



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Internal Market and Services DG

Governance of the single market

**Internal Market Information System**

Brussels, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011 (KA)

# **European Commission**

## **IMI System - Version 3.1**

### **Release Notes**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the *Release Notes* is to communicate the new features and changes in the current release of the IMI System - Version 3.1.

### 1.2 Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

PQ = Professional Qualifications Directive, SD = Services Directive, PW = Posting of Workers Directive CA = Competent Authority, LA = Legislative Area, MS = Member State LDA = Local Data Administrator, DA = Data Administrator

## 2. ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Version 3.1. is a maintenance release of V.3.0. of the IMI Software which includes a beta version of the new quick search for registers and some bug fixes.

## 3. CHANGES AND NEW FEATURES

The table below contains a list of the changes that have been introduced in IMI Version 3.1.

<b>New functionality</b>		
#	Component	Description
1	Registers Quick Search	New functionality that allows users to search for registers by selecting a country and entering free text search criteria. (Beta version) Available to all IMI users

<b>Minor improvements and Bug fixes</b>		
#	Component	Description
24	Registers (Report)	The details of the Register owner are now included in the Register report (available when viewing an individual register) including cases where the owner is not an IMI authority. The layout and alignment of the registers report has also been improved.
25	Registers (Directory)	The link to EBR (European Business Registers) on the main Register Directory screen now opens a window with the following page: <a href="http://www.ebr.org">http://www.ebr.org</a>
26	Data Management (Coordinated authorities' Users)	When a Data Administrator of the Validating Coordinator chooses to add a new user to a Coordinated authority, and then cancels the action without adding the user, the system will now return the user to the 'Users' tab of the coordinated authority.

## 4. NOTE CONCERNING THE REGISTERS QUICK SEARCH

This first release of the registers quick search is a beta release. Performance and behaviour will be tuned according to user feedback.

## **REGISTERS QUICK SEARCH**

### **- EXPLANATORY NOTE FOR COORDINATORS**

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

Version 3.1 of IMI includes a beta release of the quick search for registers. Unlike the free text in the Competent Authority search where only exact matches are returned, the new registers quick search will **return near matches**. The search will return registers where words are spelt like or sound like the criteria specified. The technology behind this new search is based on Oracle text. The near matches are retrieved by the implementation of 'Soundex', 'Stemming' and 'Fuzzy logic' features.

#### **2 RULES AND BEHAVIOUR**

Up to **three words** with a minimum of **three characters** may be entered. Any words with less than three characters are ignored. When more than one word is entered the relationship is an '**AND**' relationship.

The search is performed on the following register attributes:

- registers name(s)
- informal title(s)
- register type
- geographical coverage
- geographical region
- categories (general categories, economic areas, service activities and professions)
- types of information contained in the register

The search is performed in the **session language**, which is the language of the screen as selected in the top right-hand corner. The search only checks information that can be found in the session language. This means that if a register's informal title or any reference data such as the economic area or region has not been translated into the session language, this information is omitted from the search. The exception to this rule is the register name, which is never translated, so the search is performed on the register name(s) as provided in the language(s) of the Member State concerned.

The search is **not case sensitive**, it does not differentiate between uppercase and lowercase letters.

In most cases the search is not sensitive to **special characters**, this means that whether words are spelt with or without accents or other special characters, the same registers are returned.

#### **3 OVERNIGHT REBUILD OF INDEXES**

The **quick search** is based on indexes which are rebuilt overnight. As a result, new registers and modifications to existing registers will not be reflected in the quick search results until the **following day**. In contrast, the **registers directory** and the **structured search** reflect new registers and changes to registers **immediately** as they are not based on Oracle text indexing.

#### **4 ON-LINE HELP FOR USERS**

A general explanation is provided as an info-point on the quick search screen.

## 5 SEARCH PERFORMANCE

Testing has shown that the performance of this search may vary significantly depending on the free-text entered. We would like Member States to provide feedback on the performance experienced when real search criteria are specified. It would be particularly useful to have examples of the types of searches that produce unexpected results or slow response times.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the IMI Helpdesk:

Telephone:(+32)2 29 55470, [imi-helpdesk@ec.europa.eu](mailto:imi-helpdesk@ec.europa.eu)