotes recirculated via bank branches or direct customers	1) Total number of banknotes handled by machine 2) of which, number of banknotes classified as unfit and/or suspect 3) of which, number of banknotes recirculated via cash dispensers	1) Total number of banknotes handled by machine 2) of which, number of banknotes classified as unfit and/or suspect 3) of which, number of banknotes recirculated via bank branches or direct customers
Reporting frequency	Six-monthly	Monthly	Six-monthly	Monthly

Further information can be found in the methodological notes on the data to be declared (master and operational), on the Banque de France website:

<http://www.banque-france.fr/en/banque-de-france/banknotes-and-coins.html>

Automated data collection via the Onegate portal

As the majority of reporting is now carried out on a six-monthly basis, the volume of data to be submitted by institutions that have signed agreements will mechanically double.

As a result, the Banque de France has set up an automated system to enable credit institutions and cash handling professionals to transmit regulatory data directly.

As of 1 July 2012, operators will be able to submit data via the ONEGATE portal, either using online forms or by sending files automatically between applications.

If you have any questions, please email:

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